We join with the universe in declaring Your majesty this day. And we pray, Lord, that You would give us eyes to see and hearts to receive the imperishable seed of Your Word, which is so full of life. And we pray that You would come during these moments, which are full of infinite possibility, of all that You can do, and all You plan to do. Come meet with those who are on the mountaintop in seasons of triumph; come to bring order and peace to those who are in the valleys, places that feel like wasteland; and come to meet with every one in every other place in between, greeting all with the hovering presence of the Holy Spirit.

We open our hearts to Your Word as we place the whole of our attention upon the Lord Jesus Christ, in Whose name we pray. Amen and amen!

**Romans Chapter Eight**

Paul’s famous words about the amazing purposes of God:

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**Genesis Chapter One**

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

God created out of nothing everything that exists. The term theologians use is the *creatio ex nihilo*, the creation out of nothing.

2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Today as we continue in our series about the Gospel as seen in Genesis chapters one, two and three, [I aspire to complete chapters one, two and three, but I am currently having difficulty envisioning ever leaving chapter one], we turn our attention to not just God’s act of creating matter, but to the ordering of all that exists by His intricate design.

**A doctor, a lawyer and an architect** were arguing over who had the oldest profession. The doctor said, *The practice of medicine is the oldest profession. Don’t you remember? Eve was taken from the side of Adam. That’s surgery.*

No, the architect chimed in, *don’t you remember the second verse of the Bible? The earth was formless and void. Architectural design was needed*
to create the earth out of chaos. Architecture is the oldest profession.

The lawyer was quiet for a moment. He then smiled and said, Where do you think all that chaos came from?! [Apologies to the lawyers!]

A DESIGN FOR ORDER AND LIFE

The picture in Genesis 1:2 is not one of chaos in the sense of something that has fallen, as some have suggested. Neither is it one of a gap between verse one and verse two, the gap theory, wherein some would explain the longevity of the earth by saying that something changed from verse one to verse two. That is debatable, but I see instead a magnificent picture.

In verse one, God is great. In verse two, He is good. In verse one, we see that God is big enough to create out of nothing all that exists. And in verse two, we see that the Spirit of God moving over it all is calling, calling to the earth, calling to all that is created, that through Christ, by the Father’s creative power and the initiating powerful presence of the Holy Spirit, all of creation is being called into an intricate design and order.

It is AMAZING!

And the good news I have for you today is that not only is God able to create something out of nothing, but God is able to take whatever seems formless and void, whatever seems like a wasteland, whatever seems uninhabitable and is not inhabited with life, and He is able to sovereignly create a beautiful design where you couldn’t have seen it before.

There is no problem too confusing, no situation too chaotic, for God’s Spirit to bring to it order and to bring to it life.

THE POWER AND MAJESTY OF OUR GOD

Enormity of Creation

We saw in Genesis one, verse one, the vast power and majesty of God to create this cosmos. It is mind-boggling, and so last week we contemplated the sheer mind-bending enormity of creation.

Our sun, our star, an ordinary-sized star 93 million miles from earth and 10,000 degrees on its surface, is vast by comparison to the earth. We learned that you could put a million earths into the sun, and in an attempt to wrap our minds around that, we envisioned the earth as a golf ball, and found that we would need to fill up a school bus with golf balls for an equal comparison of how many earths could fit into the sun.

We also learned that as large as our sun seems to be, it is only a medium-sized star, that scientists have discovered through the Hubble telescope much larger stars, and the biggest one is the Canis Majoris, the Big Dog star, (literally, the Great Dog star). That star is so massive that it would take seven quadrillion earths – not million, not billion, not trillion – but seven quadrillion earths to fill Canis Majoris, the Big Dog star. By equal comparison, if the earth were the size of a golf ball, then we would need enough golf balls to fill up Mt. Everest, which is six miles above sea level. That is the picture of how many earths it would take to fill the Canis Majoris star.

We have a BIG God!

The Greatness of God

When I read the first verse of Genesis, it causes me to think, What problem of mine could ever be too big for God, and, What nothingness in my own situation is too empty for God to fill by a creative miracle? It creates in me a desire to pray for creative
miracles, for things to be created when, in the natural, nothing is there.

Jesus liked that kind of miracle. He liked to find somebody who had been blind from birth, who had no sight, and to create sight, out of nothing. And He still likes to do that. He hasn’t stopped.

God is so great. There is no problem that is bigger than our God.

