



Genesis - Beginnings and Foundations

Chapter 1 A
Nov 10, 2024

Module 5, Room 1

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Nov 3, 2024 – Genesis – Introduction*
 - ✓ *Nov 4, 2024 – 6 PM – Pray for our country – Franklin Graham coordinated a prayer event*
 - ✓ *Nov 5, 2024 – Manor Lake - Daniel Ch 3*
 - ✓ *Nov 5, 2024 – Election Day – **VOTE & PRAY***
- ✓ *Nov 10, 2024 – Genesis – Beginnings – Ch 1 A*
- *Nov 17, 2024 – Genesis*
 - *Manor Lake - Daniel Ch 4*
- *Nov 24, 2024 – Genesis*
- *Nov 27, 28 – Thanksgiving*

Comment on Election - *Prayer works !!*

Republicans won the

- *Presidential Election*
- *Control of the US Senate*
- *Popular vote and Electoral College*
- *Retained control of the US House of Representatives*
- *Election effects are already happening*
 - *Americans rejected the class/gender/race warfare of today's politics, and the Legacy media and celebrities who pushed it*
 - *DOJ is retracting all cases against Trump*
 - *Other Agencies are girding their loins for the changes to come*
 - *Alien Migrant Caravans are disbanding in Mexico*
 - *Qatar has kicked out Hamas from their safe haven*
 - *Israel is celebrating and planning for the "Day After" in Gaza, and Lebanon, plus renewed efforts with the Abraham Accords*
 - *Russia is signaling a willingness to talk about Ukraine*
 - *Major American companies have announced moving of their Chinese Mfg out of China*
 - *Stock Market is in growth mode*
 - *Interest rates were cut by 0.25%, not big but a start*

Quick Update .../CYMI

Middle East

- *Lots of movement as a result of the US Presidential Election*
- *Israel is changing and consolidating leadership to move forward*
- *Other ME countries are adjusting to new US Leadership and Priorities*
- *Lebanon is moving to a settlement of the war, a push to gain release of Israeli/ US Hostages*
- *Hezbollah, Houthis, and other Iranian proxies are still fighting*
- *Expect the US to take financial action against Iran, and up support for Israel to finish these wars and get back to peace negotiations*

US/World

- *US Elections were a resounding defeat of the Current Admin and its policies*
- *Expect major policy changes from the New Administration*
 - *Energy, Border, Crime, Drugs, Tax policy, and Government efficiency and slimming down*
- ***Expect rollback of “wokeness”, cultural warfare, and strong support of the Armed forces, Border Patrol, and Law enforcement.***

Thoughts about our current study...



- *Genesis means “beginnings” or “origins”*
- *It is not just a book of the Bible, but an explanation of Life*
- *We can believe it or not believe it, but it is what it is, and we have to deal with it*
- *It is unique among books, and we need to understand what makes it that way*
- *We will take our time to go through this study. It is Important!*

Last week we began this study with

- *An explanation of the wider thoughts about this book and the creation itself.*
- *We discussed the implications behind the verses and our understanding of them*
 - *Creating Something from Nothing*
 - *Matter, Space, and Time*
 - *Self Existence of God*
 - *Reasons to Believe Genesis*
 - *Quoted all through the OT and NT, and affirmation by Jesus of the accounts and person of Moses*
 - *No other explanation of the Origin is this complete, and squares with history, archeology, and Science facts*

Genesis provides answers for...

- ✓ *The Origin of the Universe*
- ✓ *The Origin of Order and Complexity*
- ✓ *The Origin of the Solar System*
- ✓ *The Origin of the Atmosphere and Hydrosphere*
- ✓ *Origin of Life*
- ✓ *Origin of Man and Woman*
- ✓ *Origin of Marriage*

- ✓ *Origin of Evil*
- ✓ *Origin of Language*
- ✓ *Origin of Government*
- ✓ *Origins of Nations / Tribes*
- ✓ *Origin of Religion*
- ✓ *Origin of the Chosen People*
- ✓ *And many other things...*

We will explore all these origins as we work our way through Genesis

Genesis can be divided into 9 main groupings:

- 1. The Generations of the Heavens and the Earth (Gen 1.1-2.4a)*
- 2. The Book of the Generations of Adam (Gen 2:4b-5:1a)*
- 3. The Generations of Noah (Gen 5:1b- 6:9a)*
- 4. The Generations of the Sons of Noah (Gen 6:9b-10:1a)*
- 5. The Generations of Shem (Gen 10:1b- 11:10a)*
- 6. The Generations of Terah (Gen 11:10b- 11:27)*
- 7. The Generations of Isaac (Gen 11:27b- 25:19)*
- 8. The Generations of Jacob (Gen 25:19b-37:2)*
- 9. The Generations of the Sons of Jacob (Gen 37:2b- Exodus 1:1)*

God and the World He Made...

- Genesis Chapter 1 is the foundation of the whole foundation of the Bible
- Genesis 1:1 is the critical verse in understanding and accepting the Genesis Account

The Beginning

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

It is often said that belief in the Bible and its message can be clarified by understanding the first four words of Genesis. If one can believe these words are true, then everything else in the Bible can be believed as true. Corollary

Then, if you believe God was there before anything else, and you believe that God has the power to create from nothing, creating the Heavens and the Earth should be totally believable.

