Our God, He Is Alive; 1 Timothy 4:10

I. Alive

- a. Paul and Barnabas healed a man crippled from birth when they were at Lystra.
 - i. When they saw what Paul did, they called them gods
 - ii. Paul and Barnabas rebuked the crowds
 - iii. Acts 14:15 (ESV) ¹⁵ "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.
 - iv. Nothing is living in an image, an idol
 - v. Therefore, we receive nothing from that image
- b. We serve a God who lives and breathes, who loves and serves His creation
- c. Our God, He Is Alive

II. God Lives

- a. "There is, beyond the azure blue, a God concealed from human sight."
- b. "He tinted skies with heavenly hue and framed the worlds with His great might."
- c. Genesis tells us that God created everything that exists, and it shows that God is both the Creator and the Ruler of all creation. ¹
 - i. Genesis; The origin or coming into being ²
 - ii. Genesis 1:1–2 (ESV) ¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
 - iii. Mankind has never created something from nothing.
 - iv. We create on a much smaller scale with the things God has already created
 - v. God created the entire world from nothing in 6 days (He rested on the 7th)
 - vi. "Let the earth sprout vegetation" (v. 11)
 - vii. "Let there be light in the expanse" (v. 14)
 - viii. "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures" (v. 20)
 - ix. "Let us make man in our image" (v. 26)
 - x. Genesis 1:28–31 (ESV) ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹ The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ge.

² Inc Merriam-Webster, <u>Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary.</u> (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

- d. We serve a loving (living) God who created this entire universe for us
- e. "There is a God, He is alive"

III. God Speaks

- a. "He is the God that we should know who speaks from His inspired word"
- b. Hebrews 1:1–2 (ESV) ¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

c. A donkey

- i. Balak, King of Moab, asked Balaam to curse Israel
- ii. Balak was afraid that Israel would take all the area's resources ("lick up all the grass" Numbers 22:4)
- iii. Balaam refused to go (as God directs him)
- iv. Balak asked again, and God told Balaam to go with them, "but only do what I tell you," Numbers 22:20)
- v. On the way, Balaam's donkey changed directions and finally refused to go any further and laid down.
- vi. Balaam struck the donkey with his staff (for the third time)
- vii. Numbers 22:28–31 (ESV) ²⁸ Then the LORD opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" ²⁹ And Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me. I wish I had a sword in my hand, for then I would kill you." ³⁰ And the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, on which you have ridden all your life long to this day? Is it my habit to treat you this way?" And he said, "No." ³¹ Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, with his drawn sword in his hand. And he bowed down and fell on his face.
- d. God spoke through the prophets (not just to Israel)
 - i. Hosea was the last prophet before Israel fell to Assyria
 - ii. Joel speaks God's words to Judah and Jerusalem
 - iii. Jonah speaks God's word to Nineveh (a Gentile city)
- e. The Word of truth (both Jesus and the Scriptures)
 - i. 2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV) ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
 - ii. 2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV) ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
- f. "In Him we live, and we survive"

IV. God Saves

- a. "That He from sin might set man free, and evermore with Him could live"
- b. Zacchaeus
 - i. A wealthy tax collector who wanted to see who Jesus was
 - ii. He climbed a tree to see Jesus as he was walking in Jericho
 - iii. Jesus looked up (in the tree) at Zacchaeus, called him down from the tree, and invited Himself (and those with Him) to eat at his house that very night

- iv. The people grumbled about Jesus' decision since Zacchaeus was a tax collector
- v. Luke 19:9–10 (ESV) ⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."
- c. God will bless all families.
 - i. God tells Abraham that all families will be blessed through him (meaning his offspring, lineage)
 - ii. Galatians 3:16 (ESV) ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ.
 - iii. Jude 20–21 (ESV) ²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.
 - iv. Hebrews 9:13–14 (ESV) ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.
 - v. Jesus' spilled blood is the blood of the covenant.
 - vi. Matthew 26:28 (ESV) ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

V. Our God, He Is Alive

- a. Isaiah 43:11 (ESV) ¹¹ I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.
- b. Titus 2:11–13 (ESV) ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
- c. "From dust our God created man, He is our God, the great I AM."