

Large Catechism Lesson 16

Part 2: The First Article

“Back to the Beginning: Creation as Shape and Meaning of the Story”

Dr. Charles P. Arand

<https://scholar.csl.edu/theo/2013/schedule/8/>

- 1) Creator of Heaven and Earth | *‘In the beginning God made...’*
- 2) Lord and Giver of Life | *‘Be fruitful and multiply...’*
- 3) Overseers of Life on Earth | *‘Let us make man...’*
- 4) Resting and Delighting in the Work of God | *‘It was very good...’*

Notes

***Axiom** – God interacts with us only through his creation, and we only interact with God through his creation.
(You cannot deal with God apart from creation.)*

***Axiom** – We were made from the earth for life on the earth.*

Session 1

- Why is it important to remember that the bible begins and ends with the earth, rather than with humans?
- What do we have in common with angels and frogs?
- What is idolatry?
- What makes God God?
- What is my first and foremost identity?
- What does Arand mean by creatureliness?
- What does it mean that the Gospel restores my creatureliness?

Session 2

- Why is the image of an EMT helpful to describe our vocation?
- Why is it important to maintain the tension that we are human creatures but fallen?
- Why is Easter called the 8th day of creation?
- What is the overall movement (direction) of God's story?
- What is a suggested application that interests you? Why?
- What are some ways we can emphasize our creatureliness in church and in life?

If we've become disconnected from the creation, how can we praise God for all the works of his hands?