AWAITING THE CALL

Then, having thought about the majesty, grandeur and vastness of God in all of His creative power, when I read the second verse of Genesis, it turns my attention towards how matter that has been formed by God is about to come into precise order, into a delicate design.

Formless and Empty

The NIV quite accurately describes this earth as having been formless and empty, and other translations say it was without form and void. All are describing that which is uninhabitable and is not inhabited, not yet suitable for life. The initial created matter was like a wasteland that could not sustain life.

The Hovering Spirit

But the Spirit of God was brooding over all of this, ready to call it into its design by the speech of God. The word for Spirit, ruach, is the same as the word for breath, so it isn’t clear if this should be translated as God’s breath, or God’s Spirit. Most would say this is God’s Spirit, but next week we will see in verse three how God created light by speaking. We will learn more and more that the Spirit of God is in the speech of God, because the breath of God fills the speech of God. So ruach is both the Spirit of God and the breath of God.

And God’s Spirit was brooding and moving. The breath of God was over everything that was yet to have form.

The move of the Spirit is always to bring life and to bring order, and design, for God is not the author of confusion.

Tohu Wabohu

I love the Hebrew for these two words, formless and void.

First, the formlessness, the uninhabitability of it all, is wrapped up in the Hebrew word, tohu.

Second, the condition of the earth, that it was uninhabited, empty and waiting to be filled, is expressed by the Hebrew word bohu, which rhymes with tohu.

Third, the word for and in Hebrew is wa.

So the earth was tohu wabohu. Isn’t that fun to say? Tohu wabohu. Tohu wabohu is like when you look at your teenager’s room on or about Wednesday. Think tohu wabohu and you’ll know what we are talking about here. Some things you just can’t describe, except that they are tohu wabohu!

When you feel like you are going through a desert time and you don’t yet understand everything, you might say, Right now it is tohu wabohu, but I feel the Spirit of God hovering over it all.

The Move of the Spirit

The move of the Spirit is always to bring life and to bring order and design, for God is not the author of confusion. The Spirit hovers over the face of the deep to call forth design and purpose – God’s purposes: Life, peace and joy – well-ordered shalom, and life abundant.

That is what is about to happen to Earth, to the tohu wabohu. The purposes of God are sovereign over it all.
How could anyone think all of creation happened by accident? The intricate design of the molecules that formed this world cries out with glory to the Creator.

INTRICACIES OF THE CREATION

God’s big design is mind-bending, isn’t it? Yet, if you thought that it was mind-bending to consider that seven quadrillion earths could fit inside of Canis Majoris, the Big Dog star, I have something equally, or even more mind-boggling for you today: The mystery of the cosmos is not only in how big things are; it also is in how small things are.

One Mole

Thankfully, although I know very little science, I have a brother-in-law who teaches science, chemistry and physics, and we have a very dear friend, Bill Rice, who is on our Session, an elder in our church, and he is a PhD chemist. So I have people I can talk to about small.

I learned that a mole is not only a furry, grey, burrowing animal. It also is a standard unit of measure, and that unit of measure is \(6.0225 \times 10^{23}\). That number is very difficult to begin to wrap your mind around, but if I were to take a dropper and to drop into a cup 18 milliliters of water, (about 3.6 teaspoons), I would have what is considered to be one mole of water by standards of scientific measurement.

Smaller Molecules

And, in that one mole of water – in 18 ml., or 3.65 teaspoons, of \(\text{H}_2\text{O}\), are \(6 \times 10^{23}\) molecules of water. Stay with me for a moment on this! Remember that you could fit 7 quadrillion earths into the Canis Majoris star? Well, a quadrillion is only \(10^{15}\). And we are talking about \(10^{23}\), one hundred sextillion! And \(10^{23}\) times 6, is SIX hundred sextillion! If you were to stand on the Grand Strand beach, a BIG beach, and on a clear day to look as far as you could to the left, and as far as you could to the right, IF you could count all of the grains of sand that you could see on all of the beach, you would see nowhere close to \(10^{23}\) grains of sand.

Dr. Rice shared with me a good illustration of this number. If you had six times ten to the twenty-third pennies, you would be a VERY rich person. And if you were a very generous person, and you wanted to give it all away, you would have enough in \(10^{23}\) pennies to visit each of the six billion inhabitants of the earth and to give each one of them a trillion dollars.

You’re still not impressed enough? Let’s talk marshmallows. We can all identify with marshmallows. If you had six times ten to the twenty-third marshmallows, you could cover the entire surface of the earth with marshmallows to a depth of five miles!

That’s how many molecules are in that 18 milliliters of \(\text{H}_2\text{O}\). WOW!

