

The Story of the Bible

Quarter 1: The Book of Genesis Lesson 1: Genesis 1-2 (Creation)

Adult Bible Class – October 4, 2015

Today's Key Takeaways

- The book of Genesis contains the first 4 of the 17 Bible time periods
- God created the heavens, the earth, and everything contained therein in 6 days
 - Be able to name all of the days of creation
 - Be familiar with various theories of “theistic evolution” and their inconsistencies
- God’s plan to redeem man was in place even before the creation

The Book of Genesis

- Contains the first 4 of the 17 Bible time periods
 - Before the Flood
 - The Flood
 - Scattering of the People
 - The Patriarchs
- Understanding the book of Genesis is critical to understanding the rest of Bible history
- We will try to highlight the connections between Genesis and the rest of the Bible story

Genesis 1

- Day 1 (Genesis 1:1-5)
 - At some point in the distant past, nothing existed except for God
 - Genesis 1:1 – heavens and earth were created
 - The earth: “formless and void”
 - God created light (and darkness)
 - Theistic Evolution - “Gap Theory”
 - Some say that there is a gap between vs. 1 and 2
 - “Pre-Adamic world” – dinosaurs, fossils, etc.
 - Note Exodus 20:11 – creation was done in 6 days

Genesis 1

- Day 2 (Genesis 1:6-8)
 - God created the “firmament”
 - Firmament: a separation between the waters of the air (clouds) and of the ground (oceans)
 - Practically speaking, it means that the air was created to separate the two waters
 - Note the ways that “heaven(s)” can be used
 - The universe, stars, etc. (verse 1)
 - The sky (verse 8)
 - The home of God

Genesis 1

- Day 3 (Genesis 1:9-13)
 - God created the land and plants
 - Consider how God created the earth’s surface to appear much older than it is
 - Fully created continents
 - Fully created life (plants)
 - Humanism (essentially atheism) has influenced how some people view the creation story
 - 2 Peter 3:8
 - These “days” were not so-called ages

Genesis 1

- Day 3 (Genesis 1:9-13)
 - Defenses against “theistic evolution”
 - A day could not be simply one thousand years
 - One could not get this idea from the text
 - “Evening and morning”
 - Exodus 20:11
 - Acts 14:15
 - Acts 17:24
 - We cannot allow humanism to remove God from our faith in Him and the scriptures

Genesis 1

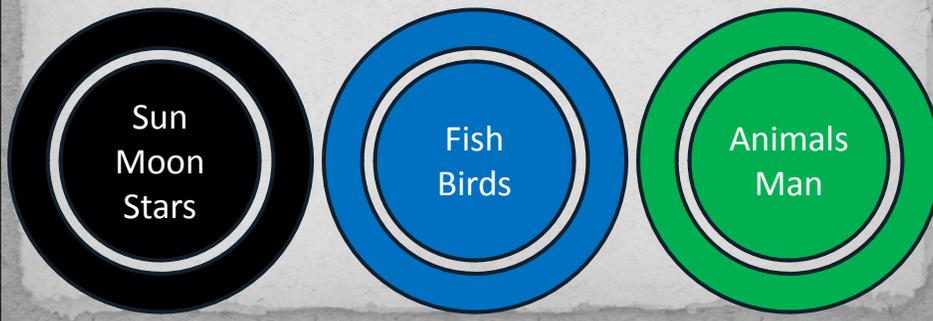
- Day 4 (Genesis 1:14-19)
 - God created the Sun, Moon, and stars
 - Was there day and night prior to this day?
 - “Evening and morning”
 - Light was called day, the darkness called night
 - Perhaps God used His power to create day and night in a supernatural way
 - It is virtually useless to speculate further, as the text does not give much detail

Genesis 1

- Day 5 (Genesis 1:20-23)
 - God created the fish and the birds
 - These populated the waters above and below
- Day 6 (Genesis 1:24-31)
 - God created animals and man
 - Note that man is different than animals
 - Created in the likeness of God
 - “Us” refers to the three persons of God
 - Humans have the capacity to be like God if they desire to choose that for themselves

Genesis 1

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed the formless... ▪ Day 1 ▪ Day 2 ▪ Day 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filled the void... ▪ Day 4 ▪ Day 5 ▪ Day 6 |
|---|---|



Genesis 2

- Day 7 (Genesis 2:1-3)
 - God rested
 - This does not mean God did nothing
 - See Colossians 1:17
 - This gives insight into the purposes of the Sabbath and other Bible principles
 - Though God sanctified it, there is no mention of anyone else giving special attention to it
 - Eventually, the Sabbath was put in place, with God referencing this special day of rest

Genesis 2

- The Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:4-25)
 - When did these events take place?
 - They seem to be reiterations of the events in chapter 1 (with added details)
 - The rest of scripture harmonizes with this view
 - The “plants of the field” likely refer to Eden (i.e. there was no one to nurture plant growth)
 - Note the presence of the two special trees (2:9)
 - Tree of Life
 - Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

Genesis 2

- The Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:4-25)
 - Tree of life gave eternal life
 - Tree of knowledge gave a choice to obey God
 - Why was it wrong for man to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
 - Solely because God said it was wrong
 - We can reason why many sins are wrong
 - Sometimes, we must just accept from God that some things are wrong by His reasoning only

Genesis 2

- The Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:4-25)
 - God's plan for marriage for all time
 - One man with one woman
 - Not limited to Adam (no parents)
 - Jesus pointed out that the law of marriage was from the one who had created man "in the beginning" (Matthew 19:4ff)
 - The philosophy of humanism can make it difficult to accept God's plans in creation

God's Plan

- God had planned for the redemption of man through Christ before creation (Ephesians 1:3-6)
- Paul told us that Jesus was involved in the creation of the world (Colossians 1:13-20)
- That Jesus would die for His creation was known and planned prior to creation (1 Peter 1:17-21)
- What does this teach us about the love of God and the love of Christ?

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