

**SERVICE SCHEDULE for June 3, 2012**

**Announcements for the Week**

Andy Fuller

**Morning Service**

**Prayer-** Roger German

**Song Leader-** Dan Buselmeier

**Communion:**

-- **Comments** – Doug Davidson

-- **Assisting** – Kevin Criswell

-- **Assisting** – Lawrence Pope

-- **Assisting** – Marshall Foxworthy

-- **Assisting** – Todd Hudson

**Scripture** – Jake Pope

**Closing Prayer-** Jason LaChappelle

**Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Andy Fuller

**Song Leader-** John Paul Baker

**Comments** – Andy Dobbs

**Serving** – Alex Tucker

**Scripture** – Gary Goddard

**Closing Prayer-** David Johnson

**Wednesday Night – June 6, 2012**

**First Prayer** – John Paul Baker

**Song Leader** – Bill McIlvain

**Invitation** – Andy Fuller

**Closing Prayer** – Jay Dobbs

**June 24 Sunday Night Lesson** – Marshal Irvin

# Covington Church of Christ

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Elders: Dan Buselmeier, Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain

Deacons: John Paul Baker -- Doug Davidson -- Andy Fuller

Marshall Irvin -- Jason LaChappelle

June 3, 2012

## Visions OF God

1. Who saw the back of God, since he could not bear to see him face to face?
2. Who Besides Isaiah, saw the Lord sitting upon His throne?
3. Who saw a heavenly ladder with the Lord standing above it?
4. Who, along with Moses, saw God during the wilderness wanderings?



## The Purpose Of Life

By Andy Diestelkamp

Most of us during our lifetime give some thought to why we exist. "Why am I here? What is the purpose of life?"

From a purely natural point of view, one can be very certain that the cause of his existence is his parents; but this does not address the question of *purpose*. Is the existence of the universe, our planet, and we as human beings purposeful or accidental?

We understand that no scientific proof for the origin of the universe is possible. This, however, does not keep scientists from studying nature in an effort to make what they believe to be educated guesses explaining how all things began. Yet, even those guesses and theories cannot address the question of *purpose*.

**Upcoming Assignments:**

June	Communion	Cleaning
10	German	Dobbs, Bailey, Fuller, LaChappelle
17	Jones	Dorn, Gray, Irvin, Pope, Williams

**Notes:**

**The Ladies meet on the first and third Monday of the month. Next meeting is tomorrow, June 4 at 7PM.**

**Bulletin Articles:** This publication is designed to be a teaching and evangelism tool. Feel free to share this with someone at work or school. You can submit any articles you would want to share with others to Bill McIlvain. Digital copies are preferred. We will gladly add anyone to our e-mail recipients list. All we need is the e-mail address.

**Family Bible Week Coming Soon!** FBW dates have tentatively been set now for the week of July 15. Do everything you can to accommodate this.

*Schedule of Services*

**Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.**

This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.

Send any articles for the bulletin to [WMaxx@charter.net](mailto:WMaxx@charter.net)

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## The Purpose Of Life

Continued



The most popular theories for the origin of the universe are some form of what is commonly referred to as “The Big Bang.” The theories do not address whether the “bang” occurred on purpose or by accident. It is very important to recognize that many who propose natural theories for how the

universe began refuse to give serious consideration to any intelligent cause above and beyond nature (supernatural). Therefore, the best that the nature-only explanations can do is to suggest that “The Big Bang” was a big *accident*.

If the beginning of all things natural was by accident, then it would be completely unreasonable to suggest that our existence has *any* purpose. In reality, any theory which suggests an accident as the cause of all that is real must likewise conclude that life is really meaningless and wholly without purpose.

Such conclusions deprive men of the motivation to expend energy on anything they find to be tiresome distasteful. Indeed, what could be the *purpose* of study if the conclusion of study is that there is no purpose? Reasonable men should not accept such foolishness.

Which makes more sense to you: 1) the physical universe began on purpose, or 2) the physical universe began by accident? You may wonder why it is important to think about whether or not life began on purpose or by accident, but the answer you give will have a lot to do with how your values are formed.

The arguments for the existence of God are numerous. They cannot be explored in an article of this length, but it is important for you to have confidence that there are sound, logical reasons for believing in God. It comes down to giving our honest and best effort to personally think about and give answer to the following logical choices:

### ***Either something exists, or nothing exists***

Can there be any other choice? Some may balk at choosing one of the above, but to do so is not honest. There is only one logical answer because to even think about the question implies the existence of *something*.

### ***Either something has always existed, or something came from nothing***

Ask yourself if there could have ever been a time when absolutely nothing existed. Additionally, ask yourself if there is any evidence that something real could come from absolutely nothing. Can something come into existence without a cause or a context? There is no reasonable or scientific explanation for how something could come from absolutely nothing: therefore, we *must* conclude that something has always existed.

### ***What has always existed is either natural, or it is supernatural***

One may glibly profess belief that nature has *always* existed, but even those who believe in an accidental “Big Bang” affirm that there was a beginning. No scientific experimentation suggests that physical matter is eternal. Thus we are left either acknowledging that what is eternal must be superior to nature in power and purpose or reverting to the equally unscientific belief that something can come from nothing.

Notice that belief in an eternal supernatural cause is reached by common sense reasoning from what is self-evident. That which has a beginning must ultimately arise from a cause that has no beginning but which has existed eternally. Since all things natural have beginnings, the cause of nature and our existence must be supernatural.

Therefore, it is not blind faith that concludes that the supernatural and eternal Cause of all that has a beginning is God. It is a sound and reasonable faith that likewise gives us purpose. Indeed, it is exactly this reasonable conclusion that the Bible affirms (Genesis 1:1; 2:4; Psalm 139:13-16; John 1:1-3; Acts 17:24-28; Romans 1:20).

***“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13).***



### **Answers from page 1**

1. Moses [Exodus 33:23]
2. The prophet, Micaiah [2 Chronicles 18:18]
3. Jacob [Genesis 28:12-13]
4. Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and 70 of the Israelite elders [Exodus 24:9-10]

