

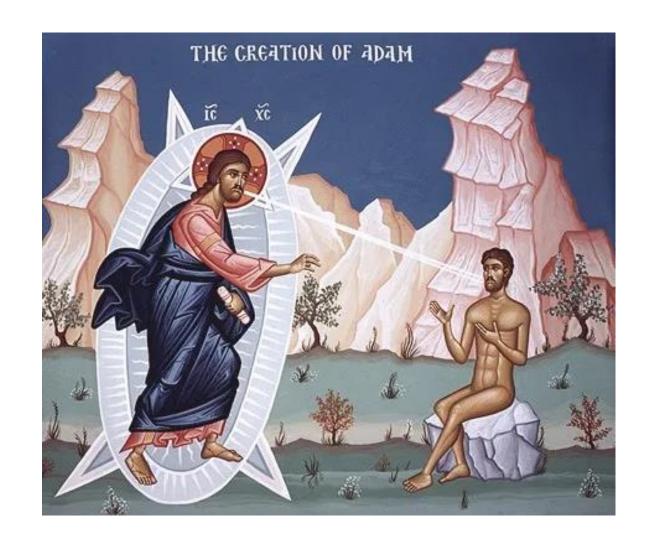
The Setting

- "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; 24 for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it." (Lk. 10:23-24)
- The 70 returned with joy
- "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Lk. 10:25)
- "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." (Lk. 10:28)



What is life?

- Physical life?
- Existing for eternity?
- "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." (Gen. 2:7)
- "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation." (Jn. 5:28-29)



To live is Christ

- "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Phil. 1:21)
- "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." (Phil. 3:7-8)
- EX: Prodigal Son
- "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." (Jn. 10:10)



To know Christ

- "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own." (Jn. 10:14)
- "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." (Jn. 10:27)
- Intellectual knowledge or experiential?



The Lord Christ came to restore our life

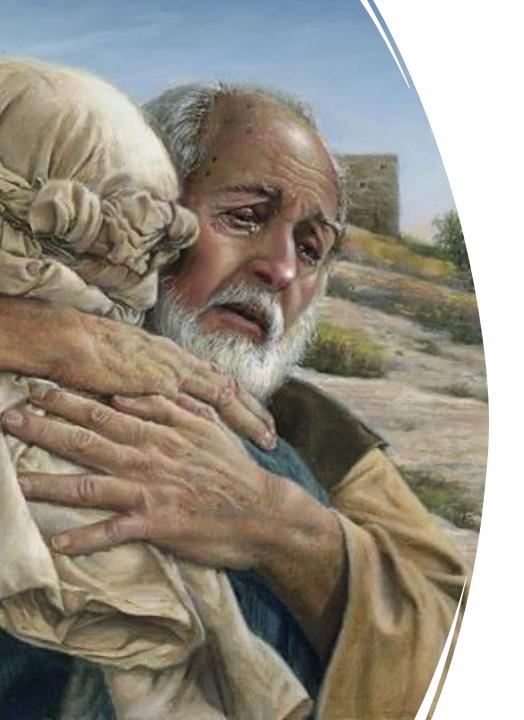
 "For of what use is existence to the creature if it cannot know its Maker? How could men be reasonable beings if they had no knowledge of the Word and Reason of the Father, through Whom they had received their being... and through Him to apprehend the Father; which knowledge of their Maker is for men the only really happy and blessed life." (St. Athanasius, On the Incarnation)





What is "this?"

- "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." (Lk. 10:28)
- Why love?
- "I am the way, the truth, and the life." (Jn. 14:6)
- "I am the resurrection and the life." (Jn. 11:25)
- "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love." (1 Jn. 4:8)
- "We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death." (1 Jn. 3:14)



How to love your neighbor?

- Love without labels
 - EX: Parable of the Good Samaritan
- Love with hope
 - "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)
 - Prodigal Son's father
- Love when you are not loved
 - "And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved." (2 Cor. 12:15)