

Vector Academy Doctrine Projects

Class of 2021-2022

Poems

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Prolegomena

by Mia Rylaarsdam

The doctrine of first things

Is where you start with a few beginning truths

And see how all else rings

First, your Revelatory Epistemology

Declares who or what has the authority

To explain and ultimately provide clarity

As to what is profound and what is absurdity

Once you have authority

You will have something you believe

But if your authority was incomplete

Then your worldview will deceive

And if your worldview is deceptive

You will find that towards truth you are unreceptive

And if you stubbornly oppose what is true

You set yourself against the Creator and the Creator against you.

Think about these things I've said

And think about what you think about

Who or what has all the authority?

Your old assumption may be in need of doubt

There is only one authority

That yields what is objectively true

Likewise, the truth can only be found

In a single worldview

Simply put, God is

And He's the triune God of the Bible

The One true God who reveals Himself

So that we desire Him not idols

The authority to stand on then

Is that the One who knows all, reveals, friends.

What He reveals is what we can know

And He reveals through creation and the Bible

What is the worldview then?

How are we to think and live and grow?

By knowing that people and all things are and matter

Because God made it so.

Doxology

by Abigail Ward

Why do we worship?

Why do we praise?

Why do we raise this Name above names?

Have you heard of the God who is writing a story,

One that is pointing all to His glory?

He is the God of creation,

Through him all things came.

He had one goal only,

That all would proclaim.

For He made us in His image,

His likeness to shine.

He said it was good,

He said you are mine.

But what happened to creation?

What was the crime?

What has befallen all of mankind?

It was the crafting of evil,

The telling of a lie.

Words that the first man,

And woman would buy.

Sin entered the world,

Bringing havoc and curse.

The people God created,

They must be dispersed.

A God so holy,

A God so righteous,

He can no longer dwell,

In a place so unrighteous.

We were a people dead in sin,

Upholding things of this world.

We chose our ways over God's,

So to heaven He returned.

So where is the hope?

Has the story ended?

One might think so, but behold,

God saved a Remnant.

God went to heaven,
But didn't leave His creation,
He was invested in the line,
Of the story of His nation.

Through the seed of a woman,
He said a Savior would come.
The devil would be defeated,
The battle would be won.

This story God penned is that of a people,
Awaiting God's promise,
Of One whose perfection, to death would be lethal.

God sent His beloved Son,
Who lived the life that we couldn't.
His innocent blood shed,
To save people,
That love Him, they wouldn't.

Though God was separated from His people,
His hand guided history.

To bring them back to Himself,

Oh His love, such a mystery.

Jesus Christ was His name,

The One whose blood was shed.

All people He claimed,

When at the cross, His blood ran red.

So what's the reason for worship,

adoration and praise?

It's a God whose love is unending,

for a people He made.

Doxology, that name,

What does it mean?

It's a call to worship,

It means to praise and sing.

Praise God all you,

Who have been redeemed.

Lift your voice to Him,

Let Him hear you sing.

Praise the God who delivers,

Who heals and restores,
Praise the Name who opens gates,
And flings wide closed doors.

We are a people unworthy of what He's done for His saints,
We are a people unworthy of His love, oh so great!

In His name He has freed us,
To heaven He welcomes all.
All those who profess His name,
No longer live under the curse of the Fall.

Glorify the God who writes the story of stories,
The God who is strength and power and glory.
This God who protects, defends and goes before me,
His people shall praise Him forever,
For He is HOLY.

How God Used a Simple Unicycle to Change my Life

by Audri Burnett

A young girl stuck in a war she could never win.

Angry at a God she said she would never believe in.

Only having witnessed people giving into sinful depravity,

But in her bones knowing this wasn't what it was created to be.

She decided to stay after school so she wouldn't be home,

Because tutoring math is better than being alone.

While passing out snacks she saw her friend who was like a brother,

And he was riding a unicycle better than all the others.

Being filled with self righteousness and pride,

She decided to join a unicycling club and prove she could ride,

But little did she know when she walked into the room,

That God was calling her out of her tomb.

