

Unseen Existences Online Book Study

Week 8: Chapter 8

1. Jesus said of Lazarus, "This sickness doesn't lead to death." What other biblical passages does this bring to mind?
2. No one desires a life of weeping, yet we also sense something is amiss if someone were to tell us they have never cried. Why is that?
3. Brian says that time exists within God rather than God exists within time. (pg 135). God knows our future but does not determine our future. Spend some time reflecting on this.
4. As Christians, we confess that Jesus is one person with two natures, human and divine. This is indeed a divine mystery that we cannot fully understand or explain, but we can wonder and meditate on it. How does this "hypostatic union" of the two natures of Jesus affect you?
5. Dietrich Bonhoeffer famously said, "Only the suffering God can help." He said this from a Nazi concentration camp, but also said, as he was led to his execution, "This is the end, but for me the beginning of life." How does this show his faith in Christ? Why were both those statements important?
6. How do you interpret the words of Jesus in John 11:25-26? ("Even though they die, they will never die.")
7. Say the Athanasian Creed out loud. Does it bring further enlightenment to the dual natures of Christ?
8. Why are the tears of Jesus a comfort?
9. Revelation tells us the day will come when God will wipe every tear from our eyes. How does this help us in our sadness today?