

Genesis One Series

By

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Introduction

Many Christians seem to think that the Old Testament is more or less obsolete, a section full of stories and people who don't really have anything to do with the things of today. I grew up in a family, as well as a church denomination that thought this way. I thought, as I had been taught, that there was really no sense in reading much of the Old Testament because it didn't matter. It was the old and the things contained in it had been nailed to the cross so they were no more. I can say today that I am a New Testament believer. I am crucified with Christ. I am a new creature. Jesus Christ is my Lord. I can also add a new sentence to that resume though and it is that I am now an Old Testament believer. The things of the Old Testament are important to me, not because I live in a time that resembles it, not in the fact that it is more or less important than the New Testament, but because everything in this book we call the Bible points to Jesus Christ!!!

The Old Testament is filled with types and shadows that point to the coming of Jesus. The Messiah

The Gospels point to the work of Jesus. His mission, His ministry

The New Testament points to the second coming of Jesus Christ!!!!

The Bible is God's word and this precious word is filled from the first letter to the last with the blood of Jesus Christ. Now I am not saying that the physical book will save us but the words contained within the Bible illuminated by the Spirit of God is what saves people.

Any man can read the Bible with his earthly eyes and his earthly mind and he will understand some of it, but it is when we are saved, when we are indwelt by the Spirit of God, when we have Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives and we look with our spiritual eyes can we know the truth that lies within the Bible. Only then can we understand what God is trying to teach us in getting us ready for eternal life. Only then will we have an appreciation of what His Spirit and His Word can do in our lives.

Only then can we begin to walk through His Word and be able to grasp what is contained. So let's start our journey with the Lord as our guide today. We will be traveling through the Bible. Book by book. And we will try to send a new section out every day. I hope you will be as blessed as I am by these wonderful studies. We will spend some more time than usual in the first 11 chapters of Genesis but for the most part we will be taking a chapter at a time and we will play by ear and produce five a week if possible. I am excited about what God has shown me and I look forward to passing it on. This evening we will look at the introduction to Genesis and a possible outline of the book

The title Genesis

ray-sheeth'

the *first*, in place, time, order or rank (specifically a *firstfruit*): - beginning, chief (-est), first (-fruits, part, time), principal thing.

This title was applied to the book by the Septuagint.

The Hebrew title comes from the first word of the book (In the beginning)

When we speak of the genesis of something, we speak of it's origin.

This book is truly a book of beginnings.

- A) The beginning of the heavens and the earth
- B) The beginning of mankind.
- C) The beginning of marriage and family.
- D) The beginning of sin and death.
- E) The beginning of the nations.
- F) The beginning of the people of Israel.

Genesis is foundational to the Bible. Without the doctrinal foundation found in this book it would be incomplete.

Its important theological themes include the doctrine of God, creation, man, sin, and salvation. It teaches the importance of substitutionary atonement and of faith in God's revelation of Himself to mankind. Genesis also records the first Messianic prophecies of the Bible predicting that the Redeemer would be born.

This book covers more time than any other in God's Word.

It opens with the words "In the beginning, God created" Gen 1:1, and it ends with "In a coffin in Egypt" Gen 50:26, thus it covers the whole plight of man. From his perfect creation in the image of God to his sinful fall. From his need for a help mate to his need for a Savior.

There is a symmetrical pattern in Genesis that has Abraham at its center. He stands in contrast to Adam because he is the Father of the nation through whom the whole world would be blessed and Adam became the one through whom all the world would be cursed.

There are 5 generations from Adam to Abraham:

1) Genesis 2:4-11:26 - Over 2,000 years

This deals with the human race as a whole

- A) The Creation- The creation of all things
- B) The fall - The corruption of all things
- C) The Flood - The condemnation of all things
- D) The Tower of Babel - The confusion of all things

2) Genesis Ch 12-50 - 250 years

This deals with the family of Abraham

- A) Abraham
- B) Isaac
- C) Jacob
- D) Joseph

The New Testament counterpart to Genesis is the book of Revelation

What is introduced in the book of Genesis is given its conclusion in Revelation.

In Genesis:

The creation of heaven and earth.

In Revelation:

A new heaven and earth.

In Genesis:

The tree of life in the garden.

In Revelation:

The tree of life in the new Jerusalem.

In Genesis:

The first marriage: Adam and Eve

In Revelation:

The last marriage: The last Adam to the Church.

In Genesis:

The beginning of Satan's corruption.

In Revelation:

The end of Satan's corruption.

In Genesis:

Death enters

In Revelation:

Death is destroyed.

In Genesis:

The loss due to sin.

In Revelation:

The redemption of Christ's payment for sin.

In Genesis:

The beginning of sorrow and death.

In Revelation:

Christ wipes away all tears. (even His own)

In Genesis:

The first murder.

In Revelation:

No more death.

In Genesis:

The beginning of Babylon.

In Revelation:

Babylon is destroyed.

A suggested out line of section 1 of Genesis

1) Primeval history (early beginnings)

1:1-11:26 Over 2,000 years.

A) The creation of all things

1:-2:3

B) The story of man

Adam and Eve in the garden

2:4-11:26

C) The corruption of all things

Adam and Eve and the fall

3:1-24

1) The first murder

4:1-26

2) The godly line of Seth and death

5:1-32

D) The condemnation of all things

1) Noah and the flood

6:1-8:19

2) The events after the flood

8:20-9:29

a) Sacrifice and covenant

8:20-9:19

b) Noah's drunkenness and his prophecy

9:20-29

E) The confusion of all things

1. The descendants of Noah and the Tower of Babel

The first 11 chapters of Genesis are said to be the pillars that the rest of the Word stands upon. This is so true because if we take the 3rd chapter away, then the rest of the Word does not make the sense that it should.

We will begin our studies looking at the Godhead and we will look at God the Father first. This kind of study is called Theology Proper or Paterology. Then we shall move to God the Son, Jesus Christ, which is known as Christology and move onto the Study of God the Spirit or what is known as Pneumatology

We will move from there to the study of the Bible (Bibliology), and then onto the study of man (Anthropology). Through these, we will obtain the knowledge we need to understand sin, salvation, and our need for a Savior. Tomorrow we will begin with

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 1: The Who of creation

Who is God?

The arguments and differing concepts of God are as wide and varying as the many religions of the world. The views of God even differ in mainline denominations as to just who God is. Some see Him as the doting Grandfather who loves us regardless of what we are doing. Some see Him as the uncaring Creator who does not care about what is going on in our lives at all. Then there are those who see Him as the Disciplinarian Who can't wait to zap us for messing up.

Monotheists hold that there is only one god, and may claim that the one true god is worshiped in different religions under different names. The view that all theists actually worship the same god, whether they know it or not, is especially emphasized in Hinduism and Sikhism.

Pantheism holds that God is the universe and the universe is God, whereas **Panentheism** holds that God contains, but is not identical to, the Universe

The truth here is that God is God. He is the creator of the universe and yet He cares for us. He is merciful, yet He is the ultimate Judge of all mankind. He requires us to pay for something that we could never pay for and yet He sends His Son to take our place!

He loves us and yet He wants us to choose to love Him!

He is our God!!!

He is our Father!!!

Now that we have looked at a few examples of what the world thinks, we will look at what God says of Himself through His Word

1. **The Who of creation** "In the beginning God"

This one verse tells us something about God. This standard Hebrew term that is translated as 'God' stands for deity "Elohim" is in the plural form. The plural of majesty or intensity, which means "the fullness of deity" or "God very God"

The verb "created" is singular which refers to a plural God head acting out a singular verb. This gives us the first ever glimpse of the God head.

A) **The existence of God**

God is. He exists. He has and He will always exist. There is not a beginning or end with God. The fact that anything is here is evidence that He exists. Moses, the writer of Genesis never argues the point. It was never open for debate.

John Wesley's Explanatory Notes

Observe 2. The author and cause of this great work, God. The Hebrew word is Elohim; which (1.) seems to mean The Covenant God, being derived from a word that signifies to swear. (2.) The plurality of persons in the Godhead, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

B) The existence of one God

As we read this book we must remember that it was written to an original audience for a very specific purpose. Moses was writing to the Israelites in the wilderness. They had lived their lives as slaves in Egypt and they had been exposed to the pagan gods of the land. They would have almost assuredly been exposed to the Egyptian creation myths through the many false deities that reigned there. They would have also not known as much about God because it would have seemed to them that God had left them there for those 400 or so years. This is probably why Moses was raised in the palace of Egypt under pharaoh so he would have a very good knowledge of Egyptian customs and the many gods they worshipped. This chapter in itself must have been written to correct the worldly thinking to which the children of Israel had been exposed. It clearly sets out to show that the world was not made by some random council of deities but by one single supreme loving God.

C) The pre-existence of God

He not only existed at the creation. He pre-existed at the creation. Before time was there was only God. He was not the result of creation He was the source of creation.

John 1:1-2

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Before the earth God already was. Before the earth The spirit of God was.

Before the earth Jesus Christ was. This is stated clearly here in three statements:

1. The Word (Christ) pre existed
2. The Word (Christ) pre existed with God.
3. The Word (Christ) pre existed as God.

He is He was and He will always be.

Rev 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

D) The purpose of God

God is not some mystical foreign force.

He is personal. He thinks, He feels, He acts.

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 2: The Who of creation

God the Father: The Names of God

One way God has revealed Himself to us is through His names

The names of God used in the scriptures hold an important key to understanding the attributes and relationship of who is otherwise unapproachable and mysterious. God shows His desire to make Himself known and bridge the gap to mankind by revealing Himself through His word.

God's name is His promise to dwell with His people through His Word - John 1:1-18

In the Old Testament:

The prophets spoke with authority when they uttered the names of God.

In the New Testament:

God's name is manifested through Jesus Christ.

John 17:6

His Majestic Names

Genesis 1:26

Elohim - Plural for deity (Godhead) The plural of majesty.

The revelation of the infinite nature of God.

"Eloi, Eloi - Psalms 22, Mark 15:34"

Genesis 1:1-31-(Elohim is plural for majesty-created is singular)

Romans 1:18-20 - God is revealed through His creation. We have no excuse to leave Him out of our understanding.

He is the One who created everything but when man is faced with such a concept as God, man then starts asking questions:

Does God really have any interest in man?

Does God have any interest in me personally?

Can we truly find God? Job 11

Can we go to where He is? Job 23:3

We long for not only an intellectual ability to know God but also an experiential knowledge of Him.

The argument can be made that we are made in His image. We are the direct reflection of God on this planet so then we should know how he is, this argument would be completely 100% true if it were not for 1 word. SIN!!!

