

Introduction to Genesis

Genesis is the book of beginnings. We get the word "Genesis" from the first word in the Hebrew text, "beginning". In the Greek language the word "beginning" is the word "Geneseos", or "Genesis".

Everything begins in Genesis, the universe, the solar system, the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, life, man, marriage, evil, language, government, culture, religion... even God's chosen people.

In fact, in Genesis we have the origin of every major Bible doctrine. It's been said, "Vast forests of Scripture start in Genesis as seedlings." Genesis is the foundation on which the other 65 books of the Bible are built.

This is why the enemies of God have tried so vigorously to falsify the account of Genesis - yet they have tried in vain. The more we learn of valid, verifiable science, and

archeology, the more confidence we gain in the Genesis account.

Always remember, no less an authority than our Lord Jesus considered the Genesis record as historically reliable and scientifically accurate. Jesus quoted frequently from the first 11 chapters of Genesis. He considered it factual. He believed in a literal Adam and Eve. He ascribed Moses as its author. Jesus Himself held to a literal interpretation of Genesis... *and so should we!*

Devotion Box - Why Day 6?

Since God made man on the 6th day of Creation, Adam's first full day was spent at rest with the Lord. Adam began his life resting with God.

There's a profound lesson here. Before we do anything *for the Lord* we need to learn how to fellowship *with the Lord*. Before we *serve* we first need to *sit*. We need to learn how to rely on God's strength, and rest in His wisdom.

Even if today is a work day, why not turn it into a day of rest by trusting your cares to Jesus?

T "Genesis" is the Greek word for "beginning".
E "Elohim" is the name for God in verse 1. It's in the plural tense.
R "bara" is the Hebrew word translated "created" in verse 1. It means to create out of nothing.
M "asah" is the Hebrew word translated "made" in the creation reference in Exodus 31:17. It means to reassemble.
S "Rahab" or "Leviathan" are names for Satan or the sea serpent.
"tohu" is the Hebrew word translated "without form" in verse 2. It's translated in Isaiah 45:18 as "in vain".
"plasmas" are made up of noncomposite atoms, pre-molecular particles floating at random, a subatomic soup.
"light year" is the distance light travels in a year's time.
The Hebrew word translated "Eden" means "delight".
"entropy" is the decaying process evident throughout nature.
The Hebrew word translated "helper" in verse 18 speaks of a counterpart, sidekick, partner.
The Hebrew word translated "ribs" in 2:21 actually refers to something that came from Adam's side. It may not have been an actual rib, but another bone, or piece of skin, etc.
The Hebrew word for "man" is "Ish", while the word for woman is the feminine form of "Ish" or "Ishah".

Bible Scan - Genesis 1-3

Chapter 1 Highlights

There's no date, just *"in the beginning"*! And it doesn't say in the beginning of God - God had no beginning. 1Chronicles 16:36 says, *"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting."* God has always been, and will always be.

Obviously, these 10 words don't tell us all we'd like to know about creation, but they do tell us all we need to know. In fact, if you believe in Genesis 1:1 you'll have no problem believing the other 31,173 verses in the Bible. If God created the universe, and set its laws in motion, then He can intervene or interrupt those laws if He chooses. If God created the heavens and earth then parting the Red Sea, and causing the sun to stand still, and walking on water, and rising from the dead are really no problem.

In fact if God created the universe the problems you're facing in your life tonight are really no problem. Dan Dehaan, says it best, *"The Christian has learned to believe in one big, bold miracle - God! And everything else falls*

into place. An atheist denies God, and must have a miracle for every other created thing."

Ten times in chapter 1 God says everything was created, *"according to its kind"*. God created in the genetic make-up of life a degree of flexibility. Living things can adapt to environmental changes - we call these adaptations, *"mutations"*.

But there are limits to these adaptations. The genetic structure of living things has been fixed by God so that life reproduces only within its natural family or "kinds". *Mutations* are possible, but not *transmutations*. A fish doesn't become a bird.

Thank the Lord for mutations. All my kids turned out better looking than me... but they're all still Adams'. Granted, at times they act like monkeys, but they're still Adams', and they'll reproduce Adams'. Each generation *"according to its kind"*.