Tiny Atoms

And you know what? The number of atoms in the eighteen milliliters of water would be three times six hundred sextillion, because water contains three molecules, two of hydrogen and one of oxygen – \(\text{H}_2\text{O}\).

Minute Electrons

AND, in each atom of hydrogen, there is a proton and an electron. Dr. Rice explained that the scale of the proton, the electron and the atom could be compared to a fifty thousand seat football stadium (the atom), with a green pea (the proton) on the 50-yard line, and a gnat (the electron) flying around the cheap seats. That is the picture of just one atom. We could not begin to imagine how many electrons there are in the entire cosmos.

NO ACCIDENT

How could anyone think all of creation happened by accident? That would be like seeing a caveman walking through a craggy hillside (hunting down a wooly mammoth!) and stumbling onto a shiny object in the dust, picking it up, finding it to be a wristwatch with all its moving parts, and asking him to believe that object just happened by chance.
No. No. It would be like the caveman happens upon a shiny bright red Ferrari, parked and idling in the clearing of the woods, he jumps in, steps on the gas, the car begins moving, and he believes that some rocks and metals just collided in a cloud and the shiny red Ferrari fell from the sky into the woods.

In either scenario, that caveman would instantly know that someone or something made the object.

The intricate design of the molecules that formed this world cries out with glory to the Creator. The design is so intricate that it boggles our minds.

So if you can believe that the physical universe is not here by accident, but by design, can you believe that there is a Designer and Creator Who is overseeing the circumstances of your life?

WELL-ORDERED

Designed For Order

Scholar Mario Livio wrote an interesting article in Scientific American entitled, Why Math Works, and I couldn’t stop. Even though I generally have not been inclined towards math, I am glad that math exists, and I have wondered, Why does math exist? I have also wondered why math works, and Mario Livio, who is an astronomer and a leading theoretical astrophysicist, wrote:

The laws of physics seem to display symmetry with respect to space and time: They do not depend on where, from which angle, or when we examine them. They are also identical to all observers, irrespective of whether those observers are at rest, moving at constant speeds or accelerating. Consequently, the same laws explain our results, whether the experiments occur in China, Alabama, or the Andromeda galaxy—and whether we conduct our experiment today or someone else does a billion years from now. If the universe did not possess these symmetries, any attempt to decipher nature’s grand design—any mathematical model built on our observations—would be doomed because we would have to continuously repeat experiments at every point in space and time.

In other words, we wouldn’t learn anything if everything was changing all the time. There would be chaos.

And so he concludes:

But mathematics would not work at all were there no universal features to be discovered. You may now ask: Why are there universal laws at all? Or equivalently: Why is our universe governed by certain symmetries and by locality.

And he answers: I truly do not know the answers, except to note that perhaps in a universe without these properties, complexity and life would have never emerged, and we would not be here to ask the question.¹

He is saying that he doesn’t know why everything makes so much sense, but if it didn’t make so much sense, then neither life nor complexity would have ever emerged and no one would be here to ask the question.

But we ARE here, and we ARE asking the question. And I submit that the answer is that when the earth was tohu wabohu, the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the deep to bring order, purpose and life, because God is powerful and He is brilliant beyond our wildest imagination.

I love Him! And our Gospel tells us that this same God is dwelling in you by the presence of the Holy Spirit.²

Purposed For Order

One more science lesson. [Last night my daughter Abigail saw me conducting the experiments with the eighteen milliliters of water and she said, Dad, you are going to talk about God, aren’t you? I said, Yes Honey, I am. I am. When I’m talking science, I’m talking about God.]

² John 14:15-18; Romans 5:5; 2 Corinthians 1:22; James 4:5; 1 John 4:12-13
If you are able to imagine a God
Who could create six hundred sextillion molecules
in only 3.6 teaspoons of water,
then you will be able to envision that same God
bringing order out of the confusion of your life.

The tendency for disorder

Everybody in the scientific world affirms the
universal law of entropy, which is a measure of
disorder. One of the ideas involved in the concept of
entropy is that left alone, things move toward
disorder. That just makes sense, doesn’t it? If you
don’t believe it, just come and look at my backyard.
There is full evidence right there that when you
don’t care for your yard with weed killer, fertilizer
and water, your yard will look like mine, which by
the way is quite a study. There are so many different
species of weeds and grass in there, it would be a
botanist’s dream come true to study that backyard.
However, it’s not just my yard. The disorder also is
evident in my little office at home, in my e-mail in-
box and in my car, my poor car, especially the trunk
thereof.