Our problem is that sin has separated man from God to the point where we have no way of knowing Him on our own through our own knowledge. But God has revealed Himself to us through His Word and especially through His names.

The importance of His name – Psalms 23

He does things for His names sake

Psalms 106:8

1 John 2:12

Psalms 138:2
Isaiah 28:2, 47:4, 51:15
Amos 4

El – Berith - God of the covenant Judges 8:46

El – Elyon - The Exalted One – The One who owns everything
Genesis 14:18-22
God had made Abraham rich! Not man
Numbers 24:16
2 Samuel 22:14
Psalms 18:13

We as Christians have come into a relationship with the One who owns everything
(Romans 8:17) and we come to and through His Son (Hebrews 1:2)

El – Olam - The Everlasting God **Genesis 21:33**

El – Roi - The God Who sees The God of Vision Genesis 16:13

El – Shaddai – The Almighty God Genesis 17:1
This name answers the question; “Is God big enough?”
All through time, man has made himself God. Opposition to God has and still runs rampant. Man tells himself “I don't need God, I will do what I want!”
Man wants to go his own way. He wants to have his own way and take God out of the picture.
Yet this is the very reason we see the world in the situation that it is now. Man wonders why there is death, corruption, and total ungodliness that seems to be growing towards a point where it seems that things could not get any worse than they really are now. The truth is that all the evil going on in the world today is man simply reaping the corruption that he has sown. One day God will deal with all the nations. One day He will judge them all. One day everything will all be brought full circle. (Isaiah 29:90)
He is mighty! He can do anything.
"Almighty God" (Hebrew, El Shaddai)

(1) The etymological signification of Almighty God (El Shaddai) is both interesting and touching. God (El) signifies the "Strong One" (*See Scofield*) - ([Gen 1:1](#)). The qualifying word Shaddai is formed from the Hebrew word "shad," the breast, invariably used in Scripture for a woman's breast; for example ([Gen 49:25](#)); ([Job 3:12](#)); ([Psa 22:9](#)); Song of ([Son 1:13](#)); ([Son 4:5](#)); Song of ([Son 7:3](#)); ([Son 7:7](#)); ([Son 7:8](#)); ([Son 8:1](#)); ([Son 8:8](#)); ([Son 8:10](#)); ([Isa 28:9](#)); ([Eze 16:7](#)). Shaddai therefore means primarily "the breasted." God is "Shaddai," because He is the Nourisher, the Strength-giver, and so, in a secondary sense, the Satisfier, who pours himself into believing lives. As a fretful, unsatisfied babe is not only strengthened and nourished from the mother's breast, but also is quieted, rested, satisfied, so El Shaddai is that name of God which sets Him forth as the Strength-giver and Satisfier of His people. It is on every account to be regretted that "Shaddai" was translated "Almighty." The primary name El or Elohim sufficiently signifies almightiness. "All-sufficient" would far better express both the Hebrew meaning and the characteristic use of the name in Scripture.

(2) Almighty God (El Shaddai) not only enriches, but makes fruitful. This is nowhere better illustrated than in the first occurrence of the name ([Gen 17:1-8](#)). To a man ninety-nine years of age, and "as good as dead" ([Heb 11:12](#)). He said: "I am the Almighty God El Shaddai . . . I will . . . multiply thee exceedingly." To the same purport is the use of the name in ([Gen 28:3](#)); ([Gen 28:4](#)).

(3) As Giver of fruitfulness, Almighty God (El Shaddai) chastens His people. For the moral connection of chastening with fruit bearing, see ([Joh 15:2](#)); ([Heb 12:10](#)); ([Rth 1:20](#)). Hence, Almighty is the characteristic name of God in Job, occurring thirty-one times in that book. The hand of El Shaddai falls upon Job, the best man of his time, not in judgment, but in purifying unto greater fruitfulness ([Job 5:17-25](#)).

It takes an Almighty omnipotent God to love His own

He is big enough for us

He is big enough to sustain us

He is the fruitful One – He makes man fruitful

He is the chastening One to His people – Job 5:17, Hebrews 12:6-11

His Covenant Names

Exodus 3:13-16

"YHWH - Yahweh - Jehovah - Lord God - ""I AM"""

"Adon - Adonai "Lordship"

Jehovah is His eternal name. This means that He is "The self-existent One. The Ever Present One" He always was, He is, and He will always be!.

The Jewish people do not speak the name of God because it is too sacred to be uttered by mans' lips. They use "Lord" or "Addonai"

We have gone to the other extreme in our handling of His precious name. We have either dwindled His name down to a curse word or as our buddy whom we know so much that we call him what we want because He wants us to like Him so much that we think He doesn't care how we handle His name.

We should use His name in reverence like the Jewish people. We should respect God and His name

Yahweh – Yireh - The Lord will provide Genesis 22:14

In Exodus 12 – The Israelites had victory over death – John 11:25

In Exodus 14 – They had victory over the world (Egypt) -

In chapter 16 – They were hungry – John 6:35-51

In chapter 17 – They were thirsty – John 7:38 (Ex 17:8) This is why Moses got into trouble – 1 Corinthians 10:4 – The rock was not supposed to be beaten twice!

Yahweh – Nissi - The Lord is my banner Exodus 17:15

Yahweh – Mekaddesh - The Lord who sanctifies Exodus 31:13

Yahweh -Shalon - The Lord of peace Judges 6:24

Yahweh – Sabaoth - The Lord of Hosts 1 Samuel 1:3

Jeremiah 11:20 - The Lord Almighty

Yahweh – Rohi - The Lord is my Shepherd Psalms 23:1
John 10:7-11 He is the Great Shepherd – Who cares for us – Psalms 23
He is the Good Shepherd – Who lays down His life for the sheep – Psalms 22, John 10
Hebrews 13:20
He is the Chief Shepherd - Psalms 23, 1 Peter 5:4
John 10:12-16 He is the Only Shepherd
John 10:17-18 He is the obedient Shepherd Philippians 2:5-11
Romans 3:25
Isaiah 53
John 6:19-30 He is the Faithful Shepherd

Yahweh – Tsidkennu - The Lord is our righteousness Jeremiah 23:5-6, 33:16
Titus 3:5
Romans 4:5
He became what I am (sin) so that I might become what He is (Righteous) God sees me
through His precious blood.
2 Peter 3:13

Yahweh – Shammah The Lord is there Ezekiel 48:35

Yahweh – Rapha The Lord Who healeth thee Exodus 15:22
In Exodus 12 the Israelites had victory over death
In chapter 14 they had victory over the Egyptians (the world)
but in three days they went from singing to murmuring
In chapter 16 they were hungry
In chapter 17 they were thirsty
and in Numbers they were thirsty again
Each time they murmured it was an open door for God to display His power
When we are weak He is strong – 2 Corinthians 12:10
The first test that came to the Israelites was Mara. Sometimes when we walk with God,
He leads us to a test or trial. But we don't need to get bitter (Ruth 1:20)
Exodus 15:22-27 – Moses threw a rod into the bitter water and the water became sweet.
Galatians 6:14
He was placed on a tree for our sins. He changes the bitterness inside us and makes it
sweet!
Jesus Christ is the Jehovah- Rapha of the Old Testament and He shows us this by a pool
of water. John 5
This man confessed his helplessness and Jesus healed him. This man was forgotten. He
didn't ask Jesus to forgive him, he just testified to his helplessness. He had given up
hope. He had come to the end of himself (Proverbs 14:12, Romans 4:5)
Jesus deliberately healed on the Sabbath because it was a covenant between God and the
Jewish people but they broken this covenant (John 1:11) so there was no need to honor
the covenant with them

Yahweh- Jireh Genesis 22:1-14, Hebrews 11:17-19
God leads Abraham through something that He would go through Himself 2000 years
later. The Jewish people spiritualize this passage
Isaiah 53
Romans 3:24-25 – It pleased God

God sent His Son to be a Redeemer for us and He is satisfied with the price Jesus paid for us

His Symbolic Names

Ancient of Days Everlasting to Everlasting Daniel 7:9,13,22, Psalm 10:2

Rock Deuteronomy 32:18

Psalms 19:14

Isaiah 26:4

Refuge Psalms 9:9

Jeremiah 17:17

Fortress Psalms 18:12

Nehemiah 1:7

Shelter Genesis 15:1

Psalms 84:11

Sun Psalms 84:11

Refiner Malachi 3:2-3

His Political Names

King Psalms 5

Judge Judges 11:27

Shepherd Psalms 23

Ezekiel 34

Luke 15:4

John 10:1-18

God the Father Abba (Aramaic)

Exodus 4:22

Psalms 103:13

Jeremiah 31:9

Hoseah 11:1

Matthew 6:9

Father of Mercies 2 Corinthians 1:3

Father of Light James 1:17

Father of Glory Ephesians 1:17

JESUS CHRIST

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Rev 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Rev 19:12 His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

Rev 19:13 And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

Jesus Christ is God

He is eternally God

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Whenever it was. He was already there.

He is equally God

All cults pretty much evolved from Gnosticism

Genesis 1:1 is attacked by the humanists. Man does not want to believe in God because if there is a God then man is accountable to Him.

If we don't recognize our Creator. If we don't recognize we are a created being. If we say that we evolved from the muck. If we say that we came from the animals, then we can do what we want. We can live like the animals because that is where we came from right.

The cults attack John 1:1

How to spot a cult

1) Exclusivity

Everyone else is wrong. We have the truth and many times it is some personal revelation that makes the leader or leaders stand apart.

Just remember

"If it is new, it is not true, if it is true, it is not new"

2) Authority

You must submit to me. I will tell you what to read and when to read it. I will tell you how to think.

3) Deity

All will essentially deny that Jesus is God in some way. They might not come right out and say it but they will in some way make it clear. There are many many wolves

in sheep's clothing. John said in his epistle that they come from among us, meaning that they will know the truth and they will preach some truth, but it is the lie that is mixed in their message to get their agenda across, and yes there is always an agenda. Whether it be racism, money, or just for power there will be an agenda there. I urge everyone out there to use great discernment when listening to anyone. Whether it is the TV. preached that everyone loves or that friend who tells you that they have found a great Christian teacher that they think you should listen to because the enemy is all around us.

Here is one way and probably the best:

It might look like a sheep; talk like a sheep and maybe even act like a sheep but it will always eat sheep. They will always devour sheep. They confuse, they cause strife, and they question the small insignificant things and get the focus off of Christ and onto whatever legal jargon they have been taught.

What are we to do? What do we do when that Jehovah's Witness comes to our door?

Tit 3:9 but avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

Tit 3:10 a man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;

Tit 3:11 knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

Rom 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 3: The Who of creation

God the Father: The Attributes of God

God is all-knowing and omnipotent

Psalm 139, (Isaiah 45),(2Peter3:1-7)

Job 9:1-14,(11:7-14)	Who can question God?
Psalms 89:5-37	Who can compare with God?
Psalm 90:1-12	Who can know the power of the anger of God?
Psalm 104	Who can lay the foundations of the world like God?
Psalm 135	Who can endure like God?
Psalm 136	Who can liken their mercy to God's
Psalm 139	Who can hide his face from God?
Isaiah 44:24	Who can create all things as God did?
Isaiah 46	Who can be equal to God?
Ecclesiastes 3:14-15	God's purpose is forever
Isaiah 40:25-31	God's people are forever in Him
Isaiah 43:10-15	God's witness is forever
Isaiah 55	God's salvation is forever
Jeremiah 1:4-5	God knows us
Jeremiah 31:35	The Lord of Hosts is His name!!!!
Amos 5:8-9,9:1-6	The Lord is His name

God is one-existing in three distinct persons that form the Godhead.

John 14

Gen 1:1,26-27 Us shows majesty in plural form which gives way to the future revelation of the Godhead.

God is manifested in three distinct persons who together form the Godhead

God- God the Father

"Deuteronomy 6:4, 10:17"

"1 Corinthians 8:4-6,12:3-6"

Jesus- God the Son

Matthew 28:19

"John 7:28-29,(10:25-30),14"

The Holy Spirit-God the Spirit

Matthew 3:16

John 14:15-18

Acts 2:17-18

There are three that bear witness

Acts 5:1-11,(20:22-28)

John 4:24

Ephesians 4:4-6

1John 5:5-7

I Am:

Exodus 3:14

John 8:58

Alpha and Omega:

Revelation 1:8,11,(21:5-8),22:12-13

God is love. 1John 4:12-19

God loves us so much that he sent His Son to die for us.

John 3:1-21

1John 4:7-11

God commands us to love one another-everyone-our neighbor

John 13:34-35

God cares about us (His children the church) and for all mankind (unsaved).

God wants us all to be saved 2Peter 3:1-9

God's promises to His children:

Those who accept the salvation of His son

He will be with you Deuteronomy 31:6-8

He will not leave you or forsake you

Joshua 1:5

Hebrews 13:5-6

Exodus 3:11-12,4:10-12

He will help you in distress Psalms 42

He is there when we are gathered in His name Matthew 28:20

We will come to make Our home with you John 14:15-24

We have a heavenly inheritance

1Peter 1:1-12

John 10:28

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 4: The Who of creation

God the Son: The Revelation of God through Jesus Christ

JESUS CHRIST

These days there is a major theme in the secular world to change the glory and honor that the name of Jesus deserves. These days He is either described as a great teacher, a wonderful guru, or simply a normal married man who took advantage of a set of events that catapulted Him to the title of Rabbi.

Rest assured that you won't find any of that here and let me say that is you don't like to hear about Jesus then you won't like these studies because He is the subject of them all. He is the Creator of the universe. He is our Lord and Savior, and we will spend some time just basking in the wonder and awe of Jesus

Please look up the Scriptures listed but not included

Who is Jesus?

1) Jesus is The Word of God

Revelation 19:11-16

Rev 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Rev 19:12 His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

Rev 19:13 And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

Rev 19:14 And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

Rev 19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Rev 19:16 And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Psalms 33:6-9 – By the word the heavens were made

Psa 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Psa 33:7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.

Psa 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

Psa 33:9 For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.

John 1:1-14 In the beginning was the Word

Genesis 1:1-31-(Elohim is plural for majesty-created is singular)

2) Jesus is the suffering servant

He suffered for us

A) The servant songs

Isaiah 42:1-9

49:1-13

50:4-11

52:13-16 and Ch53

B) The agony in the garden

Matthew 26:39-45

26:36-39

Mark 14:32-36

Luke 22:39-44

C) The cross

Matthew 27:27-56

Mark 15:16-41

Luke 23:26-49

John 19:17-30

D) His death fulfilled God's will

Hebrews 9-10:1-25

3) Jesus is the Son of God and the Son of man (2 Natures)

100 percent God and 100 percent man

Romans 1:3

Born of the seed of David (human)

declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness
(which suggests that Jesus lived a life with power over sin in true holiness)

by the resurrection from the dead (divine)

(He destroyed death forever through his resurrection)

Isaiah 9:6-7

For unto us a Child is born (human)

Unto us a Son is given (divine)

Galatians 4:4

God sent forth His Son (divine)

born of a woman (human)

Philippians 2:5-1 1

A) The Person of Christ

I am the Way: Jesus invites John 14:6

The sower and the seed Matthew 13:1-23 (Mark 4:1-20)

Has to do with the response of the unsaved (soil) to the word of God (seed)

I am the truth: Jesus instructs

The parable of the candle Mark 4:21-25

We who have been enlightened by God are to give light to all who we come into contact with. We are not to hide that light. If God reveals something to me I am required it will be taken away from me. God puts to account what I know and what I apply to

I am the life: Jesus insures

The parable of the growing seed Mark 4:26-29

The seed in the ground empowering a life that receives it. We don't always understand what is happening but God is working in the lives of those who trust Him where the seed takes root

B) The Preeminence of Christ

1) In universal government Colossian 1:15-18

2) In reconciliation Colossians 1:19-27

3) In wisdom and knowledge Colossians 2:1-10

4) In religious observance Colossians 2:11-23

5) In Christian living Colossians 3:1-17

4) Jesus is the chief cornerstone

Psalms 118:21-22

Isaiah 28:16

Matthew 21:42-44

Ephesians 2:19-22

2Peter 2:1-10

5) Jesus is our Lord and savior

1 Corinthians 8:4-6 (Psalms 118:26)

Matthew 21:9

He came to this earth for us

Isaiah 49:1-16

Matthew 20:24-28

Mark 9:11-12

Luke 22:24-28

John 3:7-21

2Corinthians 5:20-21

Galatians 3:13-14

6) Jesus is the Lamb of God

John 1:29-30

1Peter 1:19-21

Revelation 5:6-14, 13:6-9, 17:12-14

7) Jesus is the Lion of Judah

Revelation 5:5

8) Jesus is our High Priest and King

Genesis 14:18-20

Psalms 110

Isaiah 11

Hebrews 5:1-10

His kingdom is now and forever

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Ephesians 1:20-22

Philippians 2:5-11

9) Jesus is the Power and Wisdom of God

(Wisdom) Proverbs 8 – Wisdom acts as God’s dynamic word in the Old Testament and Jesus is the Wisdom and Word of God in the New Testament (John 1:1-3)

10) Jesus is the Light of the world

John 8:12

11) Jesus in the subject of the Scriptures

The road to Emmaus Luke 24:13-25

24:1-24

This takes place after Jesus’ resurrection. Two of His disciples were traveling and t way. Jesus drew near to them but they did not recognize Him because their eyes w them who they war talking about. As far as the disciples were concerned, their was Jesus’ resurrection (they called Him a prophet) They wanted to see the resurrected

24:25-27

Jesus rebuked them for their unbelief and beginning with Moses (Deuteronomy 18: the Scriptures contained concerning Himself

24:28-32

He vanished from their sight after their eyes were opened. They marveled and coulç spent so much time with Him and not realize who He was while He spoke to them b within them while He opened the Scriptures to them

24:44-49

Jesus opened the Scriptures to the disciples

Acts 2:14-36

Psalms 16 Isaiah 53

Psalms 110:1 Joel 2:28-32

Their comprehension involved seeing how God's plan was outlined in the Scriptures

This 3 fold categorization of the ancient Scriptures summarizes the contents of the (on The Messiah, Jesus Christ

The law of Moses

Acts 3:22-26 (Deuteronomy 18:15, 18-19)

The Prophets

Acts 10:43 (Zechariah 13:1)

Ezekiel 36:25-28

Jeremiah 3:31-34

The Psalms

Acts 4:10-12 (Psalms 118:22)

Psalms 22

Acts 8:30-35

The Spirit of God does not take away the need for a teacher but the Spirit makes le more effective when it is diligently sought by the individual believer (2 Timothy 2:15)

12 Jesus Christ is God

He is eternally God

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Whenever it was. He was already there.

He is equally God

All cults pretty much evolved from Gnosticism

Genesis 1:1 is attacked by the humanists. Man does not want to believe in God because if there is a God then man is accountable to Him.

If we don't recognize our Creator. If we don't recognize we are a created being. If we say that we evolved from the muck. If we say that we came from the animals, then we can do what we want. We can live like the animals because that is where we came from right.

The book of John gives us the clearest example of the deity of Jesus Christ in all of the Gospels. Here in verse two of the book of John we get a reminder of what John has been trying to express. We can almost see this verse as a review for those who "didn't get it" before.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Here John is telling us just Who and What this book is about. John seemed to be counteracting the gnosticism of the times in each one of the books that he wrote through the leading of the Spirit of God. In each he seems to take us back to the beginning.

In the beginning was the Word

Right off the bat, John shows us that Jesus is God. "In the beginning" takes us all the way back to Genesis 1:1. From this one gets the argument that if you don't believe that Jesus is God then you are calling Moses a liar.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

In the beginning of time as we know it we see God creating. But He was not alone

and the Word was with God

In this part of the verse we find that "The Word" was there, but just who is the Word?

John tells us in Revelation and 1 John

Rev 19:13 And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

1John 1:1-3 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

(For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

We now have the challenge that if we do not believe that Jesus is God, we are not only calling Moses a liar but we are calling John a liar as well.

and the Word was God

Now John takes us to a new aspect in this passage and we see the relationship between God and the Word. Jesus Christ is the Son of God, but He is also One with God

1John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

Philippians 2:5-11 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We find that Jesus was not only with God but that He was actively working with God in creation

Colossians 1:12-20 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.

For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell;

And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

Now if we don't believe that Jesus is God we are not only calling Moses and John a liar, but we would be calling Paul a liar as well.

