

There is a story...

There is a story that explains all the other stories. There is an explanation for the way the people on this planet acts on it.

Hymn Writer's Summary of God's Plan

That Christ should join so freely in the scheme
Although it meant His death on Calvary
Did ever human tongue find nobler theme
Than love divine that ransomed me?
That for a willful outcast such as I
The Father planned, the Savior bled and died
Redemption for a worthless slave to buy
Who long had law and grace defied.
Such love, such wondrous love Such love, such wondrous love
That God should love a sinner such as I
How wonderful is love like this.

Citation: Such Love

The Gospel Writer's Summary

John 1:1-18 NIV

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Sermon in a Sentence:

Jesus gives the kind of life only God can deliver.

Why through Jesus?

1. This life grows in the light of God's grace and truth.
2. This life exists because God created it through the Word.
3. We can do nothing to earn, buy or deserve this life. It's a gift conveyed by Jesus.

Paradigm Shift

We squeeze our view of life into very narrow definitions. "Enjoy your years in high school because they're the best days of your life." "True living is whatever you feel like it is deep inside." "Real living is living for others." Or this one from bumper sticker – "I owe; I owe; so off to work I go." But there is only one source of life. Our Creator-Savior. Settling for anything less than a relationship with Jesus will ultimately disappoint us. Welcoming and receiving him is the wisest thing we can do. Jesus gives the kind of life only God can deliver. Welcoming and receiving him is the wisest thing we can do.