My poor car is thirteen years old, but it is still
beautiful, and I try to take care of it and to keep it
looking good. But this summer I was trying to get
Bennett to a golf tournament and we were lost on a
rural road. I slowly – I promise you so slowly –
pulled into a driveway to turn around, and as I was
looking behind me to back up, I heard the sound. I
thought I could not have hit something because I
couldn’t see anything. It was only when I pulled
back forward and I saw the mailbox lying on the
ground that I realized that I had indeed hit it. So I
climbed out, and to my horror there was a
giant dent
back on the rear
of my car and a mailbox on the
ground. [I did go to the door and tell them I knocked
the mailbox over.]

That dent remained for months, much to the
delight of some people who know me and who have
enjoyed reminding me there is a giant dent back
there. So this week I went to Dings and Dents and
had it fixed by Brian, who does beautiful work.
While I was there, Brian said to me, This is a
beauty! I tell you, if we took the high speed buffer to
all these little scratches and other marks all over
this car, we could get this thing looking pristine. So
I took him up on it. I agreed on a price for him to
buff the whole car, and he went above and beyond in
his care for my car. When I went to pick up the car, I
said, Is that my car? It is so shiny, I ought to be in a
parade!

To have the beauty restored to my car, I had to
meet with Brian and we had to agree on some
compensation. And even though it would be a
relatively simple process, Brian needed to utilize his
skills and his specialized tools and compounds; he
needed to exert a lot of energy; and he needed to
complete a lot of work, all to remove a single dent, a
few dings and many scratches from the car.

Things in life do not tend to become more and
more orderly on their own. They need some outside
force with energy and skill to accomplish that. And
this is the strongest argument against the theory that
everything came into being by chance or accident
and that it all evolved by itself into this enormous,
intricate, majestic and awesome creation.

A change in perspective

All of us could make a list of the things which
have gone wrong in our lives and tell of the tohu
wabohu. And there is a place in the process of
healing for the grieving and the telling of those
experiences, but if we begin asking the question,
Why are things so disordered in my life, we are
asking exactly the wrong question. With even the
smallest glimpse of science, the logical question is:
Why in the world have things been as well-ordered
as they have, because we don’t have the capability in
ourselves to make this life as well-ordered as it is. I
don’t ask: Why do some people get sick? I ask:
With all these millions of bacteria, viruses and other
pathogens in, on and around us all the time, why
aren’t we all sick all the time? I am fascinated that
anyone is still alive.

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The Purposes of God

One Head Over All

This God of ours is so awesome that He not only created all material matter, but He broods over it and keeps it in order. In fact of matter, it is not falling apart. He is bringing all things together under one Head, the Lord Jesus Christ. And while the world sometimes seems to be disintegrating, it actually is being integrated in Christ and is held together by Him. It is awesome!

All Things Working Together for Good

This means that if you are able to imagine a God Who could create six hundred sextillion molecules in only 3.6 teaspoons of water – the equivalent number in marshmallows on the whole surface of the earth to a depth of five miles – then you will be able to envision that same God bringing order out of the confusion of your life. You will be able to say with the Apostle Paul that God works out all things for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purposes.

There is a purpose in the creation, there is a purpose in God creating you, and there is a purpose that God is working out in your life, even when you can’t see it. He is awesome!

No Random Events

His capacity to bring about design with all of its intricacies, makes a marvel out of life itself. I invite you to spend your time meditating, not on the tohu wabohu, but on what God has done. You can see it if you look. You may not understand it all at the moment, but you can find in your life some things that you might think at any given moment are random, but are not.

Wintley Phipps, who has been gifted with one of the most magnificent voices I have ever heard, was in town this week to perform a benefit concert for the prison ministry. He spoke at our New Canaan Society men’s breakfast on Friday morning and he sang a few songs. If you have never heard him sing Amazing Grace, I recommend you find his video on YouTube. It is the most watched music video in the history of YouTube, viewed by over six million people. Being in the room with Wintley when he opened his mouth immediately caused me to realize that only God can make an instrument like that. His voice almost didn’t sound like a human voice at some points. It was an awesome experience.

Wintley told us several stories, about how he ended up getting promoted to where he is now with the visibility that he has had, about singing at the White House, and about his ability to use his voice as a blessing all over the world. He then told us about two remarkable encounters.