John 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Here John gives us another indication as to the point he is trying to get across to the readers of his day. Sadly this idea has fallen on deaf ears even in our times. The fact that Jesus is the Son of God and the same as God has confused men since even during this time period in which John writes. The Christian faith is seen as a pluralistic faith in the many see us as having more than one God to whom we give worship. Now while I will admit, I can not simplify it for you any better than any other pastor or preacher but I am far from either. The outside world denotes the love of Jesus but wonders at the wrath of God. Rabbis claim we have 3 separate Gods in our theology. Cults either bring Jesus down to either fallen man or bodiless spirit. The equation of $1 + 1 + 1 = 1$ is the hardest thing for our shallow and finite minds to wrap around and this is where faith comes into play. I might not completely understand it but I must have faith that the Lord is true to His Word. This brings me to the fact that if I don't believe this passage as true – then I am not only calling Moses, John, and Paul a liar but that I am also calling Jesus a liar as well

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

He is the Son of God

He is the Image of God

He is the Form of God

He is equal with God

He is God in the flesh

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 5: The Who of creation

God the Spirit: The Revelation of God through the Holy Spirit

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Acts 7:51-60, Matthew 28:19, John 15:26-27, 16:5-15

There is a mystery concerning the Holy Spirit

The Spirit is translated as a ghost in the KJV and this gives people the idea of something on Halloween, like Casper.

Another area of concern is people replacing the personal pronoun "He" that is designated to the Spirit with "it" (John 16:5-11)

What does the Spirit mean to you and me?

Some see Him as our servant – but He is not.

Some see Him as our master – but He will never overpower us without our will.

We do not direct the Holy Spirit.

We do not manipulate the Holy Spirit.

He will never force us to do anything.

1) The Holy Spirit is part of the Godhead

Genesis 1:1-2, 26-27, 11:7 - "Let Us" denotes Majesty plural 2 Corinthians 13:14

1) The Spirit of truth John 14:25-26, 16:13

2) The Helper (Comforter) John 14:25-26

3) The Spirit is God Acts 5:1-14

When we mention the Holy Spirit – we are talking about God

Psalms 95:7-11

1 Corinthians 12:1-3

1 Timothy 4:1-5

Hebrews 3:7-11

In the Old Testament we see God the Father at work.

From the Gospels to Acts we see God the Son at work

From Acts through the second coming of Christ we see God the Spirit at work

2 Corinthians 13:14

Matthew 28:19-20

John 14:15-18

Whenever you find the list of the Godhead mentioned you will always see the Holy Spirit listed last. This does not mean that He is last in importance – but rather His work is after God the Father and God the Son. Today is the time of the ministry of the Holy Spirit. He wills, He works, He guides. He is never to be thought of as an influence. He is God and He is not subject to you or me. We must follow Him. We must choose to because He will never force Himself on us.

2) The ministry of the Holy Spirit

A reproving ministry toward the sinner

Reproves society John 16:8-11

Jesus defines this ministry.

Reprove - “To convict or convince”

The Spirit does not speak of Himself. He convicts the sinner of his/her need for salvation. He will not force us to come to Christ – He leads and we choose our path. We will either stand before Jesus as His own

1. The nature or sin

We were born dead in sins and we could not be saved apart from Jesus Christ and the indwelling of His Holy Spirit at salvation

We should focus on the full payment of Jesus for all sins.

Reception of the full pardon of sin is the only cure for the disease of sin

The Spirit of God shows me convicts me that I am a sinner

B) The need for righteousness

"What can take away my sin?"

The only thing that can save me from my sin is the righteousness of Jesus Christ

I have no righteousness (right standing) with God except for the righteousness of Jesus. After Christ's departure the Holy Spirit would convict the world of the nature of and need for righteousness. Jesus' work on the cross was completely righteous

This is demonstrated by the Father's emptying of the tomb, signifying His satisfaction with the payment and His acceptance of Christ into His presence

The Spirit of God shows me that I am a sinner in need of salvation only through Jesus for there is no other way or name with which I can be saved

C) The nearness of judgment

Matthew 12:31

If we treat the Spirit like Jesus was treated then salvation will not come to us and there is no more salvation after the Spirit comes. It is Jesus Christ or nothing. Satan, the ruler of this world, rules in the hearts of the unregenerate (unsaved) and blinds their minds (1 Corinthians 2:6-8) Satan was judged at the cross, and the Holy Spirit convinces people of the judgment to come. Satan has been judged, so also those who side with him will also be judged.

There is no room for neutrality. You are either a child of God or a child of the devil (Matthew 6:24)

The Spirit of God shows me that I am a sinner in need of salvation only through Jesus for there is no other way or name with which I can be saved because if I do not choose to accept His payment I will spend eternity in Hell

An instructing ministry toward the saved

Indwells the saved Colossians 1:24-29

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

The Holy Spirit teaches the believer the truth

The Holy Spirit is the author of truth

Every word in the Bible is authored through the Spirit of God

2 Peter 1:21

The authors personality shows in each book, but the Holy Spirit supervised over each writer

The Holy Spirit moved each author and chose each word

The Holy Spirit makes the truth available

The Holy Spirit makes truth understandable

The Holy Spirit makes truth profitable

John 14:26

John 16:13

2 Timothy 3:16

1 John 2:26-27

A glorifying ministry toward the Savior

He glorifies the Son

John 16:14

How does the Spirit glorify the Son?

1) By writing a book about Him

The Bible is a love letter from God to us

The Bible is about Jesus

A) The Old Testament - expectations - "The King is coming"

B) The gospels to acts - The incarnation - The ministry of the King

C) Acts - application of the truth of the King

D) Epistles - interpretation of the goodness of the King

E) Revelations - consummation of the King in His kingdom

2) By preparing a bride for her

The Body (1 Corinthians 12)
A building (Ephesians 2:19-22)
A bride (Revelation 21:9-10)

3) By making the believer like Him

Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12

Roman 8:28-30

Predestination: No where in the Bible does it ever say that God predestined people

(2 Peter 3:8-9)

God has predestined before the foundation of the world that the believing saved per

like Jesus (Ephesians 1:3-6)

We develop through a day by day abiding walk with Him

The characteristics of Jesus (Galatians 5:22-23)

4) The Holy Spirit does not glorify Himself

John 16:12-14

3) The work of the Holy Spirit

A).Baptism

Adding the believer to the body of Christ

John 3:5-8

Acts 2:38

Romans 8:9-11

1 John 16:8-11

B) Gift

We receive the Spirit when we are saved

1 Corinthians 2

C) Indwelling

The Spirit takes residence inside us after salvation

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

D) Seal

The blessing of salvation

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Ephesians 1:13-14

E) Earnest

Down payment for the future

Romans 8:1-26
2Corinthians5:5-8

F) Filling

After salvation

Day by day walk with the Lord by abiding in the Spirit

John 15:4-10

1 John 3:4-6

1)We do not manipulate the Spirit

2)The Spirit will never lead us to do something that goes against scripture

3)Don't grieve the Spirit Ephesians 4:30

4)Don't quench the Spirit 1Thessalonians 5:19

G) Anointing

To apply to - pour upon - to cover

Fills and strengthens us for the work that God has in store for you

Isaiah 61:1-2 (Luke 4:18-19)

Isaiah 11J2-3(John 1:32)

Matthew 3:16-17

4) The Gifts of the Spirit

John 3:31-36

Spiritual gifts are from God given to every believer on the event of conversion thru the Spirit

Acts 4:11-16

Ephesians 4:11-16

Exodus 27:1-4

31:1-12

35:30-35

36:1-7

1 Timothy 2:1-2

5) Spiritual Gifts

This is not an exhaustive list but actually a representative one

Romans 12

Prophecy - 1Corinthians 14:1-25

Ministry- service – 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Teaching - 1 Peter 5:1-11

Exhortation Acts 11:23-24

Giving 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Rulers (govts) Acts 15:12-21

Mercy Hebrews 13:7
 Luke 10:30-37

Ephesians 4:11

Apostles The Disciples and Paul

Prophets 1Corinthians 14:1-25

Evangelist Acts 8:26-40

Pastors 1 Peter 5:1-11

Teachers

Diversity of Operations

1 Corinthians 12

Wisdom James 3:13-17

Knowledge Ephesians 3:14-19

Faith Hebrews 11

Healing James 5:13-16

.Miracles

Prophecy I Corinthians 14:1-25

Discernment Acts 5:3-6
 Acts 16:16-18

Tongues Int/tongues I Corinthians 14:1-25

Different gifts - same Spirit

These are gifts God has set up in the body. Spiritual gifts are profitable-never divisible. God gives spiritual gifts so that the body will be edified and that He will be glorified

I Corinthians 12:28 Ephesians 2:20, 3:5, 4:11

Apostles Firsthand eyewitness to Jesus

Prophets I Corinthians 14:1-25

Teachers	1 Peter 5:1-11
Miracles	
Healing	James 5:13-16
Helps - service	Acts 6:2-4 I Corinthians 9:19-23 Galatians 6:1-2
Governments	Acts 15:12-21 Hebrews 13:7
Elders	1 Timothy 3
Deacons	Titus 1-3
Tongues	I Corinthians 14:1-25

Reasons God gives spiritual gifts to the church

Ephesians 4:13-16

1) Unity

To bring us to unity

Gifted men and teachers are put in church to teach us the word and the will of God

2) Intimacy

So we will come to know Him better

We must give ourselves to Jesus through studying His word and through prayer

Our suffering (testing) also helps us along the way

3) Maturity

Because He wants us to grow up

We need to be able to look back on our lives and see growth

As we mature we continually grow more and more like Christ, which should be our goal

4) Stability

So we will have the stability we need

Maturity brings stability

Trickery - Cuba

From the word cube

used to describe dice

Refers to the gamblers of then and now

How they would use loaded dice

If we don't mature we will be tricked by the enemy

5) Authenticity

For our authenticity

We must learn to speak the truth in love

Truth without love is dangerous

because there is no compassion

Love without truth is dangerous

because there is no core or foundation

Jesus is the authenticity of the body

and through spiritual gifts we obtain inter-dependability in the body

All believers are called to:

1) Live wisely

Rom 16:19

Ephesians 5:15

Colossians 14:5

2) To live by faith

To walk by faith

2 Corinthians 5:7

To abound in faith

2Corinthians 8:7

To take up the shield of faith

Ephesians 6:16

To pursue faith

1 Timothy 6:12

2Timothy 2:22

3) To teach others the truth of God

Matthew 28:20

2Timothy 2:12, 24

Acts 8:30-35

'The Spirit of God does not take away the need for a teacher but the Spirit makes learning God's Word

more effective when it is diligently sought by the individual believer (2 Timothy 2:15)

4) To serve one another in love Galatians 5:13

To minister to others

5) To exhort one another daily

6) To give cheerfully

7) To be merciful

1) Covet the best gifts

2) Follow love and charity - Desire spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1

6) The fruit of the Spirit

GalatianT5:22-23

Ephesians 5:9

The Holy Spirit is not an outside force

The Bible does not talk about feelings when speaking of the Spirit. He is not some outside influence or religious experience. He is not some force that completely controls us. He takes residency inside us.

