

Beginning - God - Creates

INTRODUCTION

Genesis is not exhaustive; it doesn't tell you all there is know, but simply what you NEED to know...especially when it comes to the creation account. It is not a book about dinosaurs and monkeys, it is a book about God...and man.

DISCUSSION

What is the hardest thing about creation for you to wrap your mind around?

EXPLANATION

Read Colossians 1:15-20

What type of thoughts become inspired in you when you read that even at the creation of the world, God had His plan that was fulfilled in Jesus?

What things do you wish Genesis explained, but doesn't?

Why is that important to you?

APPLICATION

If God created all things, do you ever wonder why He created you the way He did?

When you realize that ultimate sovereignty is not yours, it is God's, does it bring you peace or worry?

How so?

MISSION

How does God creating all things, but not giving us the scientific details, make it easier to talk about creation?

In God creating all things, including love, how should we then live?

Week 2

FAMILY & GROUP DISCUSSION



Beginning God Creates

Psalms 102:25

Genesis 1:1

Galatians 4:19

2 Corinthians 5:17

Colossians 1:16-17

Genesis 2:7

1 John 4:19

Psalms 145:8-9

Psalms 19:1-4

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 11:3

Psalms 19:1

Psalms 95:7-8

2 Corinthians 5:17

Psalms 33:6 & 9

Week 2

NOTES & SCRIPTURE



Genesis - God - Creates

Psalm 102:25 “Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.”

Except for the scattered poetic sections in the Book of Genesis, the overall literary form of the book is historical narrative, which is the re-presentation of past events for the purpose of instruction. Two dimensions are always at work in shaping the Genesis narrative:

(1) the course of the historical event itself

(2) the viewpoint of the author who recounts the events.

This dual aspect of historical narrative means that we must not only look at the course of the event in its historical setting, but we must also look for the purpose and intention of the author in recounting the event.

Moses writes the events in Genesis within the framework of God's redemption of the Israelites in the book of Exodus. The historical setting of Genesis is overshadowed and informed by the events of the exodus and similarities are seen throughout Genesis.

Since Genesis comes first, it is safe to say that Genesis 1:1-2 is to be considered an introduction to the Pentateuch, and even further, the whole of scripture.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created...is not 5 words in Hebrew, it is three.

- **Beginning** - *Bereshit*
- **Creates** - *Bara* (in this form) is used in the Bible exclusively of divine creativity and creation.

When God creates, it is what is called “**CREATION IN EX NIHILO**,” it means OUT OF NOTHING. The repeated emphasis upon God as the exclusive Creator would seem to rule out the possibility of preexistent matter.

- **God** - *Elohim* ... Genesis never exhibits any interest in the question of God's origins.

His existence prior to the world is taken as a given and does not even require assertion, let alone proof. GOD JUST IS.

Bara Elohim makes a momentous assertion about the nature of God: He is wholly outside of time, just as He is outside of space, BOTH OF WHICH HE THEN PROCEEDS TO CREATE.

God not only created all things, but He reveals Himself to His creation.

- *Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*
- *Col 1:16-17 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*
- *Gen 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*
- *1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.*
- *Psalm 145:8-9 The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.*

This is the God who creates all things.

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