His Crowning Glory
Genesis 1:25-28, Psalm 8:3-6

An atheist was walking through the woods...

Genesis 1:25-28

25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.

27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”
There are 4 basic questions that human beings ask in life.

1) Who am I?
2) Why am I here?
3) What is wrong with the world?
4) How can what is wrong be made right?

So who am I?
Am I an accident? Here on this planet by mistake? A glorified ape?

The tiny frogs that stopped bulldozers:
Construction halted on Quebec development to save them

The Western Chorus Frog has joined the sage grouse as the only animal ever protected by emergency fiat of the federal cabinet, and the first protected on private land

Western Chorus Frog
Are we humans just like frogs, gorillas, or any other animals in this world?
Scientific discoveries show that the human brain possesses qualities that have no parallel in the animal world.

- The human skull differs from that of a chimpanzee.
- The human's capacity to speak using a vocal system/language different from animals.
- Humans walk upright while animals walk on all fours, hop around on two legs, crawl on the ground or fly with wings.
- Humans crave meaning in life and have an innate compulsion to create just like their creator.

- the human skull.
- the human's capacity to speak using a vocal system and language.
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- Humans crave meaning in life and create things.

God gave humans authority over the earth and every living thing in it, and told them to care for his creation.

Humans are God's appointed managers over his creation. Animals do not have God-given authority and therefore do not take priority over humans.
So who am I? The result of random naturalistic processes; OR, *made in the image of God* and the crowning glory of God's creation.

Psalm 8:3-9 CEV

"...I often think of the heavens your hands have made, and of the moon and stars you put in place. 4 Then I ask, “Why do you care about us humans? Why are you concerned for us weaklings?” 5 You made us a little lower than you yourself, and you have crowned us with glory and honour. 6 You let us rule everything your hands have made. And you put all of it under our power — 7 the sheep and the cattle, and every wild animal, 8 the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea, and all ocean creatures. 9 Our Lord and Ruler, your name is wonderful everywhere on earth!"

The Psalmist says - "I often think of the heavens your hands have made (Psalm 8:3-9 CEV).

You and I are not here by accident. We are not the result of random naturalistic processes.

Psalm 139:13-14 says - "You are the one God, who put me together inside my mother’s body, 14 and I praise you because of the wonderful way you created me."
Who am I? Who are you?

*You are the crowning glory of God's creation.*

We are created to live under God's rule and to exercise "dominion over…all things" in the same way that God exercised dominion in the person of Jesus Christ: as a suffering servant and humble king.

We are to rule with the heart of a servant and serve with the heart of a king.

~ Bill Johnson, Pastor of Bethel Church in Redding

**We are to rule with the heart of a servant and serve with the heart of a king.**

- Bill Johnson, pastor of Bethel Church in Redding, CA

You are not here to get all you can and keep all you get.

You are here to love God and serve others.

- **Children** are not to be measured by the return we can get on our financial investment.

- The **elderly** are not an economic burden on society, a drain on our health care system, and worn-out goods.

- The **sick**, the **lame** and the **poor** are not second-class citizens.
Human beings - *regardless of physical condition, mental capacity, age, gender, race, or social class* - have been *made in the image* and likeness of their God. And they alone are *the crowning glory of His creation*.

**Colossians 1:16** says - "Everything was created by him… and everything was made for him."

**1 John 3:1** says, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

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**Christians are called to promote and protect human life.**

You are *the crowning glory of His creation*, and the moment you trust Jesus to be your Saviour and Lord, you become *a child of this Creator King*. 