2 Corinthians 6:19-20

He is in us. He lives inside us and through us. He enlightens us. He enlists us (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

He prepares me. He works through me. He equips me. He produces fruit through me (Galatians 5:22-26)

Warnings about the Holy Spirit

Have you ever resisted the Spirit of God? (1 Thessalonians 5:19)

Have you ever quenched the Spirit? This means to resist His influence – Like smothering a fire.

Have you ever hardened your heart towards the Spirit? (Ephesians 4:30)

The Spirit should never be pushed away, ignored, or rejected.

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 6: God and His Word

Proverbs 6:20-23

What do you think about when you hear the words “Word of God” or “Bible”. Do you think about it like a collector’s item - that big book that your mother or aunt keeps special things in. Do you think of that book as a coffee table item – that book you take to church but it stays on a table in the living room until the next church service? Do you think about it like a companion – a book that you can’t make it one day without looking to for help, guidance, or reassurance?

B.I.B.L.E

Basic

Instructions

Before

Leaving

Earth

This book is just a book. It contains the books of the authors who were lead by God to write them, yet it is still a book. You can be unsaved or saved and still read it. You can even be unsaved and understand parts of it but we must have the Spirit of God in our lives to truly understand this book.

To truly understand the spiritual context one must have the Spirit of the author.

This book, the Bible, is the only inspired Word of God. There are many imitators and even watered down versions

1) The Bible is God's inspired Word

The authors of the books of the Bible wrote each individual word through the inspiration and revelation of God. They still kept their own opinions. They retained their personalities when they wrote each book yet they were writing by direct revelation from God.

2) The Bible is God's empowering Word

God's Word and His Spirit are both essential for our salvation. The Word of God without the Spirit of God is lifeless - with no power but the Word of God empowered by the Spirit of God is a living force in our lives 2Timothy 3:10-15

3) The Bible is God's transforming Word

The word of God is a powerful and living force (through the Spirit) that penetrates the very heart and mind. It gives us a look at God's plan and His will for us. Every believer who abides in His word can't help but be changed

Hebrews 4:12-13

John 1:20-21, 26-27

4) The Bible is God's enduring Word

The things of this earth are merely temporary except two things: Our souls and God's Word, which makes His Word and the state of every man's soul very important. Both lead to Jesus

1Peter 1:22-25, 2:1-3

2Peter 3:1-9

5) The Bible is God's prophetic Word

We should diligently study His Word because it is God speaking to us God alone is responsible for each word in the bible. All scripture comes directly from God and never a private source or the one who interprets His Word

2Peter 1:16-21

6) The Bible is God's simplistic Word

Jesus came and dies for our sins. All He wants us to do is accept Him as our savior.

2Corinthians 11:1-3

God wants everyone on this earth to be saved but it is our choice

2Peter 3:1-6

There is no mystery in the God's Word that is hidden from us (His children)

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

1) The mystery revealed to His saints

Colossians 1:24-29

2) The mystery hidden in the Father and Son

Colossians 2:1-3

There is only one gospel

Galatians 1:6-10

There is only one way to know God more

His word

1Peter 2:2

2Timothy 2:14-19

Psalms 119:11-12, 33-40

Isaiah 28:23-39

Deuteronomy 4:2

Proverbs 30:6

Revelation 22:18-19

1Timothy 4:12-16

1) Meditate on His Word

2) Stay in God's Word

2 Chronicles 34:29-32

3) Listen to God's Word

4) Respect God's word

Mark 7:1-13

5) Study God's Word

There is only one way to learn God's Word. Through the Holy Spirit

1John 1:20-21, 26-27

1) The natural man (ungodly) can't know the things of God

We (the saved) have the mind of Christ

1Corinthians 2:6-16

We (the saved) have been born of God

1John 5:18-20

Ways God has communicated with man.
Revelation

He spoke to men through angels.

He spoke to men through a loud voice.

He spoke to men through nature

He spoke to men through dreams

He spoke to men through visions

He spoke to men through Christophanies “The Angel of the Lord”

Inspiration

Theopneustos – “God breathed”

Now we come to the second step and see how God gets His revelation together.

1) Various theories of inspiration

A. Natural theory

This says that the Bible writers were inspired in the same way that Shakespeare was inspired. This states that all men have the same form of inspiration but the writers of the books of the Bible simply had inspiration that burned brighter.

This is refuted in 2 Peter 1:20

2Pe 1:20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

B. Mechanical theory

This states that God coldly dictated His words to the writers like an office manager would dictate a letter to his secretary. These states that God took control of these men and that they mechanically wrote things down, but look at the Gospels

Luke was a physician and he would have used different words than others.

He was a Gentile and he would have used Gentile words.

Matthew was a Jew and he would have targeted a Jewish listener.

Each writer directed his Gospel to a different audience. God did not hand down each word yet God inspired all of the words

Hebrew 1:1

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 Peter 3:2

2Pe 3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

C. Concept theory

This states that only the main thoughts of a paragraph or chapter is inspired.

This is refuted by:

Matthew 5:18

Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

2 Samuel 23:1-2

2Sa 23:1 Now these *be* the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man *who was* raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said,

2Sa 23:2 The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word *was* in my tongue.

D. Partial theory

This states that only certain parts of the Bible are inspired. Yet all scripture is inspired.

2 Timothy 3:16

2Ti 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

E. Spiritual-rule-only theory

This states that the Bible can be used as our spiritual and ethical religious aspects but not for history

John 3:12

Joh 3:12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you *of* heavenly things?

F. Plenary-verbal theory

This states that all (plenary) the very words (verbal) of the Bible are inspired by God. This view alone would be the correct one. When one says plenary it means that the very words of the original manuscripts were written down the way God wants them to be written in the order that He wanted them

Matthew 4:4

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

1 Corinthians 2:13

1Co 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

John 6:63

Joh 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

2) How the Bible claims inspiration from God

A. The Old Testament

2 Peter 1:20-21

2Pe 1:20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

2Pe 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

Hebrews 1:1

Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

John 10:35

Joh 10:35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

B. The New Testament

1 Peter 1:10-12

1Pe 1:10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you:

1Pe 1:11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

1Pe 1:12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

3) Conclusions of plenary-verbal inspiration

- A. It does not teach that all parts of the Bible are equally important but that they are all equally inspired.
- B. It does not guarantee the inspiration of any modern or ancient translation of the Bible, but deals only with the original Greek and Hebrew language.
- C. It does not allow for any false teaching but it does record the lie of someone. The Bible is like a newspaper, most of the time they record everything in reporting the news, regardless of bias. For example, do you think that if David had his choice, the times he screwed up would have never made it? As we read the Bible we must learn to discern between what it records and what God sanctions.
- D. It does not permit any historical, scientific, or prophetic error whatsoever
- E. It does not prohibit personal research
- F. It does not deny the use of extra-biblical sources
- G. It does not overwhelm the personality of the human authors.
- H. It does not exclude the usage of pictorial or symbolic language.
- I. It does not mean uniformity in all details given in describing the same event.
 1. The reign of King Manasseh (2 Kings 21:1-18, and 2 Chronicles 33:1-20)
 2. The four different accounts concerning the superscription on the cross

4) Is inspiration still going on today?

Has God inspired the writing of a 67th book of the Bible?

In Revelation 22:18-19 is generally believed that this warning was not only for the book of Revelation but also for the Bible as a whole.

Rev 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

Rev 22:19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

It is believed that when John laid his pen down that inspiration from God for scripture stopped or else the following tragic conclusions take place. If inspiration were still going on today we would be forced to admit:

- A. God could have inspired the weird wicked writings of John Smith or Mary Baker Eddy
- B. Perhaps we still don't have all the details concerning salvation
- C. That God has allowed millions of devoted and faithful Christians to believe a horrible lie for some 2000 years.

The supreme authority of the Bible.

The Bible is profitable – 2 Timothy 3:15-17

For doctrine

For reproof

For correction

The authority of the Bible exceeds that of:

Human reason

Proverbs 3:5-7

Proverbs 16:25

Isaiah 55:8-9

1. Agnosticism – He does not think that the Bible is inspired
2. Liberalism – He believes that many of the ways and things in the Bible are outdated.
3. Cults – They give lip service to the Bible, but they look upon the writings of their various founders as equal or more superior than scripture

The Church

Christ is the head of the Church and while the Church has authority from God it is not the final authority

Tradition

Matthew 15:6

Colossians 2:8

Popes and preachers

The godliest of men can still become capable of errors and this also applies to the Pope and to priests, preachers and teachers. Rome believes that the Church is the divinely appointed custodian of the Bible and it has the final word on what is meant in any specific passage. Many denominations and different religions believe that they can grant and withdraw salvation

Feelings and experiences

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Proverbs 3:5-7
Psalms 23

The preservation of God's Word

- 1) Writing materials of the Bible
 - A) The Old Testament
Clay – Jeremiah 17:13
Stone – Exodus 24:12
 - B) The New Testament
Papyrus
2 John 12
Revelation 15:1
Vellum (Calfskin)
Parchment (lamb skin)
Leather (cow hide) – 2Timothy 4:13
Metal – Exodus 28:36, Job 19:24, Matthew 22:19-20
- 2) The original language of the Bible
 - A) The Old Testament was written in Hebrew with the following exception
Aramaic – Ezra 4:8-6:18, 7:12-26
Jeremiah 10:11
Daniel 2:4-7:28
 - B) The entire New Testament was written in Greek
 - C) Why did God choose Hebrew?
 - 1) It is a pictorial language. 1Corinthians 10:11
 - 2) It is a personal language
It addresses itself to the heart and emotions rather than merely to the mind – Malachi 1:2-3
 - 3) It is an intellectual language
It was more suited to exemplifying a communication or reflection on a revelation of God in order to put it into simple communicable form. The theological truths that were more generally expressed in the Old Testament Hebrew were more precisely formulated in the Greek of the New Testament.
 - 4) It was a nearly universal language
Koine – common Greek. This was spoken in the marketplace. It was commonly used all the time.