It's this phrase *"according to its kind"* that drives a nail into the coffin of evolution. The theory is totally incompatible with nature, as well as, the biblical text.

Chapter 2 Highlights

God placed the tree of the knowledge of good and evil within Adam's reach as a way for Adam to demonstrate his love for God. For love to be meaningful it has to be volitional. If you love me, but have no other choice it's a hollow love. If your wife said *"I do"* with a shotgun in her back you'd always wonder. Adam therefore could have demonstrated his love and loyalty for God by staying away from that tree.

But Adam failed the test, and as God forewarned, he died both spiritually and physically.

Spiritually, he died instantly. Sin separated him from God. Physically, he died slowly. His body began to deteriorate. *"Entropy"*, the process of decay, began to effect not only Adam, but it permeated all the physical universe. As Paul said in Romans 8:20, *"the creation was subjected to futility"*. God's world became marred by randomness, disorder, arbitrary cruelties.

Life is sacred. It comes from God. Human life - *in utero and in old age* - needs to be respected and protected.

In this life you never get out of a job all you put into

DevotionBox - Thorns & Thistles

it. When Adam sinned work went from being a breeze to a burden. He began to encounter thorns and thistles that made his job tougher. God wants you to enjoy your work, but the thorns and thistles are there to remind us this world is not what it was meant to be. What are the thorns on your job?

Since you can't remove the thorns and thistles, how could a change of attitude help you better cope with the difficulties you face on your job?

Actually, the naming of the woman is one of the most beautiful and romantic passages in Scripture. Remember, the privilege to name was a function of dominion and authority. The fact, Adam was allowed to name the woman tells us God had placed her under Adam's authority, *but here's what I want you to see...*

The Hebrew word translated *"man"* is *"Ish"*, and the word translated woman is the same word in the feminine form, *"Ishah"*. Adam had authority over Eve, but instead of asserting it he treats her as an equal. He gives her his own name.

Matthew Henry commented, *"The woman was taken from Adam's side - not from his head to rule over him - not from his feet to be trampled on - but from his side to be equal with him, from under his arm to be protected, and from close to his heart to be loved."* This is how every husband should view his wife.

BEWARE OF THE TEMPTER (ch 3)

Satan tried to get Eve to doubt...

God's Word & God's Love

Then he tempted Eve with the desire...

to feel great, to look great, to be great

The enemy's strategy has not changed. In Matthew 4 he grilled Jesus with the same three temptations: turn the stones to bread (feel great), jump off the tower and let the angels rescue you (look great), rule the whole world (be great).

1 John 2:16 alerts us to these same three temptations: the lusts of the flesh (feel great), the lust of the eyes (look great), and the pride of life (be great).

Chapter 3 Highlights

Day One - Light shines into darkness - The incarnation.

Day Two - Separation of the waters above and below - The crucifixion.

Day Three - Plant life created - Jesus, the firstfruits of the resurrection.

Day Four - The lights for signs and seasons - The preaching of the Gospel.

Day Five - The water and air are filled with life - The work of the Spirit.

Day Six - Creation and dominion of man - The Second Coming of Christ.

Day Seven - God Rests - The Millennial Kingdom

Satan deceives Eve. He makes God out to be the bad guy. He tells her, "God just wants to keep you hemmed in – deprive you of your freedom – stunt your growth – to really find yourself you need to do your own thing!"

Satan has used the same argument a trillion times since.

The serpent says to Eve in verse 4, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God..." He promises her autonomy. She can be her own god – call her own shots.

Guys, that line of thinking is the seed thought behind every sin and temptation. Satan causes you to doubt two truths - God's Word and God's love. Always remember *what God says is true*, and *why He says it is because He loves you*.

God says to Adam in verse 19, "In the sweat of your face you shall eat

bread..." Before man sinned work was *no sweat*, but *no more*.

Because of his sin man would never again get out of his job all that he would put into it. Whenever he went to work he would always leave a little something of himself on the job until he had literally worked himself to death.

At first Adam and Eve depended on the work of their own hands. People do this today. They sew together religious deeds and good works to cover their sin.

