**From monkeys though art?:**

**Reflection:**

*“Because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.* (Romans 1:25).”

Ever since the serpent in the Garden whispered to Adam and Eve that ‘ye could be gods,’ and challenged their innate trust in God’s authority by asking, ‘did God say?’, man has ever been trying to control his own destiny, the world he inhabits, and even every detail about his own person. But as the recent pandemic proves, we can’t control anything, even a little virus or the panic it inspires in supposedly modern and rational nations!

Modern biologists would have us reduced to a monkey’s uncle and rejoice therein, for then we’d not have to answer to anyone but ourselves, but that is cold comfort with all social chaos and our own mortality staring us in the face. In this very peculiar Lenten season, we are reminded more than ever that, ‘from dust thou art and to dust thou shalt return.’ But are we glorified apes, destined to oblivion with nothing before or after, no meaning, no purpose, no hope, no joy? Why are we panicking in the face of a pandemic, if we were merely beasts we ought to die quietly for nothing matters, but we are panicking because it does matter! Suddenly we realize that there is something beyond our own meager fancies and it terrifies us!

God testifies through the wonders of His creation that He is the Maker of it all, including humanity, and though He has given us stewardship of it, He is still in control and we merely managers. One day we must give an account of that management. We don’t want to be reminded of that interview or even that we have been placed in a position of responsibility, we’d rather pretend we were just another random and futile accident of nature, but that isn’t what He made us for, far from it. And He is serious enough about that that He sent Jesus to redeem us and creation itself from the grasp of sin, death, and brokenness! It is time we took Him seriously at well!

**Let Us Pray:**

Pray that we realize we are more than mere monkeys but also not gods. Pray that we remember we have no control over our own lives, history, or the natural world, but we serve the God who does! Pray that we learn to find delight in living as He would have us, not as ignorant or disobedient managers, but faithful and beloved servants. Pray that many eyes will be opened during the current crisis to realize how futile is humanity’s quest to become gods over either our own destiny or that of our world and that they seek the One who holds it all in His hand.

**Recommended Scripture**:

[Genesis](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis+1&version=ESV) 1

[John](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1&version=ESV) 1:1-18

[Romans 1:18-25](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+1&version=ESV)

**Recommended Worship:**

[The Stand](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vs60Jmrnf9w)

[Same Power](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QD1QMSYKL6Q)

[Unstoppable God](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfzXHU0HOWI)