The reason for the writing of the Bible

Probably the one supreme difference between man and all other creatures is the God-given ability to express his thoughts on paper. In times past; the best way to communicate with all men of all ages is through the written word. The advantages are many:

- 1) Precision – Our thoughts must be somewhat precise to be written
 - 2) Propagation – The most accurate way to communicate a message is usually through writing.
 - 3) Preservation – Men die, memories fade, but the written record remains
- It can be said that the New Testament was written for the following reasons:
To meet the demands of the early Church

To contrast and cut off false doctrine
Because of persecution and politics

The Old Testament

The order of the books of the Hebrew Old Testament 39 books and our English Old Testament appear somewhat differently

1) The Law (Torah)

Genesis

Exodus

Leviticus

Numbers

Deuteronomy

2) The Prophets (Nebhiim)

A) Former prophets – 4 books

Joshua

Judges

Samuel

Kings

B) Latter prophets (major and minor)

Major

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Ezekiel

Minor

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Malachi

3) The writing

A) The prophetic books

Psalms

Proverbs

Job

B) The scrolls

Song of Solomon

Ruth

Lamentations

Ecclesiastes

Esther

C) Prophetic-historic

Daniel

Ezra-Nehemiah

Chronicles

The New Testament

From A.D. 50-100 by 8 separate authors
Matthew (Levi)
Mark
Luke (Luke and Acts)
John (John, 1,2nd, and 3rd John, and Revelation)
James
Jude
Peter (1 and 2 Peter)
Paul (author of the 14 remaining New Testament epistles)

The determination of the canon “standard”
There were various tests given to each book.
These tests included:
Authorship – Who wrote the book or epistle?
Local Church acceptance – Had it been read by the various churches?
What was each one’s opinion?
Church father’s recognition – Had the pupils of the Disciples quoted from the books?
Book subject matter – What did the book teach?
Did it contradict other recognized books?
Personal edification – Did the book have the ability to inspire, convict, and edify the local congregation and individual believers?

It was the combination of all 5 that determined whether a book was considered inspired. Age or the language of the given book did not determine it and I am sure that God moved each book to the forefront when it was considered.

The writings that were unaccepted.
After the Old Testament canon was recognized as officially closed, prior to the New Testament, period there arose a body of letters known as “Apocrypha” which means “That which is hidden” and it consisted of 14 books:

2. Old Testament Apocrypha

1. 1 Esdras – This book covers much of the material found in Ezra, Nehemiah, and 2 Chronicles, but it also includes a fanciful story concerning 3 Jewish servants in Persia.
2. 2 Esdras – This book contains certain visions given to Ezra dealing with God’s government of the world and the restoration of certain lost scriptures
3. Tobit – This is a story of a pious Jew who is accidentally blinded and later healed by an angel named Raphael.
4. Judith – This is a story of a beautiful and devout Jewish princess who saves Jerusalem from being destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar’s invading army.
5. The remainder of Esther – These are additional inserts to the book of Esther to show the Hand of God in the narrative by putting the word “God” into the text. The word “God” does not appear in the book of Esther.
6. The Wisdom of Solomon – This has been called the gem of the apocrypha. It is one of the loftier books.
7. Ecclesiasticus – Also called “The wisdom of Jesus, son of Sirach” This book resembles the book of Proverbs and it gives rules for personal conduct in all details of civil, religious, and domestic life.
8. 1 Maccabees – An historical account of the Maccabean period relating events of the Jewish heroic struggle for liberty

9. 2 Maccabees – This book covers the same period that the first does except it is inferior content wise
10. Baruch – This was supposedly written by Baruch, Jeremiah's secretary. It contains prayers and confessions of the Jews in exile and contains promises of restoration
11. The song of the three children – This was inserted into the book of Daniel right after the fiery furnace episode. It contains an eloquent prayer by Azariah, one of the three men thrown into the furnace
12. The story of Susanna – The story of how a godly wife of a wealthy Jew in Babylon, falsely accused of adultery, was cleared by the wisdom of Daniel.
13. Bel and the Dragon – This book was also added to the book of Daniel. It contains two stories:
 - 1) The first concerns how Daniel proves to the king that Bel, his god, was a dead idol
 - 2) The other describes how Daniel killed a dragon who the Babylonians worshipped
14. The prayer of Manasses – A supposed confessional prayer of the wicked King Manasses of Judah, after he was carried away to Babylon as a prisoner.

None of the 14 books claims divine inspiration. In fact, many disclaim it.

Some books contain obvious historical and geographic errors. Some of the books teach false doctrine such as prayer for the dead.

None of these books were in the early church collection. The Scribes, the Pharisees, did not accept them or the Jewish elect. Jesus never quoted it.

There is much talk these days about lost books of the Bible. From cults to the New Age, people make all sorts of claims about how the Bible is missing books, books that help justify what they hope to believe. Sometimes people claim that the Bible was edited to take out reincarnation, or the teaching of higher planes of existence, or different gods, or ancestor worship, or "at-one-ment" with nature.

The "lost books" were never lost. They were known by the Jews in Old Testament times and the Christians of the New Testament times and were never considered scripture. They weren't lost nor were they removed. They were never in the Bible in the first place.

The additional books were not included in the Bible for several reasons. They lacked apostolic or prophetic authorship, they did not claim to be the Word of God; they contain unbiblical concepts such as prayer for the dead in 2 Macc. 12:45-46; or have some serious historical inaccuracies.

Nevertheless, the Roman Catholic Church has added certain books to the canon of scripture. In 1546, largely due in response to the Reformation, the Roman Catholic Church authorized several more books as scripture known as the apocrypha. The word apocrypha means hidden. It is used in a general sense to describe a list of books written by Jews between 300 and 100 B.C. More specifically, it is used of the 7 additional books accepted by the Catholic Church as being inspired. The entire list of books of the apocrypha are: 1 and 2 Esdras, Tobit, Judith, the Rest of Esther, the Wisdom of Solomon, Sirach, (also titled Ecclesiasticus), Baruch, The Letter of Jeremiah, Song of the Three Young Men, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon,

The Additions to Daniel, The Prayer of Manasseh, and 1 and 2 Maccabees. The books accepted as inspired and included in the Catholic Bible are Tobit, Judith, 1 and 2 Maccabees Wisdom of Solomon Sirach (also known as Ecclesiasticus), and Baruch

The Pseudepigraphal books are "false writings." They are a collection of early Jewish and "Christian" writings composed between 200 BC and AD 200. However, they too were known and were never considered scripture.

The deuterocanonical (apocrypha) books are those books that were included in the Greek Septuagint (LXX) but not included in the Hebrew Bible. The recognized deuterocanonical books are "Tobit, Judith, Wisdom of Solomon, Ecclesiasticus (also called Sirach or Ben Sira), Baruch (including the Letter of Jeremiah), 1 and 2 Maccabees, and additions to the books of Esther and Daniel. The canon of the Greek Orthodox community also includes 1 Esdras, the Prayer of Manasseh, Psalm 151, and 3 Maccabees, with 4 Maccabees as an appendix."^(FromCarm.org)

Several apocalyptic works were written between 200 B.C. and A.D. 100 though they were not included into the biblical canon. Many of these seem to be trying to answer questions or explain things that are in the Bible. Many claimed to predict future events but were actually written after such events had already happened.

1. 1 Enoch – This book attempts to explain who the “Sons of God” were.
2. The book of jubilees
3. The Testament of the 12 Patriarchs
4. The psalms of Solomon
5. The assumption of Moses
6. The martyrdom of Isaiah
7. 4 Ezra
8. 2 Baruch
9. The apocalypse of Moses (the book of Adam and Eve)

Many New Testament apocrypha works also exist.

1. The Apocryptic gospels.
 - A. Infant gospels – These books had to do with some aspect of the childhood of Jesus.
(The Gnostic infancy gospel of Thomas and of James)
 - B. Passion gospels – These books were concerned with describing supplementing accounts surrounding the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.
(The gospel of Bartholomew, Questions of Bartholomew, Gospel of Peter, Acts of Pilate, Resurrection of Jesus (by Bartholomew))
 - C. Jewish – Christian gospels – Works that originated among Jewish-Christian groups.
 - D. Heretical gospels – These cover a wide variety of apocryphal gospels; most of which are considered to be Gnostic in origin.

- E. The apocryphal Acts – A large number of legendary accounts of the journeys and heroics of the New Testament Apostles that sought to parallel and supplement the book of Acts.
- F. The Apocryphal epistles – A small group of epistles or letters attributed to Paul. These letters try to supplement or are motivated by references to unknown writing in his epistles.
(also the epistle of Barnabas, The epistle of Clement)

One in Corinthians and another motivated by Colossians 4:16

- G. The apocryphal apocalypses - These are scripture to those who study church history. While they are interesting and informative they are usually unreliable historically and they are always unauthoritative for matters of faith and practice.
(The first and second apocalypse of James, The apocalypse of Peter; of Paul; of Stephen; of Thomas)

Some canonical books were at first doubted but later fully accepted.

A. Old Testament books

- 1) Song of Solomon – Because it seemed to be a mere poem of love. In Hebrew schools you kids not allowed to read it until the age of 16.
- 2) Ecclesiastes – Because some felt that it taught atheism (9:5)
- 3) Esther – Because it did not mention God in the entire book
- 4) Ezekiel – Because it seemed to contradict the Mosaic Law.
- 5) Proverbs – Because it seemed to contradict itself (26:4-5)

B. New Testament books

- 1) Hebrews – Because of the uncertainty about the books authorship
- 2) James – Because it seems to contradict the teachings of Paul. (James 2:20 – Ephesians 2:8-9)
- 3) 2 & 3 John – Because they seemed to be simply personal letters
- 4) Jude – Because the author refers to an book of Enoch (Yet Paul refers to many pagan writers)
- 5) Revelation – Because of the uncertainty of the books authorship and speculation about its many mysterious symbolic terms.

Some interesting facts about the Bible:

- 1) The Bible's amazing unity – This unity is achieved in spite of a long period of time involved in its writing.

More than 15 centuries elapsed between the writing of Genesis to Revelations.

Nearly 400 years elapsed between the writing of Malachi and Matthew.

- 2) This unity is achieved in spite of many authors and their various occupations

- A) Moses – an Egyptian prince
- B) Joshua – a soldier
- C) Samuel – a priest
- D) David – a King
- E) Esther – a Queen
- F) Ruth – a housewife
- G) Job – a rich farmer
- H) Amos – a poor farmer
- I) Ezra – a scribe
- J) Isaiah – a prophet
- K) Daniel – a prime minister
- L) Nehemiah – a cupbearer
- M) Matthew – a tax collector
- N) Mark – an evangelist
- O) Luke – a physician
- P) John – a wealthy fisherman
- Q) Peter – a poor fisherman
- R) Jude and James – probably carpenters
- S) Paul – a tentmaker

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 7: God and The Universe

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

1) The when of creation "In the beginning"(1:1)

Creation marks the absolute beginning of the temporal and material world.