But God insists on a sacrifice. The ultimate sacrifice for sin is Jesus.

Devotion Box - Singles

In Genesis 2:22 God brought Eve to Adam, *he didn't have to go looking for her*.

Adam was content in his relationship with God. He didn't even know of his need for a companion until God pointed it out.

Guys, it's not good for man to be alone, unless he's with the wrong person! Develop your relationship with God, and in His time He will bring you a helper. Learn to trust Him!

chance occurrences of accidental circumstances?

The evolutionist contends that life originated by chance occurrences of accidental circumstances. Every one admits the odds are slim that something as complex as the building blocks of life could just happen, but the evolutionist says given enough time anything is possible...

According to Swiss scientist, Charles Guye, the odds of just one protein molecule developing by chance is 1 in 10³²¹ (321 power). (The simplest cells require 229 protein molecules.) Even if the earth is 4.5 billion years old then we have only 10¹⁸ seconds to produce the number of chances we need. Even by evolutionary estimates that

would not be near enough time. In Physics any probability greater than 10⁵⁰ is considered totally absurd. And remember 10³²¹ is just enough time for a chance production of just one protein, not the 239 needed for a simple cell.

The complexities of life caused biologist Edwin Conklin to make the statement, "*The probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unabridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing shop.*" The inescapable evidence for design within nature speaks of the existence of a Designer.

Devotion Box - the voice of God?

How do you hear the voice of God when you sin? Do you think of God as a compassionate Father searching and seeking to help a child he loves dearly, or as an angry cop eager to bust another nameless lawbreaker?

When an animal gets injured it runs and hides from its owner even when his intention is to help it and bring it

healing.

Often we respond to God like an injured animal. When you sin run to Him with a broken and repentant heart. He wants to heal and help. His desire is to restore you to intimate fellowship.

Bible Scan - Genesis 1-3

Calvary Chapel

If you have questions on tonight's study email Pastor Sandy - sandyadams@calvarychapel.org

Calvary Chapel Announcements - August 22, 1999

Ladies Night Out - August 30 - 6:45 - Salad Potluck - Teacher: Kathy Adams

Father - Son Raft Trip - French Broad River - Bryson, NC - Sunday & Monday, September 5-6

cost: \$45 adult, \$40 child - kids must be at least 8 years old to raft - leave Sunday 2:30 pm

Ladies' Tuesday Morning Bible Study - begins September 14 at a new time, 10:00 am - Genesis

High School Students meet every Wednesday night @ 7:30.

Junior High Students meet every Sunday night @ 6:30.

Next Bible Scan August 29 - Genesis 4-11

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
Genesis 1:1

Bible Scan Memory Verse

Fun, Facts, and Faith

If you believe Genesis 1:1 you will have little problem believing the other 31,173 verses. If God created it, then He can do with it what He pleases.

Where is baseball found in the Bible?
Genesis 1:1... in the big inning!

Water is 773 times heavier than air. The water vapor above the earth weighs 54 trillion, 460 billion tons. For God to suspend it in thin air is a miracle of engineering.

The phrase "according to its kind" appears 10 times in Genesis 1.

Materials needed to make a human body... *"Enough potassium for one shot of a toy pistol, enough fat for seven bars of soap, enough iron for one large nail, enough sulfur to delouse a dog,*

enough lime to whitewash a chicken coup, enough magnesia for one dose of medicine, and enough phosphorous for a few boxes of matches. The total purchase would not fill more than a couple of grocery bags." (Dr. Mayo)

"Without you baby, I'm not me." from the song, "Little Rock", by Colin Ray.

Rocky Balboa on marriage...
Rocky to Adrian, and Adam to Eve, *"I got gaps. You got gaps. Together we got no gaps."*

The problem with Adam and Eve was not the apple on the tree, but the "pair" on the ground!

Marriage Builders

3 steps to happy marriage...

leave - *bye-bye mom and dad*

cleave - *until death do us part*

weave - *work at oneness*

stop the hiding...

practice humility and honesty

stop the hurling...

don't play the blame game

Authority she can respect...

Adam had authority over Eve, but he treated her as an equal. Husbands don't be dictators. Be a humble and loving leader in your home.