

# #ThatsWhatHeDoes

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## 0. Background

You're welcome --> "That's what we do" // The flip side--> "That's what He does" // Hashtags (computers, the internet, websites, blogs, micro-blogs, Twitter) // Tonight: **#ThatsWhatHeDoes** (what God does); Next week: **#ThatsWhatWeDo** (what we do in response)

## 1. God Creates

God creates physical stuff (things we see) and He creates spiritual stuff (things we cannot always see).

### Visible Stuff

Because we have limited time, I will limit our discussion to a small part of the visible stuff God created the first day of creation:

- **Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning"** – He created **History** (His story): history and time
- **Genesis 1:1: "the heavens and the earth"** – He created **Science**: space, matter, and the atomic structure (what holds atoms together? Scientist answer: strong nuclear force and weak nuclear force (i.e., we don't know); Bible answer: Jesus (**Colossians 1:17: And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist**). Side note: God created the universe on the first day. Universe is a compound word combining the word uni (meaning single or one) and verse (meaning a spoken sentence of poetry). Therefore, a practical definition of the universe is that which was created by God in a single spoken sentence of poetry.
- **Genesis 1:3: "Let there be light"** – He created **Language**: speech and vocabulary
- **Genesis 1:5: "So the evening and the morning were the first day"** – He created **Math**: numbers and counting and organizing and Excel spreadsheets
- What does the combination of History, Science, Language, and Mathematics sound like? School—God took us all to school on the first day of creation. **#ThatsWhatHeDoes** [And we have been studying this visible stuff for 6,000 years and still do not have it all figured out]

### Invisible Stuff

Again, because God has created so much invisible stuff, I will limit my discussion to just those things that God does when He creates a Christian. When we repent of our sin and place our faith in Jesus Christ, what happens? Many new things happen! [This partial list is adapted from **Mark Driscoll**]

- **New creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)**
  - **New Master (1 John 4:4)**
  - **New mind (Philippians 2:5)**
  - **New desires (Galatians 5:16-17)**
  - **New love (1 John 4:7)**
  - **New fellowship (1 John 1:3)**
  - **New power (Romans 8:12-13)**
  - **New freedom (Romans 6:6)**
- #ThatsWhatHeDoes**

Honestly, those things are great, right? We know that God created everything in [Genesis 1](#) and we know what God did for us at salvation, but what has He does for us lately? I am glad you asked!

## 2. God Acts

### Visibly in the Past

**Jesus:** [John 1:14](#): **And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. #ThatsWhatHeDoes**

**The Cross:** [Romans 5:8](#): **But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. #ThatsWhatHeDoes**

### Visibly in the Present

**Food and Clothing:** [Matthew 6:25-34](#): **25 “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? 28 “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; 29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?**

If we can trust God with our eternal salvation, we can trust Him with our day-to-day needs. Now, some of us feel that we provide these things through our own work, but [Deuteronomy 8:18a](#) clears that up by saying: **And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth.** We really do not provide anything for ourselves—it is all God acting through us. **#ThatsWhatHeDoes**

**Help** right now: Let us read [Psalm 136](#) together (the responsive way):

**1 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!  
For His mercy endures forever.**

**2 Oh, give thanks to the God of gods!  
For His mercy endures forever.**

**3 Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords!  
For His mercy endures forever:**

**4 To Him who alone does great wonders,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**5 To Him who by wisdom made the heavens,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**6 To Him who laid out the earth above the  
waters,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**7 To Him who made great lights,  
For His mercy endures forever—**

**8 The sun to rule by day,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**9 The moon and stars to rule by night,  
For His mercy endures forever.**

**10 To Him who struck Egypt in their firstborn,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**11 And brought out Israel from among them,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**12 With a strong hand, and with an outstretched  
arm,  
For His mercy endures forever;**

**13 To Him who divided the Red Sea in two,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 14 And made Israel pass through the midst of it,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 15 But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the  
 Red Sea,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 16 To Him who led His people through the  
 wilderness,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 17 To Him who struck down great kings,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 18 And slew famous kings,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever—  
 19 Sihon king of the Amorites,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;**

**20 And Og king of Bashan,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever—  
 21 And gave their land as a heritage,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 22 A heritage to Israel His servant,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever.  
 23 Who remembered us in our lowly state,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 24 And rescued us from our enemies,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever;  
 25 Who gives food to all flesh,  
 For His mercy *endures* forever.  
 26 Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven!  
 For His mercy *endures* forever.  
 #ThatsWhatHeDoes**

Do you know what? The same God that did all of that is still doing wonders today! Here to give testimonies to that fact are Chris & Rachael Welch. Give testimony and show slides.

Isn't God good? #ThatsWhatHeDoes

I was talking about Anna Grace on Facebook a few weeks ago and was discussing a medical condition that Anna Grace has (PFAPA) that has no cure (no long-term consequences, but still no cure). My friend, who is a doctor, wrote, "After 10 years in medicine, that's about all I've learned: this world is broken, and I'm thankful we have a Healer." #ThatsWhatHeDoes

Do you know what? It gets better! God does not just provide visible stuff and help that we can see. He is acting right now to provide stuff that we cannot see. #ThatsWhatHeDoes

## Invisibly in the Present

**Love:** 1 John 4:8: He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. #ThatsWhatHeDoes

**Illumination:** 1 Corinthians 2:12: Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.  
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**Prayer:** Romans 8:26, 34: 26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. #ThatsWhatHeDoes

**Security:** John 10:27-29: 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of

**My Father's hand. Ephesians 1:13f: you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.**

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Here is the visual: Jesus has us in His hand. The Father has Jesus in His hand—so we are in the Father's hand too. Then, the Holy Spirit surrounds this union with a seal that cannot be broken. We are secured by all members of the Trinity. That is safe and it is a continuously ongoing act of God.

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So far, we have looked at how God creates and how God acts. Now I want to shift gears and talk about results. What is the result of God's creation and God's actions? The result is that God wins.

### 3. God Wins

#### Visibly in the Past

**His Word:** In **Genesis 1** there is a recurring theme . . . God said, "**Let there be . . . and it was so.**" Six times in Genesis 1 the phrase, "**and it was so,**" occurs. God is showing us that His Word wins. When He says it, it happens. **#ThatsWhatHeDoes**

**The Word:** A story of Jesus healing the demon-possessed man occurs in **Mark 5:1-13**. There is something interesting in the story, though—Satan and his demons did all the fighting (they fought with the man, they argued with Jesus, they fought to be sent into the swine), but Jesus did all the winning. There is nothing that can compare with God's power. **#ThatsWhatHeDoes**

#### Visibly in the Present

How many of you have been saved by Jesus and are not the same as you used to be? That is evidence that God is still winning today. **#ThatsWhatHeDoes**

#### Visibly in the Future

We all know the end of the story, right? We can look ahead to **Revelation** and see that God wins in the end, but that victory was a long time (from our perspective) in the making.

We made things complicated, but even then, the Bible is not primarily about us. The Bible tells the story of Someone else by telling stories. Listen to Tim Keller explain: <http://vimeo.com/23642755>

Here is a summary of the Bible:

1. God **built**
2. Man **broke**
3. Jesus **saved**
4. God **wins**

God creates. God loves. God wins. **#ThatsWhatHeDoes**

**No** movement movement

### 4. Appendix (the stuff I didn't have time to get to)

**Job 19:25; Exodus 15:18; Psalm 104; Genesis 50:15-21; Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Revelation 22:1**