Assuming we believe Genesis 1:1

*These firm beliefs also can tell us what is **not true**...*

- *It refutes **Atheism** because the universe and everything in it was created by God*
- *It refutes **Pantheism**, for there is one God who is transcendent (above all) that He created*
- *It refutes **Polytheism**, for one God created all, not multiple Gods*
- *It refutes **Materialism**, for all matter had a beginning. It was not self-existent*
- *It refutes **Dualism**, God was alone when He created*
- *It refutes **Humanism**, God not man is the ultimate authority and reality*
- *It refutes **Evolutionism**, God Created all things*

All these philosophies are different ways of expressing the same unbelief

Simplifying this a bit

- All of these philosophies begin with the premise that something existed (but not God) before the World became what it is today
- Matter
- Energy
- Water
- Primordial Soup

The Bible is the only source that begins with a God who is above all things and was pre-existent. The Bible does not explain God or try and justify Him. It only declares Him

Psalm 14:1. ¹ *The fool (morally deficient) says in his heart, “There is no God.”*

Genesis Verse 1 – Revealed

- **God** – The word rendered in English God, is the Hebrew Word **Elohim**. **This word stresses His Majesty and Omnipotence.** It is the Word for God in Genesis Chapter 1. The “IM” ending signifies the word is a plural representation of the Hebrew Word EL which is singular. This represents the 3 forms of God...Father, Son, and Spirit. It is used here as a singular word that testifies to the unity of God...a glimpse of the Trinity.
- **Created** – This is the Hebrew word “Bara” which is **only** used in the work of God. Man can make things or form them from other things but cannot create them in the same sense as God.
 - Romans 4:17 (KJV) ¹⁷ *(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, **and calleth those things which be not as though they were.**)*
 - **Heb 11:3** ³ *By faith we understand that the universe was **formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.***
- In the Beginning – the Hebrew Word **Bereshith**

So, what we see in these first words of Genesis

- *In the Beginning – before time, space, energy, and matter*
- *God – The majestic and omnipotent God (in plural form)*
- *Created – “Bara”. In only His way He created from nothing all things that were created. He created Time, Space, Matter, Energy, and then He created all the things that are made of and use these things.*
- *The Heaven and the Earth*
 - *Heaven is the Hebrew word **Shamayim** (plural, as in Heavens), and most nearly relates to our term “space” since neither the planets, earth, or Heaven in the sense we understand it, has not yet been created by God.*
 - ***Earth** – which is the Hebrew word **Erets**, which is often translated “ground” or “land”. It is a general term since the Earth has not been formed from the matter at this point. Understand, however, that water is created at this point too as part of the matter.*

In Verse 1:1 we see that this is where God does His “bara” creation by creating both Space and Matter for both the Earth and Heavens to come

Genesis 1:2

² **Now** the earth was **formless** and **empty**, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was **hovering** over the waters.

Now in NIV, And in KJV - means that this verse is sequential to the one before. The “earth” had no form and no defined space (empty).

*Darkness which is the absence of light was over everything, but the Spirit of Elohim was hovering over the “face KJV” of the waters. It is hard to picture this in our mind because there are no shapes, forms, or instances we understand that come to mind. **Face** here means presence. I think of it as a fog of matter and water and darkness*

The Earth had no form and had no defined spaces, and no inhabitants. It was in its elemental forms in matter and water, but the Spirit of God was there, over His Creation.

Genesis 1:3-10 Next week

³ And God said, “Let there be **light**,” and there was light.

⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

⁵ God called the light “**day**,” and the darkness he called “**night**.” And there was **evening, and there was morning—the first day**.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be a **vault between the waters to separate water from water**.”

⁷ So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so.

⁸ God called the vault “**sky**.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

⁹ And God said, “**Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear**.” And it was so.

¹⁰ God called the **dry ground** “**land**,” and the **gathered waters** he called “**seas**.” And God saw that it was good

GAP Theory of Time

- This theory tries to harmonize Biblical teaching with scientific theories of the age of the earth and animals.
- It allows millions or billions of years to occur between the verses in the first part of Genesis thus trying to accommodate the dinosaurs, early man, drift of continents, and species changes.
- This is a complex discussion, and Dr Morris handles it well in his commentary. It is a common thought in the church because it was part of the Scofield Bible so common in the 1950's.
- Just an example of one of the problems with it. It is a theory based on fossil records of dead animals and plants, but in the Bible, Death did not occur until after the Fall which brought sin and death into the world. This was not just for man, but also for creation. In the Bible record, creation happened Before the Fall, so there was no sin and death.
- I will not focus on this theory or defend it but will just stay with the Biblical Record. In Jewish years, we are in the year 5785

Next Week, we will begin Genesis with Ch 1:3

- *Thank God for answered Prayers for ourselves and our country*
- *Pray for Israel, and the Peace of Jerusalem*
- *Pray for First Redeemer Pastors, staff, teachers, and all who lead*
- *Pray for your family and friends inside and outside the church.*
Pray for healing for those in grief and recovery.
- *Be thankful that God has placed you **in this day and time** and
commit **your** will ...to doing **His** Will.*
- *Pray for those who don't know the Lord to come to Him*
- *Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to fill the land*