The general traditional Jewish and Christian belief is that Genesis 1:1 declares that God created the original heaven and earth from nothing, and verse 2 clarifies that when it came from the Creator's Hand, the mass was without form and void - meaning unformed and lifeless. The rest of the chapter then explains the process in detail.

There are those, on the other hand who believe that there is a wide gap of time between verse 1 and 2 and during this time they believe that something happened to make the earth "formless and void." They believe that something was the fall of Satan.

This is known as the "Gap Theory" and it states:

In Genesis 1:1 God created a perfect and complete universe and Satan's rebellion marred this perfect universe and from 1:2 God remolds this sin marred creation. This belief was made famous by George H Pennbor in 1876 and C.I. Scofield in 1917

The following arguments are offered to support this:

1) The phrase "without form and void" means judgment

Isaiah 34:11

void, 2

emptiness, 1

The word can often simply refer to lifeless or empty space

[Job 26:7](#) (2)

2) The verb "was" in Genesis 1:2 should be translated "became"

Yet the verb almost always translates "was"

Jonah 3:3

3) The word "darkness" indicates judgment but here is simply means the absence of light and is sometimes spoken of as being good.

Psalms 104:20

Psalms 104:24

The three-fold problem of the gap theory

1) It is unscientific

This theory was in part a Christian attempt to reconcile the creation account with the long periods of time in the theory of evolution.

2) It is unscriptural

The gap theory would describe Adam walking around on top of a gigantic fossilized animal graveyard. Yet in Romans 5:12 and 8:20-22 we learn that man's sin brought about death even to the animals.

Romans 5:12(KJV)

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Romans 8:20-22 (KJV)

(ASV)

20 For the creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but by reason of him who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the liberty of the glory of the children of God.

22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

3) It is unnecessary

The most natural interpretation of Genesis 1:1-2 is taking it at face value, without addition or subtraction.

Thus Genesis 1: becomes a summary statement of creation.

Verse 1 tells us what God did and verse 2 tells us how He did it.

The question could then be asked, "If Satan did not fall between Genesis 1:1-2, then when did he fall?"

The probable answer could be between Genesis 2:25-3:1

Some have taken Isaiah 14:12-21 and Ezekiel 28:11-19

and used it to describe Lucifer as a high ranking cherub who was put over the earth. He was more beautiful than all the other angels and in Genesis 3:1 through his swelling pride he went against God.

Bible students have pondered over why Lucifer sinned in the first place.

Four suggestions have been offered:

- 1) Satan may have doubted God's word that man had been created
- 2) He was jealous over man's created nature (sep his ability to produce) something angels can't do, as well as the responsibilities given to Adam.
- 3) The future place of man through Christ.
- 4) He became jealous of God and through pride felt he didn't need God

either way we do know that at one point in time Lucifer rebelled, but he is still under the control of God. He can do nothing without God's permission (Job) and we all know where he is headed in the end.

What was God doing before He created man?

A) He was in fellowship with the Son

John 1:1-5

John 17:5,24

B) He was preparing for a Kingdom.

C) He was planning for a Savior.

"Willmington's Guide to the Bible"

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 7: God and The Universe Part 2

"IN the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"

God created the heavens and the earth.

Isa 42:5 Thus saith God the LORD, he that the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

Isa 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I *am* the LORD; and *there is* none else.

Isa 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath these *things*, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one faileth.

The creation account includes everything. From the smallest animal to the biggest galaxies. From Adam (1:26-27) to angels (Job 38:4-11)

The heavens and the earth

Heaven

(1.) Definitions., The phrase "heaven and earth" is used to indicate the whole universe (Gen 1:1; Jer 23:24; Act 17:24). According to the Jewish notion there were three heavens,

2. There are three heavens mentioned in the Bible.

(a) The first heaven or The firmament, as "fowls of the heaven" (Gen 2:19; Gen 7:3, Gen 7:23; Psa 8:8, etc.), "the eagles of heaven"

This heaven is described as the home of the birds and clouds - Daniel 4:12

(b) The second heaven or The starry heavens (Deu 17:3; Jer 8:2; Mat 24:29).

This heaven is described as the home of the sun, moon, and stars - Psalm 19:1

(c) The third heaven or The heaven of heavens (Deu 10:14; 1Ki 8:27; Psa 115:16; Psa 148:4; 2Co 12:2).

This heaven is described as the home of the angels or departed saints. - 2 Corinth 12:2

The usual Hebrew word for "heavens" is shamayim, a plural form meaning "heights," "elevations" "Over there"

(Gen 1:1; Gen 2:1).

It simply states that God created "The down here and the up there"

Jeremiah 23:24 Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

Acts 17:24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

1. The Bible is written for the inhabitants of earth.

As we begin to read the Genesis account of creation we can note that it is from an earthly perspective.

It is written from the point of view of one who is standing on earth looking up.

We read about sunrise, sunsets, seasons, years, interstellar orbits and rotating planets.

Only thing specifically concerning man were placed in the Bible. God's Word is not a book about angels, demons, or Satan, though they have a passing reference only as they interact with God's dealings toward man.

This is not a book about geography, biology, archeology, or astronomy. It is a book about God's grace to fallen man.

This book is not inferior to man or his science.

It is God's Word! The very mind of Christ!

It is completely without error.

Theories of creation.

1. Supernatural vs. evolutionary.

The super naturalist says the creation occurred in a way that is completely foreign to anything we might see today.

Genesis 1:31-2:4 indicate that God completed His creative work.

There are also those Christians who believe that God may have acted through evolutionary means to bring about creation. While it is true that God often works through what we think of as a "natural process" man was never a part of this kind of process. Man was created. He did not flop out of some scum filled water hole to develop into what he is today. The very fact of the evolutionist argument should show its fallacy. For example, if it is true that man eventually evolved from a monkey, then why are there not naked people who have evolved wandering out of some jungle somewhere fully evolved. For that matter why have we not found people who are partially evolved. A friend of mine from the Dominican Republic told me that at a young age someone told him that monkeys were created by the devil. Although untrue, because Satan could never create, only manipulate, this theory of evolution is straight from his lips.

An appearance of history

The description we have of God's creative work seems to imply a creation with an appearance of age. This is really seen in the creation of man. On the day that Adam was created, he was one day old, but scripture seems to define him as a full grown man rather than a baby. The implication is that he was created with an appearance of age. The same is seen in animals and plant life. We are told that God created trees yielding fruit that had with hem the seeds for reproduction. This obviously answers the age old question of "who came first?" and in this sense the answer is the chicken came first. The Biblical answer would be that God created egg laying chickens who looked and acted like those who had been hatched and grown to adulthood.

2. A conclusion

There is only one God and that is the God who created us. He is the God of every man even if every man refuses to acknowledge it.

We should also realize that He is currently involved with His creation. We see this especially in the picture of His Spirit given to all His children on conversion. Our great God having one planet, in all this vast galaxies, and star systems full of stars and dead planets (which I feel are another example of His love for man) God is concerned with this one little blue planet and what happens on it. We have all heard the theories: That if the earth was one or two degrees off its axis we would float into space. The fact that this planet just happened to be the right mixture for man and plant life. That this planet just happened to be the right distance from the sun. Look at all the other planets around us, they scream at us the wondrous works of our loving Father.

Yes there was a big bang. God said it and bang it was.

God created everything. It is never questioned. It is never debated by Moses.

Genesis 1:2-5

Like the earth, we were once in darkness. We were once without form or void, without God in our lives and without hope.

God sent His Son to be the Light of the world

This Light saves from the darkness

John 1:1-18

This Light delivers from the darkness

Psalms 107:10-16 Isaiah 9:2

Colossians 1:13

This Light condemns

We were once in that darkness. Without hope (void) The unsaved man can't comprehend this Light. The unsaved man wants no part of this Light because the unsaved man has been blinded

John 3:19-21

Ephesians 6:12

Ephesians 4:17-18

This Light exposes the darkness

God divided the light from the darkness. We are called to keep ourselves separated from the darkness. We can't leave the world but we can keep the world out of us.

1John 1:5-7

We are also called to walk in the Light

Ephesians 5:8-13

This Light calls His chosen

1Peter 2:9

The Spirit of God hovers over us like a mother hen, waiting for us. He will not force Himself upon us

Jesus Christ came to die for us. He died for all but not all will accept Him.

The seven days of creation

1. The two-fold account of these days:
 - a. The flood light account
A general description of the creation account
 - b. The spotlight account
A specific description of the creation of man

Genesis 1:1 refutes all other philosophies dreamt up by man.

1. Atheism - There is a God
2. Polytheism - There is but one God
3. Evolution - God created all things
4. Pantheism - He is apart from His creation
5. Materialism - There was a beginning to creation
6. Fatalism - There was a purpose to creation
7. The Gap theory - There was not one
8. The 2 creations - There is only one

Let the Bible speak for itself. It means what it says and says what it means.

2. The first day.

The creation of light

1:2-5

God brought light into the darkness

Isaiah 9:1-2

He produced physical light. The New Testament records God sending His Son to be the light of the world

John 1:1-9, 8:12

One day there will be no darkness

Revelation 21:23

Why was light created first?

Perhaps it was the first need

3. The second day

The separation of the waters

1:6-10

(6-8) Atmospheric waters in the form of translucent vapor called the heavens.

"Firmament" means heavens and it literally means "something stretched out"

Psalms 19:1,150:1

(9-10) The earth and sea

These are regular land based waters in the form of shallow water, oceans, rivers, and lake heads.

4. The third day

The creation of plant life

1:9-13

There are three natural divisions of plant kingdoms:

1. Grasses
2. Herbs
3. Trees

God's purpose for vegetation:

1. To supply food for living creatures
2. For beauty
3. Utility uses (shelters)

5. The fourth day

The creation of the sun, moon, and stars

1:14-19

Job 38:4-11

They were special light sources

God's three-fold purpose for these special light sources:

1. To distinguish between day and night.
2. To serve as signs for man

Romans 1:19-20

Seasons

Providing man with a calendar

Dividing seasons

3. To serve as permanent repositories of light

"He made the stars" This is a significant statement. In those ancient times, other religions worshipped, deified, and mystified the stars. These pagan nations revered the stars and looked to them for guidance.

The creation account only gives the stars the briefest of mentions and is a direct show of contempt for ancient Babylonian astrology. (Ps29)

We must remember that Moses is writing to Hebrews who had just recently come out of slavery in Egypt. Egyptians had worshipped Re, the sun god or one of their chief deities. The Israelites needed to know that God and Re were not similar gods, but that God, Jehovah, the God of the Hebrews was the sole creator of the universe. This brief mention of the stars also has two other possible intended meanings: 1) To show that there was nothing that had not been created by God. 2) To prevent the Hebrews from following the heathen practices of astrology and star worship.

