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Introduction

- 1. God's great power was on display during the week of creation and is seen with His creation
 - a. Scientists estimate that the Universe is as much as 20 billion light years in diameter
 - b. The Milky Way galaxy that we live in is so large that traveling at the speed of light (186,282 miles per second) would require 100,000 years to cross its diameter
 - c. The tremendous size of the Universe has impressed many and it is but a single demonstration of God's power (cf. Ps. 19:1-6)
- 2. God's ability to speak the visible and invisible creation into existence is far beyond the ability of man (Col. 1:16-17)
 - a. All things that are possible and compatible with God's nature, are possible with God (Mt. 19:26)
 - i. God will not produce a contradiction in terms e.g., a square triangle, a boulder that is impossible to lift, a ball that is red all over and black all over, etc.
 - ii. God cannot lie (<u>Titus 1:2</u>; cf. <u>Heb. 6:18</u>; <u>Num. 23:19</u>)
 - iii. God cannot look on wickedness (Hab. 1:13)
 - iv. God cannot be anything but holy (<u>Isa. 6:3</u>; cf. <u>Lev. 11:45</u>; <u>1 Pt. 1:16</u>)
 - b. What is impossible with man is possible with God (cf. Mt. 19:26)

Power Over Physical Death

- 1. Man became a dying being as a result of sin (Gen. 2:16-17, 3:17-19, 5:5)
 - a. Death passed to all people (Rm. 5:12)
 - i. Not sin; death (Ezek. 18:20)
 - b. Physical death is an appointment we will keep (Heb. 9:27)
 - i. There is a time to die (Ecc. 3:2)
 - c. Physical death is the separation of body and spirit (Jm. 2:26)
- 2. Man does not have power to retain his spirit in the time of death (<u>Ecc. 8:8</u>; <u>Ps. 89:48</u>; cf. <u>Ecc. 12:1-7</u>)
 - a. Death does not mean that we cease to exist (Lk. 20:27-38)

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- b. A resurrection is coming (Jn. 5:28-29)
 - i. Christ has proven He has this power (Jn. 11:14-17, 43-44)

Power Over Spiritual Death

- 1. Man's biggest problem is not physical death, but spiritual death (Rm. 6:23)
 - a. Sin separates our eternal spirit from the eternal God (<u>Isa. 59:1-2</u>)
 - b. Sin separates eternally if not dealt with, but God has a plan (Gen. 3:15)
- 2. This plan was in the mind of God before the Universe was ever created (<u>Eph.</u> 3:9-11, 1:3-4)
 - a. Christ dying on the cross, going into the grave, being resurrected, and seen of witnesses was the plan (Acts 2:22-24, 32)
 - i. These are the gospel facts (1 Cor. 15:1-8)
 - ii. The gospel is God's power to save (Rm. 1:14-17)
 - iii. We must obey the gospel (Acts 2:36-42)
 - b. The church is not an afterthought but is part of the plan (Acts 8:12)
 - i. The church existed in the mind of God in eternity
 - ii. No manmade religion can even come close to this origin
 - iii. One of the reasons manmade religions are impotent (Acts 5:33-39)
 - iv. Man does not have the power to save (Mt. 15:7-9, 13; cf. Mt. 19:16-26)
- 3. The church is the location of the saved today (Eph. 5:23, 1:22-23)
 - a. In the church, the body of Christ, is where salvation is found i.e., the power over spiritual death
 - b. The amazing power of God is on display with His church, and it is also where God is glorified (Eph. 3:14-21)