One occurred when he was boarding an Amtrak train. He was aware that there was a man who was camped out in his seat with all of his papers and books spread out in a manner which clearly communicated that he didn’t want anyone to sit next to him, that he was occupied and there were other seats available. Wintley said, But I went over. I saw him and he looked like he needed Jesus, so I asked him, ‘Could I sit here with you?’ The man smiled and moved his belongings. So I sat down and talked to him.

It turned out the man was Chuck Colson of Prison Fellowship! The two men became fast friends, and that friendship opened up many doors of opportunity for Wintley to sing.

The other encounter occurred after one of his concerts. A 22-year old girl approached and tapped Wintley on the shoulder. She was very discouraged because she was about to lose her job making $22,000 a year, and she said, I just feel like I could talk to you. Do you think you could talk to me? And, instead of dismissing her, he felt prompted to say yes. He said that in fact he and his wife invited the young woman to their home, and they talked to her for a good long time.

While the world sometimes seems to be disintegrating, it actually is being integrated in Christ and is held together by Him.

3 Colossians 4:16
4 Colossians 1:17
**God is not worried about the seeming chaos because He is covering it all, and He is hovering over it all.**

As she was leaving, he felt a prophetic utterance come up in his spirit and he said to her, *I believe God is going to bless you and you are going to be able to speak to millions of people one day.* But she did not seem to be very convinced by this word.

That young woman was Oprah Winfrey, and I think that encounter opened a few doors of opportunity for Wintley Phipps!

**DO YOU BELIEVE** that the same God Who could make a water molecule out of atoms which are so small we can’t even comprehend their quantity, that the same God Who could orchestrate meetings between two people on a train or at a concert – the same God – could lead you simply by the unction of the Holy Spirit, brooding over all that seems to be so ordinary and uninhabitable in *your* life?

**THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT**

**Hovering**

This word for *hovering* is a word that is only used in a few places in the Scripture. Most notably, it is used in Deuteronomy chapter thirty-two, where at verse eight we read:

6 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. 9 But the LORD’s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.

10 He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness;

It was a tohu wabohu that he found the people in, their desert experiences,

he encircled him, he cared for him,

talking about God encircling the people of God, caring for them,

he kept him as the apple of his eye.

Here comes our verb for hovering:

11 Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters over its young,

Or hovers over its young,

spreading out its wings, catching them, bearing them on its pinions, the LORD alone guided him, no foreign god was with him.

13 He made him ride on the high places of the land, and he ate the produce of the field, and he suckled him with honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock.

**Covering**

The picture of this verb is of an eagle that is hovering, soaring, fluttering over its young, whether for the purpose of arousing the young out of the nest to fly, and if they falter, quickly to be picked up, or also likely, the sense of protective brooding. The verb has with it by connotation the sense of relaxing, so it is a picture of God not worried about the seeming chaos because He is covering it all, and He is hovering over it all.

**Shalom, Well-Being and Life Abundant**

In Genesis 1:2, the first place of mention of the Holy Spirit, we see that the Holy Spirit brings order, and then He brings life. That which is uninhabitable He makes habitable, and then He makes it teeming with life, peace and life, shalom and well-being, and life abundant.

Such is the glory of God, bringing peace and order. He is always doing that. And that is our whole story in Genesis 1:2.

**GOD’S SOVEREIGN CARE**

The story of Genesis 1:2 is told over and over and over in the Scriptures.

**Abraham**

In Genesis twelve, God called Abraham out of the Ur of the Chaldees and the Bible says he went not knowing where he was going. 5 He went into Tohu Wabohu. God spoke to him: You are going to be the father of a nation. There was no nation. There was no child. There was no virility left. But God brought it. He made it inhabitable and He inhabited it. And

5 Hebrews 11:8
those who were once no people became God’s people.⁶

### Slaves in Egypt

God’s people became enslaved. It was tohu wabohu in Egypt, but God was not intimidated. He hovered over it. He sent a man named Moses, and He brought plagues, signs and wonders. And He brought His people out.⁷

### Wanderers In a Wilderness

God’s people went through a wilderness. There was no food. There was no water. And the people cried out because it was tohu wabohu. But God wasn’t worried. He rained down manna for them to eat,⁸ and He brought water out of a rock.⁹

### Exiles in Babylon

God’s people went into exile in Babylon and it was tohu wabohu, but God wasn’t worried about it. He spoke through His prophets:

*This is what the Lord says, I will restore. This is what the Lord says, I will restore. I will restore the fortunes of Jacob’s tents; I will have compassion on his dwellings. Its cities will be rebuilt on their ruins and the palace will stand in its proper place.*¹⁰

I AM hovering over the exiles. I AM hovering over the wasteland. God’s Spirit moves over the face of the deep.