While learning to ride on one wheel,

She got invited to hang out for a Friday meal,

Where the leaders taught her about God and the fall,

After lots of time spent she lowered her walls

Then after months of spending time together,

They were finally close enough to invite her,

To a camp on the East Side,

Where she would learn a different way to ride

She loved to go and camp in a tent,

But only God knew what was next,

She learned to trust while sitting on a horse's back,

And that's what it took to finally get her to crack.

After the first horse camp she still wasn't there,

But all she would need would be one more year,

To begin to open up about where she was at,

Where she could simply pet a horse and chat

With a leader that she felt would love her,

And a horse who had shedding fur.

But this isn't the end of her story,

Because God has yet to get the glory.

But after she went home her life was upside down,

Her mom had a new boyfriend who lived in another town,

She had to pick up everything and move.

But something she didn't know is God already knew.

This new school had a day for new students,

While standing in the Commons there was a teacher,

He walked up to her and asked where she had come from.

She wondered if her life would be more than he could fathom.

She gave the answer he was looking for,

But she wanted someone she would be able to share more,

But there were too many reasons why she couldn't share,

But she didn't know that God was already there.

He heard her in her moments of pain,

And He knew it would all be for His gain,

And the pain would be worth it to even her,

God knew this and made her heart begin to stir.

With questions and doubts and wondering why,

Could there really be a big guy in the sky?

Because her heart was beginning to search,

She finally let her friend take her to church

While she was there she got invited to camp again,

But she never knew what would happen next.

This camp didn't have horses, it had people,

And being at camp she felt she could be real.

On the first night an altar call was given,

Even though she didn't understand she found herself risen,

She was asked to walk, no run to the front of the stage,

And prayed "The Prayer" and God opened her cage.

Not knowing what she did, she thought it was a contract

To give her life to God and she had to think fast.

She decided to give it a 30-day free trial,

But the thing about those, you always forget to cancel.

She ended up showing up at every event,

And out of her peers being the most consistent,

God began to soften her hard heart,

And told her she was His daughter, a work of art

From this point on her life would change,

And from giving up everything she could never imagine the gain.

After years and lots of time spent,

The storm in her heart began to relent.

After a couple more years she truly submitted,
And in her relationship with God she was truly committed.

Allowing Him to change her from the inside out,
Even though she had her struggles and doubts.

She began to understand that during her struggles she was never alone,

But God was preparing her for another road,
Where everything that happened in her story,
She would be able to use to share God's glory.

But all of this could never happen if there wasn't a man,
Who knew teaching unicycling was a part of God's plan,
And for the unbelieving friend who decided to ride,
On a unicycle and told her to give it a try.

Or for the camp where she could learn to trust,
And have opportunity for Christ to be discussed,
To give her the love of going on retreats,
So she would say yes to the friend she would meet.

Where she would accidentally give her life to the Lord,
And that is how she would be restored.

And in giving Him all her burdens and pain,
For God she would offer to go through it again.

Little did I know when I mounted my ride,
That God could use that unicycle to change my life.

Doctrine and Discipleship

by Reid Smith

Theology deals with the what and why
Christology deals with Jesus Christ Most High

Doctrine speaks the truth
Discipleship is the spirit

Up above is God
He is and always will be God
All He is is all He is
He is who He will be
No matter what happens to me.

Back in a garden He created a man
And the man fell short of this thing called Glory

I know and can tell of a similar story
That is hopefully read for SOMEONE'S Glory

There I was not really knowing
Wondering why my parents were glowing

God saved me when I was 8
Not really knowing why He was great

My faith was my parents' and not my own
So, getting older I started to smolder
Sort of going down the wrong road alone

Stuck in sin and guilt within
I heard a voice say "this way child"
But I went on my way feeling entitled

Knowing that was the Spirit
But, for some reason I still didn't want to get near it

So one more time feeling convicted
My soul inside had shifted

Because I wanted things related to the Spirit,
I finally understood what it meant to be near it
Worship felt different because I could hear it
And so I no longer had to fear it

I now know my purpose
And knowing me, it's still gonna be a circus
But the best part is I know the One who turned my story into HIS GLORY
What is my purpose?
To give God GLORY and to thank HIM for the life that His Son purchased

Now for HIS GLORY my path has been directed toward
And to all of this I say, thank you Lord