Why was the earth created before the sun?

A. Priority - Because the earth was the most important in His mind. He would soon put His most important creation here - man - and one day His Son would reconcile all this back to Him.

B. Prevention - Almost every ancient civilization has worshipped the sun and through this way God is informing man that life and light existed before the sun and it came through the Son.

6. The fifth day

The creation of fish and fowl

1:20-23

1. The waters are filled with fish
2. The air is filled with birds.
3. We see by the end of the fifth day that God saw all that He had created and pronounced it as being good.

7. The sixth day

The creation of land creatures and man

1:24-25

1. Cattle most likely refers to domesticated type animals
2. Beasts of the earth:
Large carnivore like lions, beasts, elephants, and most likely dinosaurs
3. Creeping things:
Worms and insects, Bats and rats
4. In Genesis 1:27-31 God tells us about our origins and responsibilities

8. The seventh day

God rests

2:1-3

His divine resting indicates the end of His special creation acts.
All is good and in order
His work is complete.

The seventh day is God's sabbath.

A day set aside as holy unto Himself. Later on God introduces this concept to Israel as an element of His covenant (Ex 20:8-11)

This day of rest is also setting an example for man. Man needs to have at least one day of rest, the precise day does not matter. We should have at least one day for rest not because we are commanded but because God introduced it for our own good. It would seem unbiblical to work seven days a week all of the time and we should understand it was made for man not the other way around.

Doctrinal purposes of God's creation

1. The sovereignty of God

God's creation of the natural world was according to His own will and ordained for His purpose.

Gen 1:5 - The naming of the elements of creation shows His sovereignty. naming something in the Middle East was a mark of power or lordship. Names were not merely labels but descriptions with some force to them

2. The omnipotence of God

"Bara" (created) This shows God's will and shows Him to be the only Creator of the universe.

3. The purpose for creation

The purpose for creation was to have fellowship with man. Christ was the means by which creation was formed and by which it is held together (Col 1:15-18)

4. The providence of God

This illustrates the character of God by His ongoing care and concern for creation.

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 8: God and Man

Exodus 4:10-11, Psalms 139, Jeremiah 17:9, Matthew 12:30-33, Mark 7:1-23, John 4:24 Romans 12:2, Ephesians 2:1-3, 4:21 -24, Colossians 3:10, Psalms 8:1-9

Man

The crowning act of God's work is seen in the creation of man.

There are two separate words for man

A) Adam is the generic word for man or mankind.

This points to his origins. The relational word is the Hebrew word for ground. V27 indicates that this refers to both man and woman

B) Ish - man as in male

Isha - woman, female

Man is not the first thing created. he was created into a world where all manner of animals, fish, and birds had already existed. He was actually the last thing created though he is not last in importance. His creation is described in a way that indicates that he stands as the pinnacle of creation.

1) His origins

The creation

Three theories have been proposed to explain man's origins

A) Atheistic evolution

This theory is non scriptural and also non scientific.

It says that man is the accidental and random product of a blind and non personal series of chemical and biological events. The world and all that is on it came from evolving mud. Some one called organism flopped up onto the mud and eventually evolved into what we now know as man through a series of developments that involves monkeys. The only problem is why aren't there monkeys evolving today. It honestly takes more faith to believe in evolution than to believe the Bible.

B) Theistic evolution

This theory says that there is one God, one Creator of all matter, who chose the method of evolution to bring all things including man into their present state of existence. However this is strongly refuted by Scripture.

1. Genesis teaches that life began on dry land.

Evolution says it started on some remote sea bottom

Genesis 1:11-12

2. Genesis declares that birds existed before insects.

Evolution reverses this order

Genesis 1:20-24

3. Genesis declares that fish and birds were created at the same time.

Evolution says that fish existed millions of years before birds

Genesis 1:21

4. Evolution claims Adam descended from a sub-ape creature.

5. Evolution teaches both man and woman developed together

6. Evolution teaches that man was probably a head hunting cannibal.

Genesis 1:29

C) Special creation

This indicates that man was the direct product from the Hand of God and that the statements in the Bible are to be taken literally.

Genesis Chapter 1 Part 8: God and Man Part 2

Man

2) His nature

He possessed the highest kind of life.

- a. Plant life possessed unconscious life
- b. Animal life possessed conscious life
- c. Man alone possessed self-conscious life

2. He was to subdue the earth and fill it

3. He was encouraged to enjoy the tree of life

4. He was forbidden to partake of the tree of knowledge of good and evil

5. He was to name all the animals

6. He was given a wife and the first of 3 great institutions of God to man

- a. Marriage (2:18-25)
- b. Human government (Genesis 9)
- c. The church (Matthew 16)

Four basic questions in dealing with man's nature:

1. How was made in the image and likeness of God?

"Let Us make" (1:26) This emphasizes the majesty of the Speaker.
This use of a plural noun shows the first partial revelation of the God Head
"In Our image"

A) That this likeness is a reference to the trinity of man

As God is triune in nature (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)
He then created man a triune creature consisting of body, soul, and spirit
Hebrews 4:12
1 Thess 5:23

B) That man is created in the image of God in that his creation gave him self-consciousness, God-consciousness, and a sense of morality.

Man can identify himself, know his God, look back to his birth, and plan for his future and death.

C) That when God spoke these words He was thinking of the future incarnation of Christ, the God-Man and His present day work in making the Christian more like Himself.

Phil 3:20
Rom 8:29
1 John 3:2

D) From these words there seems to be an image of God in all men which can't be lost and an image which can be lost.

1) That image which can't be lost

1 Corinth 11:7

James 3:8-9

Genesis 9:6

This is speaking about all men and it indicates that all unsaved men still display certain traces of the original image of God's creation.

2) That image which can be lost

Col 3:9-10

Eph 4:24

Thus it would seem that there is a part of God's image which was lost after Adam sinned and must now be restored by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation. This image seems to be:

1. The ability to know God and the desire to love Him

2. The ordinance of rulership.

Man is given both the privilege and the responsibility of rulership over all life on planet earth. Man is God's representative and in God's place of rulership in respect to the earth or life here on earth. Man is given the position of federal headship over all the earth. It is because of this that man's fall was able to impact all the rest of creation.

When he fell into sin, the rest of creation followed because it was man's domain.

This world belongs to God not to us. We have been made stewards of this world and that means we have an obligation to take care of it.

3. Our conscience is damaged through sin

and we need salvation through Christ and the indwelling of the Spirit to renew it.

E) Some have suggested that the likeness of God in man is in the area of free will.

This condition gives man the right to choose one of two things:

To be for God

To be against God.

Man can obey God and live or disobey and die.

F) A traditional view

God's image is certain moral, ethical, and intellectual abilities

G) Based on Hebrew grammar and the knowledge of the middle east, some scholars have interpreted the phrase "Let Us make man as Our image" like this

In ancient times an emperor might command statues be built of himself and to be placed in remote parts of the empire. These statues would declare that these areas were under his power and reign. So God placed humankind as living symbols of Himself on earth to represent His reign

Since God is Spirit (John 4:24) there rightly can be no "image" or likeness" of Him in the normal sense of these words. We are commanded not to make images of God because He has already done so. We are His image. We are made to reflect His majesty on earth in the area of rulership (Gen 1:28)

As God was sovereign over all that He had created, so now man is placed into a position of relative sovereignty over all that was upon the earth

Genesis 5:1-3

Exodus 33:17-23

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Genesis Chapter 1 Part 8: God and Man Part 3

Man

3. His original duties and responsibilities

Upon his creation man was given the following duties and responsibilities:

A) Man was to assume the headship over all nature.

Genesis 1:26 - Over the earth

Heb 2:5-8 - Eventually over the entire universe (Christ)

B) man was to make his headship in Eden and he was also to take care of it

Genesis 2:15

C) Man was to provide names for every living creature

Genesis 2:19-20

D) Man was to love and protect his wife

Genesis 2:24

E) Man was to reproduce himself and populate the earth with his kind.

Genesis 1:28

F) Man was to enjoy all the fruits of the various trees (except one)

Genesis 2:16

G) Man was forbidden to partake of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil

Genesis 2:17

(V26) "Let them have dominion"

1) Over the fish of the sea

2) Over the birds of the air

3) Over all the cattle and over all creeping things

God placed us here as a representation of Himself on this earth

God is saying "Fill the earth, subdue it, have dominion over it."

In the fall of man, when Adam sinned, we lost many things

1) Our fellowship with God

Man was originally in perfect fellowship with God

2) Our relationship with God

Man went from a beautiful creation to a created creature

3) Our right standing with God

Man became an enemy of God

4) Our rule under God

We gave our right to rule to Satan

Matthew 4:8-11

Luke 4:5-8

John 16:10-11

Ephesians 6:12

2Corinthians 4:1-2

The spirit of man

In a sense there is a relation to the earth and man through the body (dust) and there is a part of man that is different from any other creature on earth.

Man has a spirit and it is given from God (John 4:24). Man has a soul and it is returned to God upon death if one is saved.

What is God-like about our spirit?

A) Man's creativity

A sense of creativity

God made (Genesis 2:4)

God spoke (Genesis 1:6)

God placed (Genesis 2:15)

In a similar way man has the ability to think in abstract terms. He has the ability to think of something in his mind and make it, but of course man is limited.

B) Man's communication

Man's words

There are noises and sounds in the animal world but no other creatures can speak like we can through words.

C) Man's morality

Genesis 1:31

God saw all that He had made and it was good. Man was a part of all this. Man has a sense of basic morality yet not everyone lives by it. But if you go the most basic primitive society you will find they have a basic moral code for life.

Why would God create man in the first place?

We do know that God did not make man because He was lonely. Long before He created angels or man, He was having blessed fellowship with His Beloved Son. (John 17:5,24) Some have suggested that prior to man's creation God had ample opportunity to express many of His attributes.

1) His omnipotence

In creating the stars

2) His omniscience

In fashioning angels

3) His holiness

In judging Lucifer

4) His grace

This attribute had yet to be exercised

God created man knowing full well he would sin. but in no way did He encourage him to do so.

In the fullness of time He planned to send His Son to die in man's place. This displays His manifold grace

Ephesians 2:7

But then , why did He create man?

Rev 4:11 - For His pleasure.

Man then was created to demonstrate the glory of God and to fellowship with the God of glory.