### Jesus

And when the time came into its fullness, Jesus, the Son of God, and the Son of Man, was sent by God’s intricate design, invisible for anyone to see, though announced a thousand times. Even the angels stooped down to look into the mystery of God that was being unveiled,¹¹ for the time would come in which all would abandon Him and He would be mocked and nailed to a tree. Tohu wabohu. He would be pierced for our transgressions, and He would suffer the unimaginable. He would be buried in a grave.¹²

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⁶ Hosea 1:9-10, 2:23; Romans 9:25-26; 1 Peter 2:10  
⁷ Exodus 3; 25:8-9; 26-27; 35-40  
⁸ Exodus 16  
⁹ Exodus 17:1-6; Numbers 20:8-11; 1 Corinthians 10:7  
¹⁰ Jeremiah 30:18  
¹¹ 1 Peter 1:12  
And in the wasteland of that grave, the Spirit of God was hovering. Then in a moment, in a flash of light, He called Him forth into well-ordered light with a resurrected body. He ascended on high and He sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, wherein the triune God is still sovereign over all that exists.

Your Life

God is in charge. And whatever you are going through, it is not too much for Him to bring order out of the chaos. When everything seems wrong, formless and void, God the Creator can make everything beautiful.

I have told this story before, but it bears repeating, because it is the best illustration of the sovereign care of God that defies all mystery. It is a simple story that Pastor Tim Keller told when he was speaking to his congregation at Redeemer Church in New York during one evening service. He said,

You know why we are here tonight. It is because we came to New York eighteen years ago to plant this church. But why did we come to New York to plant this church?

Because I was in a Presbyterian denomination that emphasized church planting.

Why was I in that denomination?

Because in my last semester in seminary, I took two courses from a professor who convinced me that, theologically, I was a Presbyterian.

Why was that professor there at that seminary?

Because he was a visiting professor whose visa hit a political snag right before he came, but at the last minute it was worked out.

Why was the visa snag worked out?

Because the Dean of Theology at that divinity school was praying there would be some way that it would come to pass the man’s visa could work out, and it was discovered that there was a very good option. One of the students at the seminary was Mike Ford, who said, ‘I have a connection that might help,’ so his father, President Gerald Ford, was able to make a call and clear up the visa snag so that the professor could come, and so that I could take two courses from him. That professor was the one who convinced me that theologically I should be a Presbyterian, and thus I ended up planting a church. But you have to ask the question, Keller said, ‘Why was Gerald Ford the President?’

Because Richard M. Nixon had resigned as President.

Why had Nixon resigned?

Because of Watergate.

Why was Watergate exposed?

Because the guys who were bugging one of the offices left a door cracked open two inches, and a night watchman saw that cracked door and told someone about it. And thus began the uncovering of the whole Watergate scandal.

So, Tim said, that two-inch cracked door is why we are all here at Redeemer Church.

And he made this great theological point: See, even Watergate is working for you!

There might be a two-inch cracked door in your life today that looks insignificant to you, but to God, overseeing the intricacy of the design, it is everything. How much more could God make sense, beauty, and value from the tohu wabohu that you now walk in? He is the great God Who created it all, and He is a good God, Who will keep on making sense of it all.

And that is the Gospel!

Father, we pray today that You would open up to us an awareness of Your intent to bring about wellbeing and life where there seems to be confusion or wasteland. And we pray, God, that You would open up the eyes of our hearts to Your presence with us. Holy Spirit, Breath of God, soaring over our lives and all our circumstances like an eagle, come breathe on us. Take the clay of our lives, Lord, and continue making it into something beautiful. We thank You in Jesus’ name. Amen.
When I think about the vastness and the goodness of God, and when I hear the Gospel, faith grows. And one of the most wonderful aspects about the Gospel is redemptive power. The first good news of the Gospel is that Jesus Himself paid for the penalty of our sin so that it can be forgiven. But also it is that the totality of redemption itself can be put into effect.

God is not dissuaded, or deterred, or in any way hindered from bringing about good in your life despite your bad decisions. Some of you feel doomed because you made too many bad decisions, and I want to tell you, tohu wabohu. He is hovering! He is too big and too good to be hindered by your mistakes. So all that is required is to say, *Yes, Lord, do Your work.*

*May the Lord God bless you and keep you and be kind and gracious to you and make His face to shine upon you and give you His peace today and every day, forevermore.*

*Amen.*
Sharing the Light Ministries

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