

Why Study Genesis (Part 2)

Genesis 1:1

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Introduction

The first thing that Satan attacks is the word of God. This is his weapon of choice—either by twisting God's word or causing one to doubt if that is what God means. By attacking the word of God, Satan hopes to drive us away from God, either from open rebellion or to self-doubt that we cannot trust God at what He says. All of the world's philosophies are in agreement with Satan's agenda because it loves him and the darkness (**John 3:19; 8:44**). So Satan and the world attack Genesis.

To fight this battle, we must go back to Genesis. As I said last week, we either accept it or we do not. If we do not accept the accounts in Genesis, then we are truly lost and have no hope because we cannot accept the rest of Scripture as valid. If we accept it as truth, then we need to really study Genesis to understand its foundation of the whole Scripture and its foundation in Christ Jesus.

I. Genesis: The Beginnings

- Genesis = English word which means beginnings or origins
 - Hebrew title is Bereishith or Beginnings
- Genesis is a book of beginnings
 - It answers the how and the why the way things on earth are the way they are now
 - It answers these following questions
 - Where did I come from?
 - Why am I here? (or What is my purpose?)
 - Who am I?
- Beginning of
 - God does not have a beginning

Psalms 90:2 *Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.*

Nehemiah 9:5-6 *And the Levites said: "Stand up and praise the LORD your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting. 'Blessed be Your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. 6 You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship You.*

- God is outside space and time—it does not influence or impact Him
- Everything good in creation came from the mind of God
- God is the direct Cause of the creation of the universe
- The universe and time
 - God created matter and time
 - He created them out of nothing
- Order and complexity
 - He gave matter shape
 - Atoms were created
 - He ordered the universe with specific laws
 - He holds everything together by His power

Colossians 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.*

- Solar system
 - Sun, moon, and planets within the Milky Way galaxy
- Atmosphere
 - Air we breathe and protection from outer space
 - Very thin skin
- Life
 - Creation of every plants and animals of their kind
- Man
- Marriage
- Evil
 - Soon after creation—we have murder and false religion and all kinds of evil
- God's judgment on evil
 - Death and separation from God
- Salvation by grace
 - He promised and provided a Substitute
- Language
 - Happened at the Tower of Babel
 - Nations
 - Culture
 - Government
- Religion (true and false)
- God's chosen people
 - Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
 - God's promised Savior would come through these men

II. God the Creator

- Most important reason for studying Genesis
 - Helps us to identify God as the Creator
 - Helps us to understand how big God is and how little we are
 - Helps us to understand that He planned everything and holds everything together
 - Remember the universe is infinitely complex, yet He can do it
 - Our problems are very, very, very, very small compared to the universe
 - He can take care of us and provide us with everything
- The Bible as a whole makes strong statements that God is the Creator
 - We need to be paying attention to this rather than the philosophies of men

Deuteronomy 4:32 *Ask now about the former days, long before your time, from the day God created man on the earth; ask from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything so great as this ever happened, or has anything like it ever been heard of?*

Psalms 104:24 *How many are Your works, O LORD! In wisdom You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.*

Psalms 148:5-6 *Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created. 6 He set them in place forever and ever; He gave a decree that will never pass away.*

- Them = angels, star, moons, sun, creation in general

Isaiah 40:28 *Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom.*

- Creation is a mystery to us because we cannot create anything out of nothing

John 1:3 *Through Him [the Word] all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.*

Ephesians 3:9 *and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.*

1 Peter 4:19 *So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.*

Revelation 4:11 *You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they were created and have their being.*

- Scripture tells us to acknowledge God as Creator
- The everlasting Gospel

Revelation 14:6-7 *Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— **7** saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."*

- Knowing that God is the Creator is the Gospel in itself!
- Knowing that the Creator has also become our Savior!
 - He provided the means of salvation
 - He provided the substitute
- By acknowledging God as Creator, we can acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord