

## School of the Bible-Genesis Program #1

### I. Genesis- The Book of Beginnings

#### A) All Truths in the Bible Start Here

- a.. Creation/Fall/Sin/Evil
- b.. Man/Woman
- c.. Covenants
- d.. Nation of Israel/People of God
- e.. Redemption
- f.. Doctrine of God

#### B) The Importance of the Law of 1st Mention in Genesis

All Biblical Doctrines and Truths Flow out of their 1st Mention in Genesis

This Principle is a Key to Properly Interpreting the Bible for our Lives

### II. The Book of Genesis Creates Controversy about the Source of Creation

A) The Bible and Science - It cannot be stressed enough that the Bible is Never in Conflict with Scientific Data.

B) Genesis Teaches there was a Beginning to the World as we know it. This Important Truth is given immediately in the 1st verse.

"IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH".

C) Science and the Bible Compliment One Another

Previous Science Believed The Universe Was Always Here. Modern Science Has Confirmed the Universe had a beginning as stated in the 1st verse in Genesis.

Example: CBR or Cosmic Background Radiation. This is the energy present in the moving bodies of the universe that indicate an initial beginning or start to all things. This energy can be measured by scientists today and shows that an initial burst of energy started the Cosmos.

E) Scientific Discoveries that Establish a Beginning to the Universe Lead to the Conclusion of a Beginner behind it all.....Scientists now have credible evidence that points to God as the Beginner.

F) Science Brings Us Evidence and Facts.....But Also Theories. Not All Scientific Theory is Scientific Fact.

Example: At one time the scientists of their day believed the Earth was flat. We now know this was just a theory based on the facts of their day.

III. As Science Grows and Matures It Will One Day Catch Up With the Lord's Revelation of Truth in Scripture.

A) Many Examples of this truth can be found.....

Example: Science once believed there were only 1000 star that could be seen and/or identified in the heavens. Scientists now know there are billions of stars. Long ago the Bible said in Jeremiah 33:22, "I WILL MAKE THE DESCENDANTS OF DAVID MY SERVANT AND THE LEVITES WHO MINISTER BEFORE ME AS COUNTLESS AS THE STARS OF THE SKY AND AS MEASURELESS AS THE SAND ON THE SEASHORE."

B) Scientific Discovery of the 20th Century Confirms the Book of Genesis....That the Universe had a Beginning

Early 20th Century- Famous Cosmologist/Astronomer Edwin Hubble Discovers the Universe is Expanding. Hubble finds what is now called a "Red Shift" by all bodies in the Universe. The "Red Shift" comes from objects moving away from a point of observation. Hubble's discovery, now accepted by all major scientists, shows the Universe had a beginning point from which it is expanding....likened to a bomb going off.

Later 20th Century-1960's, Famous Bell Laboratory Scientists, Penzias and Wilson, discover CBR or Cosmic Background Radiation that points to an energy source connected to all moving bodies.

IV. The Church and/or Theologians Can and Have Misrepresented what the Bible Teaches. This Fact is Not to be Confused with the Bible Being in Error on Important Topics of Science

A) Turning Point in History of Science and the Bible- Copernicus and the Truth of the Earth Orbiting the Sun.

Prior to this discovery the Church had wrongly taught that the Sun orbited the Earth. This HUGE error led to the Church being rejected as a place for scientific truth and the Bible as seen teaching error. Our culture has never recovered from this misunderstanding. The Bible has NEVER been proven wrong with the facts, only challenged with various theories.

B) Modern Scientific Studies of Mathematics, Statistics and Probability Has Proven Conclusively That Life Could Not Be a Product of Random Chance. There is No Scientific Evidence to Explain how got are here.....only theories.

V. The Great Discovery of More and More Scientists and Theologians is that the Bible and Science are Friends and Not Rivals

A) The Bible is More Concerned to tell a Love Story in Genesis than Discuss Every Aspect of Science. The Bible is a book about God and His Love for Humanity.....and yet it is not wrong about science.

B) As Science grows and grows in its discoveries, more and more scientists are being led to faith. This is just the opposite of what we are being told today. While skeptics will always be there, true faith based on facts is credible and growing. Science can only tell us "HOW?" .... The Bible and Faith tell us "WHY?"

C) Modern Scientists Need to be Open and Honest about the Facts Being Presented

VI. The Book of Genesis is Exciting To Study and Will Build Our Faith When We Really Spend the Time to Understand It.

School of the Bible-Genesis Program #2

I. Genesis is the Book of Beginnings- The First Mention of God's Name in the Bible is Found in the Opening Verse-Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth

A) The First Revelation of God's Name in Genesis 1:1 is Somewhat Mysterious

The Name that is used for God in Genesis 1:1 is "Elohim". This Name is a mystery because it is a masculine, plural noun, yet it is translated in a singular way because the verb "created" is singular. The Name "Elohim" really means "Gods" in the strictest grammatical sense of the word.

B) This First Revelation of God's Name gives us an early picture of the Triunity of God....Father, Son and Holy Spirit

C) God is the Master Painter and Artist. All Great Artists put signature strokes on every canvas they paint. In a similar way, Elohim is going to place His Nature on the Creation that bears His Image. As a result, as revelation continues to grow throughout the Bible, we will see God's Triune Nature being reflected over and over again.

D) God's Personal Revelation of His Name is for a Purpose. God wants us to know Him. God is NOT an Impersonal Being! This Personal Knowing of God is at the Heart of why we were created ..... "To Know Him". We see this desire to "Know Him" at the heart of what the Bible teaches. Passages such as Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Philippians 3:10 wonderfully display this truth

31 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD.

10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

E) All 66 Books of the Bible are Connected to the Progressive Revelation of God's Name, "Elohim", in Genesis 1:1. Hence, the Triunity of God's Nature is not in conflict with any part of Scripture. Specifically, the New Testament does NOT "invent" the Doctrine of the Trinity. The Triune Nature of God is right there in the 1st verse of Genesis and throughout the Old Testament. This Fact should give us confidence about the inspiration of Scripture.

II. The Triunity of God's Nature, as Reflected in "Elohim" is Seen in so Many Ways and in so Many Places.

A) The Atomic World- All Atoms are composed of 3 basic building blocks....Protons, Neutrons and Electrons..... or 3 in 1

B) The Physical World is Comprised of Solids, Liquids and Gases.....or 3 in 1.

C) The Human Family is Comprised of Fathers, Mothers and Children.....or 3 in 1.

D) Each Individual Person is Seen as Body, Soul and Spirit....or 3 in 1.

F) The Old Testament Name For God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob ....or 3 in 1.

G) The Three Offices of the Old Testament are Prophet, Priest and King.....or 3 in 1.

H) The Three Virtues of the Christian Life are Faith, Hope and Love .....or 3 in 1.

I) All Time is Connected to Past, Present and Future....or 3 in 1.

J) The Old Testament is Comprised of the Law, the Prophets and the Writings....or 3 in 1

The List of These Triunities is Endless Because They Reflect "Elohim" and His Plurality and Unity into the World. All of us carry His Image and His "brush strokes" as the Master Painter.

III. God's Personal Revelation of His Name "Elohim" is Ultimately Relational in Nature

A) God or Elohim is our Father. He Cares for us in our weakness and frailty- God the Father

B) God or Elohim is our Brother, Advocate and Mediator- God the Son

C) God or Elohim is our Teacher, Comforter and Guide- God the Holy Spirit

The Lord is Whatever We Need Him to be for our Lives. The God of the Bible or "Elohim" is the "Great I AM", Who is there to be with His People, both Now and Forever.

School of the Bible-Genesis Program #3

I. The Book of Genesis is THE Book to Build A Foundation For Faith

A) The Beginning Verses of Genesis Tell Us a lot about the Lord and His Love for the Creation- Genesis 1:2

Now the earth was {[2] Or possibly became}formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

The Holy Spirit is Revealed as the Creative Power of God Bringing forth Creation. This Progressive Revelation of God the Spirit follows the 1st Revelation of God's Name....Elohim. The Lord is telling us a lot about Himself in each new verse.

The Important thing to note in this verse is how the Spirit was "hovering" over the Dark, Chaotic and Empty World. The Hebrew word for "hovering" implies a tenderness and love, similar to that which a mother hen might have for her chicks. The Lord is telling us that our world is coming forth, out of the chaos, darkness and emptiness, to be a place of love and care that reflects the Creative intentions of the Lord Himself.

B) Genesis 1:2 Lays a Foundation and Pattern for the Rest of the Bible. Namely, the Lord Enters into every chaotic and dark situation by His Spirit to bring forth Life, Order and Purpose.

C) Every Person Has Experience "Confusion", "Chaos", and "Emptiness". This Paradigm in Genesis is Designed to let the Creation Know that the Lord can do ANYTHING to Restore Things. The Genesis Pattern of "Chaos Turned to Order" is needed by all of us each day as we face an empty, chaotic world.

D) We See That the Primary Way the Lord Brings Order out of Chaos is Through the Light of His Word. That is Why Verse 3 comes Immediately after this discussion of "Darkness" and "Emptiness" in verse 2. God and His Word are always the antidote to the Chaos of Sin.

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.

The Lord Jesus, Who is the Word, Works with the Holy Spirit to Bring Life, Order and Purpose. The Holy Spirit Prepares the "empty places" to be filled by the Word Himself. Elohim (verse 1) Sends His Spirit (verse 2) and His Word (verse 3) to Restore the World to His Glorious Purposes. Our Lord Jesus is the Word and the Truth. He Sends the Holy Spirit to Restore Things in Him to a New Beginning as we see here in Genesis 1. We Should Connect The Work of the Word and Spirit here in Genesis to our Lord's Ministry in John 16:12-15...

12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

E) Our Lord Jesus Tells Us He is the Creator of Genesis in His Earthly Ministry as He weeps over the City of Jerusalem before His Passion. Like the account in Genesis, our Lord is the Elohim that "hovers" and "broods" over the Creation as a mother hen does over her chicks. We see this exact parallel in Matthew 23:37-39...

37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. 38 Look, your house is left to you desolate. 39 For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'{[39] Psalm 118:26}"

Notice in the Above passage the concept of "Desolation" (verse 38) when People Reject the Lord Jesus. It tells us that without the Lord all of us return to the "chaos" and "darkness" of Genesis 1:2

## II. The Genesis Principle in Ministry-God's Word Will Never Return Void

A) God's Spirit Is So Powerful that whenever God Speaks things Happen. The Pattern of Genesis 1:2-3 Demonstrates that when the Spirit moves through the Proclamation of the Word, the "empty" and "dark" places of the world and our lives are changed forever. Isaiah 55:10-11 speaks to this "Genesis Principle" with the following words....

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, 11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

B) God Wants to Give Himself to Us. God the Father Sends God the Son to Die for our sins so God the Holy Spirit Can fill Our Empty Lives. When the Lord Fills Us with Himself, We Fulfill the Purpose of our Creation in Genesis.....To Have Our Void Filled With Him.

### School of the Bible-Genesis Program #4

1. The Book of Genesis is THE Key for Understanding the Bible. It is THE Foundation. Learning How To Study It Is Important For Everyone.

A) There are Many Ways to Study the Bible such as verse by verse, characters of the Bible or Topical. Each has its own Strength. The Most Important Thing, however, Is to STUDY!!!

B) The Bible is a Love Story and We Should Always Remember That Amidst our Discussion and/or Disagreements about Issues of Science and History. A Great Theologian once said, in speaking of what he learned that was most Significant in the Bible, "Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so". How

Wonderful to Know the Lord Loves Us!!! We Need to Always Keep that Thought in our Mind.

## II The First Day of Creation Brings Light to the World in Genesis 1:3-6

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.

A) The Foundational Pattern of God's Work in the World is Established in Genesis.....God Speaks and Light Comes.

B) God Speaks in Genesis 1 and the Physical Creation Comes Forth. The Same is True in the Spiritual Realm/Creation as Well. God Speaks and the New Genesis Begins in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle John speaks to this New Genesis in John 1...

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood {[5] Or darkness, and the darkness has not overcome}it.

When People in this Fallen World Hear God's Word, Light Comes Forth and They Enter Into His Purposes in the New Genesis.

## III The Creation Needed Light as Its Foundation for Life. Light is the One Thing that is Necessary to Life's Existence, Both Spiritual and Physical

A) Nature and the Physical World Teaches The Truth that Everything Comes From Light

Example: The plants need light to live. Animals need plants. Mankind lives off of plants and animals. All Energy is stored light. Gasoline and all fossil fuels are stored sunshine. The list is endless.....

B) What is True in the Natural World is True in the Spiritual World. Without the Lord, Nothing in the Spiritual World Can Operate.....Everything Dies.

IV. Modern Technology Has Created an Explosion of Knowledge, but often Mankind Seeks for Knowledge Without the Lord. This "Light" Cannot Bring True Life.

A) The Bible Brings Knowledge 1st.....but then it follows that with Understanding and Finally Wisdom. Often Mankind just seeks knowledge and rejects the light of God's Wisdom and Understanding

Knowledge- This is the lowest level of light and includes facts and information. Knowledge alone can often lead to pride. This was the Devil's lie in Genesis 3. The Devil Promised Mankind Knowledge without Wisdom or Understanding

Understanding- This is the second level of light and includes seeing how things relate to one another. This is the beginning of True Spiritual Application.

Wisdom-This is the highest form of light and includes the first two, but adds knowing how to apply them both to the glory of God. Ultimately, the Lord Jesus Christ is THE Wisdom of God. If We are to have Wisdom, We must have the Lord in our Lives. When we have True Wisdom and a Relationship with the Lord of Wisdom, We Have the Light that Genesis 1 Points us Toward.

B) Ultimately Mankind Needs to Seek the Lord and Not Just the Wisdom He Brings. No One Can Be Truly Wise Without the Lord.

V. Genesis 1 Gives Us A Foundation for All Education. Education Must Rest on a Foundation of God's Light .

A) Our American Education System was Originally Founded on this Principle.....Education Brings Truth about God's Word and World

Example: The Ivy League Schools such as Harvard. Harvard was Founded to bring God's Light to America through Higher Education. All Harvard Students were required to know the Lord and His Word. Sadly, this foundation has largely been destroyed today and replaced with Mankind's Wisdom.....This Leads to Death.

B) The Lord and His Light of Genesis Cannot Be Removed From a Culture or Educational System without Darkness Returning. Modern Schools now install metal detectors in many places because truth and light has been hidden from Mankind. As Sin Abounds and Darkness Flourishes, Mankind is Returning to the Chaos of Genesis 1 BEFORE Light was sent by the Lord.

C) All of Us Need God's Light, His Revelation, The Lord Jesus Christ.....Who is the Light of the World According to John 8:12. Without Him, We Have No Hope in this Life or the Next.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."  
John 8:12

## School of the Bible-Genesis Program #5

### I. The Book of Genesis is the Story of God's Light Bringing Order out of Chaos-Genesis 1:3-5

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.

A) God Sends Light to Define Reality and His Purposes. God Sends Light to Define Good and Evil. All Moral Standards of Good and Evil Must Be Tied to God, Who Defines the Terms. Mankind Cannot Discern Good and Evil Without God. This is Mankind's Dilemma Today. No One is Really Sure What is Right or Wrong, Good or Evil. This is the Lie of the Devil. The Devil has convinced Mankind that we can choose our own "good and evil". The Results of this Deception have been a fallen world full of sin and darkness.

B) When God Speaks .....Light Comes. When God is Silent.....We are left with Darkness. This is True in Genesis 1 and Today!

C) God's Goal in Creation and the New Creation is the Same....Separate the Light from the Darkness of Genesis 1:4

Examples: We see that all of life is a battle between good and evil, light and darkness. This is seen in movies, books and every human activity. There is no story where you have a "good guy" without a "bad guy". The Human Race has been struggling to separate these two things from one another from the beginning. However, no end is in sight because Mankind cannot do it on their own without God's help.

D) Relativism is the Curse of Mankind's Inability To Clearly Know AND Separate Light from Darkness. People come to Believe that Everything is acceptable and no True Moral Standards exist. In this state Mankind becomes God. We see this pattern in the days of the Judges when "everyone did that which was right in their own eyes" (Judges 21:25). That pattern of Relativism is being replayed in the World today.

E) God Alone Can Define the Moral Concept of Goodness. We see this when the Lord declares the "Light" in Genesis to be "good", according to verse 4.

II The Natural World Teaches That Moral Relativism is a Lie. Only Mankind Tries to Carry Relativism to the Moral Order

A) People Follow the Laws of Nature to do Everything from Fly a Plane to go to a Hospital. We count on the logical order of science and the Laws the Lord has surrounded us with to keep order. It is only in the realm of morality that Mankind seeks to believe there are no answers. This is Humanity's attempt to avoid moral accountability with the Creator. Romans 1:20 states....

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

B) Life has Good and Evil, Right and Wrong, Light and Darkness. To Deny This Truth in Genesis and Resist Light and Darkness from being Separated is a Rebellion Against God's Purposes in Creation.

Example: C.S. Lewis said his life was full of "grey tones and shades" before his conversion to the Lord. The world loves to convince people that no true light, truth or moral standard exists. This is the Devil's lie that leaves humanity in moral chains of sin and death.

III The People of God or the Church are Called Out by God to come to the Light and be Separate from the Darkness of the World.

A) Every Christian has been "separated" from the "darkness" of this fallen world by a Creative work of God through the Holy Spirit. We are "called out" to come into the light. The Apostle Paul addresses this theme in II Corinthians 4:4-6....

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," {{6} Gen. 1:3}made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

B) The People of God Have been Called Out of Darkness To Come into the Light and Declare it to the World. We are able to escape the issues of Relativism because we have revelation of what is right and wrong. God's People have Light!!! The People of God need to declare this moral truth and avoid the trap of "tolerance" that is sweeping the world. Moral Relativism and Tolerance will one day set up the stage for the Antichrist, who will impose his laws over God's.

C) God's Light Leads us out of Darkness to a New Life. This New Life has a Moral order that provides protection for the People of God. Moral and Spiritual Light Protects us. God's separation of light from darkness and the moral chaos of the world's standards brings holiness to our lives.

## School of the Bible-Genesis Program #6

### I. Genesis and the Miracle of Life Begins on the Third Day of Creation- Genesis 1:11-13

Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening, and there was morning--the third day.

A) The Third Day Marks the Beginning of Life as we Know it. The Lord Creates plants "according to their kinds". This early reference to plant reproduction connects to God's Creative power in DNA to drive all of life's designs. This early connection to DNA as a mechanism that creates life "according to their kinds". is a wonderful refutation to the "Theory of Evolution" postulated by Charles Darwin and others since then.

B) Evolutionary Theory Postulates that plants, animals and eventually Mankind grew out of "another kind". Hence, Evolution theorizes that a pear tree could one day become a banana tree or something in between. This "Theory" has been conclusively disproved on many levels, though few scientists are willing to admit it because of the implications to their lives.

Example: The scientific evidence does not record ANY collection of what are called "transition fossil records". In other words, there is no way to document that evolution is taking place anywhere. Dr. Stephen J. Gould, Harvard Professor admits that the "fossil record" does NOT support Darwin's Theory of Evolution.....and yet the scientific war against the Lord and Genesis continues.

C) No One Has Ever Discovered or Found a "Missing Link" that Connects One Species to Another. All Species of Plant and Animal follow the blueprint of DNA.....reproducing according to their own kind, just as Genesis 1 teaches. However, many scientific frauds and hoaxes continue to plague the public and the average person.

Example: The "Piltdown Man" Scandal of 1912. A fossil was discovered in England that was supported by "experts" to be the "missing link" between Mankind and the animal world. Forty years later the fossil was discovered to be an open fraud, yet it had confounded "experts" for almost half a century. Many innocent people suffered under the belief during this time than Mankind had evolved according to Darwin's Theory of Evolution. The same delusions are going on today.

II. The Book of Genesis and the Third Day of Creation Points Us To DNA and the Miracle of Life Created by God.

A) Even Great Scientists Support the special Creative Design in Genesis.....without even knowing it!

Example: Dr. Francis Crick received the Nobel Prize for discovering the mechanism of DNA with his colleague Watson. Dr. Crick believed the DNA mechanism was so advanced that it could not have evolved. However, instead of accepting the Genesis account of Divine Creation, Dr. Crick postulated that our DNA was the product of alien beings "seeding" our DNA into the world. His theory was referred to as "Panspermia" and is still held by some people.....Who Created the Aliens???????

B) The Genesis Account of Life's Beginning Has Never Been Refuted by Science. The fact that Evolution is still the dominant thought about Creation today says little about Science. What it does tell us is the problems Scientists, like Dr. Crick, have with the Lord. This long war against God over the origin of life has taken a great toll on our society. When People believe they came from a swamp they act like it. Our social fabric is being torn apart by this false teaching.

III. All of Life is a Miracle. All Life Produces After Its Own Kind as the Bible Clearly States. This is True in the Physical Realm as well as the Spiritual One.

A) We Should Remember that just as Mankind has been giving 46 Chromosomes that are physically Reproduced through DNA, the same is true in the Spiritual World as well. The Lord calls us to reproduce our spiritual lives as we share the Gospel with the world. The Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 is the Lord's way to spiritually reproduce His people.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

B) Life is a Miracle of Special Creation. The Greatest Scientists and Statisticians have realized the pure chance of Mankind evolving from lower forms of life is ZERO. This is a message the public doesn't hear today. Our society has been abandoned to political correctness and believing the lie that teaching the truth about life is religion and therefore unacceptable.

C) Finally, We Need to See Life as a Special Creation of God to Understand our Special Quality as His Creation. People who Believe themselves special act that way. People who deny the special nature of their Creation also act that way. Every person ever created by God had a 1 in 300 billion chance of being born.

That is the genetic permutations in each set of DNA of someone's parents. If we come to understand the unique quality we have by the Lord's grace life will never be the same.

## School of the Bible-Genesis Program # 7

### I. Genesis I and the Miracle of Life Begins on the 3rd Day-Genesis 1:11-13

Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening, and there was morning--the third day.

A) All of Life is a Miracle and Something that Brings Wonder to Our Lives and fills us with Praise- Psalm 139:13-16

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

We All have Tremendous Value as expressed through the wonder of our Creation. Our value is determined by what someone is willing to give for us. Jesus died and exchanged His life for ours.

B) Each Person has a Unique Purpose and Destiny as Demonstrated by the Wonder of Creation. Every Person needs to find their Identity from the Lord and NOT what others say. The Miracle of Genesis and our Creation should inspire us to see our special design and rejoice in it each day.

C) The Miracle of Life is Beyond Comprehension. Let's Stop and Ponder The Works of the Lord....

Each Eye Contains 107 Million Cells that are highly Specialized to receive color and distinguish light

Every Year the Body Replaces 90% of all of its cells

There are 10 to the 28th power atoms in each human body.....more than the stars in the known galaxy.

Every 5 Years All the Atoms in the Body are Replaced

Every Human Brain has the capacity to store all of the knowledge and information generated by Humanity from the Beginning

There is NO end to the wonders of Life

D) Scientists have discovered the Mechanism that leads to aging. Each Cell is equipped with a tiny clock or "telomere" that keeps track of time. Mankind was Originally designed to live forever, but sin has broken fellowship with God and started the clock "ticking". Only the Lord can stop time and give Mankind Eternal Life.

II Every One of Us Needs to Return to Examining the Miracle of Life and Celebrating Our Special Creation by God

A) When We Know Our Special Identity is a Creative Miracle from the Lord.....It Empowers Us. We have the strength and power to overcome the trials and messages the World Sends to us. We overcome "low self-esteem" and every spirit that seeks to diminish who we are in life.

B) Celebrate Life....Celebrate the Lord and His Amazing Creation of Life that Begins on the Third Day in Genesis

1 Praise the LORD. {[1] Hebrew Hallelu Yah; also in verse 6} Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. 2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. 3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, 4 praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, 5 praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. 6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD

School of the Bible-Genesis Program #8

I The Great Miracle of Genesis 1....Life First Begins on the Third Day-Genesis 1:11-13

11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening, and there was morning-- the third day.

## A) Centrality and Significance of the Third Day In The Bible

We see the Third Day as THE day when life first emerges and begins to grow. Plants and trees emerge as well as the fruit and produce they produce. This is exciting because this is the same day Biblically that the Lord Jesus Christ rose again from the dead. The Third Day becomes connected to life, fruitfulness and new beginnings here in Genesis 1. Our Lord, as the God of Genesis 1 enters into the story Himself through the Resurrection. Our Lord's new life and fruitfulness is given to us as a gift as we enter into His New Genesis for our lives.

Our Lord uses this Biblical idiom "The Third Day" over and over again to remind us of its' significance to Scripture....starting in Genesis 1. In many passages such as Matthew 16:21 we hear our Lord bringing focus on this truth....

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

## B) The Entire Christian Life is Hidden in the 1st Chapter of Genesis. This Wonderful Truth Helps Us To See God's Great Plan and the Inspiration of Scripture.

The Lord sends the Spirit into the chaos of our lives to bring light. Once we receive light we begin to separate ourselves from the darkness of the fallen world we live. We start to make new and spiritually good choices and decisions that separate us from the world and its thinking. Eventually as we grow in our new faith we seek to be baptized and identify with the Lord Himself in His own death, burial and resurrection. As we come out of the waters of baptism, new life emerges and we begin to bear fruit....fruit that will last.

## C) The Biblical Concept of Separation From Darkness to the Light. This Concept is Referred to as Sanctification. We are Set Apart to God's Purposes as Part of the New Genesis. This is also Called Holiness.

The Bible teaches that we leave Adam behind once we enter the New Genesis. We leave behind his sin and death and join ourselves to the New Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ and start a new life with Him forever. This entire message is contained in Genesis 1 and often missed by most people.

## D) The Resurrection Drama of Our Lord is Directly Tied to the Concept of a Biblical Day in Genesis 1

Genesis 1 teaches us that each new day starts in the evening and finishes in the morning. That is why we hear the phrase in Genesis 1, "There was evening and morning the first day" etc. Genesis 1 teaches us that each day starts in darkness and ends in light. This is why the Lord Jesus was buried just as evening fell. Our Lord enters into the story of Genesis 1 as the Lord of all days and time. He rises from the dead and is revealed to the world in the morning. His resurrection is the first new day of the New Genesis when Creation is renewed forever more.

When our lives are united to the Lord through the Cross, we are able to see how our sin is dealt with. We then rise and begin a new morning with the Lord that will never end. Every Christian is a Genesis miracle of God's Creative Work.

## II. The Third Day Principle As It Applies to the Christian Life of Discipleship.

### A) The Lord Always Takes His People to the Third Day. We are Third Day People!

As Christians we come to our Lord Jesus in faith and as we are united to Him, we rise out of the waters and stand on dry, solid ground and bear fruit. This is why our Lord spoke of this issue to His Disciples in John 15:5-8. This is the New Genesis at Work Today!!!

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

### B) The Third Day Principle Always Leads to Fruit Bearing.....This is THE Mark of a True Christian

The Apostle Paul ties all of our character formation and the spiritual fruit of our lives to this truth in Galatians 5:19-23. We leave behind the old life in Adam from Genesis with its sins and darkness and enter a New Life with our Lord that is full of fruit of the Spirit

19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

## School of the Bible-Genesis Program #9

### I. The Fourth Day of Creation-Genesis 1:14-19

14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. 16 God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, 18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening, and there was morning--the fourth day.

A) The Fourth Day Tells the Story of How Light from the 1st Day Enters Into Creation. This Happens through the Creation of the Sun, the Moon and the Stars

The Greater Light is the Sun.....The Sun Rules the Day

The Lesser Light is the Moon.....The Moon Rules the Night

The Relationship Between These Two Celestial Bodies Lays an Important Foundation For Light Coming into the World through the Lord and His People.

B) Biblical Numerology is a Key to Understanding God's Revelation. The Number 4 , for the 4th Day, is Connected to Rule and Reign. This Numerology is Confirmed in the 4th Day Regarding the Ruling Bodies of the Sun and the Moon.

C) We See Rule and Reign Connected to these Celestial Bodies Through the Life of Joseph in Genesis 37:9.

9 Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."

Ultimately the Story of Joseph is a Story of the Greater Joseph, the Lord Jesus Christ. This Dream was a Prophecy of the Lordship of Jesus Ruling and Reigning over Israel and the World.

D) The Relationship of the Sun and Moon Teach Us About The Lord's Rule and Reign Through His People

The Sun is the Lord of Glory, the Source of All Things and the Light of the World

The Moon is the People of God, Who do not Create Light, but only Reflect Light into the Darkness of the World

Example: We See this Relationship Taught in John 1:6-9. John the Baptist is a Picture of the People of God or the Moon that Reflects the Light of the Sun. The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is the True Sun(Son).....the God of Genesis 1

6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. {[9] Or This was the true light that gives light to every man who comes into the world}

E) Connecting These Various Themes From Genesis to Other Books of the Bible Unveils the True Inspiration of Scripture. It is Impossible for all of these Themes to be Connected without a Connector. The Holy Spirit Connects All of These Truths into One Common Thread of Divine Revelation and Purpose. We Should be Excited To Study and Learn These Things to Build Our Faith and Increase our Light or Witness into the World.

F) Numerology is Tied To Cosmology. Just as the #4 is Tied to Rule and Reign of the Sun and Moon, We also see this in the Lunar Cycles and their Relationship to the Sun. There are 12 Lunar Cycles for Each Solar Cycle. This 12 to 1 Relationship Teaches us that the Moon is Connected to the People of God through the 12 Tribes of Israel and 12 Apostles. The Lord's People Reflect God's Light and are a part of Ruling with the Lord as the Scriptures Teach in Revelation 20:6....

Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

II. The World Tries To Block the Light of God's Rule and Reign into the World.... Just as the Earth Blocks the Moon From Reflecting the Light of the Sun Each Month.

A) Every Christian's Witness is Affected by How the World Influences Them. Sometimes the World Gets in our Way of Truly Reflecting the Light of the Lord to Others. Like the Lunar Cycles of Waxing and Waning, It is Possible That Christians Will Grow Brighter or Dimmer Depending on The Strength of their Relationship the Lord.

B) The Sun and the Moon Also Teach Us About Seasons of Time and Life. All Seasons of Life Have Some Witness and Fulfillment in the Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord Jesus Died in the Season of Spring When the Moon Was Full.

C) The Lord's People Need to Be Sensitive to Discerning These Seasons of Life and Knowing What the Lord is Saying to Them

D) Every Christian Should See the Seasons of Life as Something from the Hand of the Lord that Serves to be a Witness to us Regarding the Lord's Purpose for us in Life

### School of the Bible-Genesis Program #10

#### I. The Culmination of the Creation Story in Genesis 1

##### A) The Creation of Mankind in God's Image in Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, [26] Hebrew; Syriac all the wild animals}and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

B) The story of the Creation of Mankind takes us back to Genesis 1:1, where we find that God's plurality "Elohim" is also now an "us" here in Genesis 1:26.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, {[26] Hebrew; Syriac all the wild animals}and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

C) We learn here again that God is a plurality. We realize that this is an early revelation of God's Triune Nature of 3 in 1 that will culminate in Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

D) Everything in Creation is a reflection of God's Image, most wonderfully seen in Mankind. Mankind is THE Image of God and is seen in many ways such as the fact that Man is Body, Soul and Spirit. Man is not God, but Man is created in God's triune Image. This gives Mankind tremendous dignity and value.

II. God's First Commandment to Mankind is Given in Genesis 1:28. This Command is a Commandment of Blessing and is NOT Primarily Legal in Nature. This Sets the Stage for Understanding God's True Heart Toward Man. The Lord is Interested in Fellowship and Fruitfulness, not just Legalism alone.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

A) The Book of Genesis Lays the Foundation for God's Desire for Man to be Fruitful and Increase in all Areas of Life...

Mankind can be fruitful in so many ways to reflect the Lord in the world. Our character and behavior reflect the Lord's moral image. We reflect the fruit of the Spirit that God Himself carries such as "love, peace, joy etc." as found in Galatians 5:22.

B) The Christian Life is really an outgrowth of the Lord's desire for us to be "fruitful and multiply or increase our lives for His glory". Our Lord Jesus says the same thing in John 15:8, "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples". When a person is in fellowship with the Lord and fulfilling their original purpose in Genesis, they will be fruitful and increase the things the Lord has given them.

III. Mankind's Greatest Period of Fruitfulness Will Take Place In the Future After the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ

A) The Lord is working to restore the Original purposes in Genesis for Mankind to be "fruitful and multiply". The Lord is working to recreate the world following the world's fall into sin. The Lord's purposes today always follow the pattern outlined in Genesis. This is why the Genesis is so important to study because it is a book that covers not just the past.....but the future as well!

B) The New Genesis of God's Redeeming Love in Jesus Will Restore the World to Unbelievable Fruitfulness.

We need to see how amazing the future will be for the world when sin is gone

C) Mankind is Desperately Looking For Our Lost Purpose in Genesis to be "Fruitful and Multiply". When Mankind Finds that Purpose in Fellowship with the Lord, He Will be at Peace and No Longer Seeking to find His Identity and/or Value from the World.

#### IV. Mankind Is Given Authority to Rule and Reign over Creation from the Beginning in Genesis.

A). Mankind is Chosen to Rule and Reign over the Earth. This fact shows the value assigned to man by God. Mankind is special and not just another part of the world, like some might teach today.

B) Because of Sin, Mankind Lost the Power, Ability and Right to Rule the World. This created a need for a "New Man" to come and fulfill what had been lost. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the "New Man" that came into this fallen world to restore the Creation in Genesis. Our Lord has been given authority in heaven because He is God and authority on earth because He is also Man. This truth is wonderfully given in Matthew 28:18

#### V. Mankind Will One Day Fulfill the Original Purpose in Genesis to Rule and Reign with the Lord of all Creation

A) Mankind will join our Savior, "The New Man" , Who is also God, to establish the Kingdom of God on earth according to Revelation 20:6

Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

B) Genesis 1 and all the Original Purposes of God will be Fulfilled One Day. This truth should lead all of us to have faith for the future because.....THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

#### School of the Bible-Genesis Program #11

##### I. The Creation of Mankind in Genesis is the Crowning Jewel of the Creation Story.

A) Mankind is Designed to be Fruitful and Multiply or Increase For the Glory of God

ex: We see this purpose in some ways through modern technology. A farmer today can produce the food of 1000 farmers a hundred year ago through modern machinery, herbicides and genetically hybridized seeds. This is but a glimpse of God's ultimate goal for Mankind in Genesis

B) Mankind was Created To be Stewards of the Creation and to Increase Its Produce for the Owner. One Day We Must Return the Creation to the Lord.

ex. This truth is seen in the Jubilee Year that is Discussed in Leviticus 25. In the Jubilee Year, all the Land returns to the Original Owner, Who is Ultimately the Lord. One day each of us will give an account of our stewardship over the Lord's affairs. The Lord Jesus spoke of this principle in Matthew 25:14-30.

## II. God's Image is Wonderfully Reflected in Mankind, Both Male and Female, According to Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

A) Understanding God's Image Dignifies Both Male and Female. Men and Women are Created with Equal Dignity from the Beginning. This is Important because the Male/Female relationship is at the heart of the family and our society. When Men and Women are in Conflict, Major Problems Result that Destroy the Family and Society in which we live.

B) The Bible Teaches that Order and Sequence Do Not Change Value. Rather, Men and Woman have different purposes, but the same value since both are needed to reflect God's Image.

C) We see this Biblical Principle with the Lord Himself. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all ONE, yet each has a different purpose and order of revelation. One is NOT more important than the other. Each Person of the Godhead is EQUAL, yet they are all DIFFERENT. What is true with the Lord Himself is true of the Creation and His Image in the world through Mankind.

ex. Look at anything in life and you find this principle of "equal but different". It is a reflection of the Lord's unity and diversity for all things in the world. Take a farmer sowing a seed. Every step of the process from planting to harvest is different, yet equally important. If any link is broken it all fails.

D) The World Distorts This Truth of Biblical Revelation. The world places more value on some things than others. Some people or races are seen as more important than others. This is a result of sin. When Some People Receive More Value In any Society You Create Conflict.

E) The Truth of Genesis Restores the values and purposes of everything in the Created order. Everything Has a Value, but also a Place and Purpose.

## III The Beauty of the Differences Between Men and Woman and How They Reflect and Compliment God's Image in the World.

A) Men Initiate, Women Respond in a Traditional Marriage. The Man proposes the Woman accepts. This process doesn't place either sex in a position of greater value or importance. They are just different!

B) The Issues of Men and Women are seen and Reflected in the Lord Himself. The Father initiates to send the Son to die for the world's sin. The Holy Spirit is sent to apply the work of the Son and the Father. All are equally important, but different. A woman suffers for her children's birth, not the father, yet both are of equal value. So too, the Son dies for our sins, not the Father. This principle of "equal but different" is a foundational principle of God's Image in the world.

C) When We Understand God's Image in our Lives We Receive Our True Dignity and Purpose. When Mankind Understands this Image and Purpose We Find Peace in our Lives and Do NOT vainly seek it from the World. Life becomes fruitful and we joyfully multiply and increase it to the glory of God.

## School of the Bible-Genesis Program #12

### I. Creation Reflects God's Image into the Word-Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, {[26] Hebrew; Syriac all the wild animals}and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

A) Creation Reflects Diversity and Unity. This Diversity and Unity is a Picture of the 3 in 1 Lord of Creation. We Need to Value All Diversity as Long as It Reflects the True Unity that comes from the Lord. No Part of Creation is Unimportant to the Lord. The Same Should be True for us. Men, Women, All Races, Children.....All are Equally Valuable Though Different in Purpose and Function.

Example: Sequence, Order and Value is Wonderfully Demonstrated Through Starting a Car. Everything from the key to the ignition switch is needed to running the car. Each part of the car is used at different times in the sequence and order of operating the car, but all are needed and of equal value. This is a pattern of how the Lord operates everything as a reflection of His Image.

B) Conflict and Confusion in Society are often Connected to Battles over Equality and Value. We see this in the Courts today. Everyone seems to be fighting for justice regarding the value of each person. This is a result of sin.

C) God's Triune Image of Diversity But Equality Is the Model for the Creation to Use In Bringing Truth and Justice to Life.

D) The Church is a Wonderful Picture of God's Image on Earth. The Apostle Paul spoke of this Diversity and Unity of His Image in the Body of Christ from I Corinthians 12.

E) The Image of God will be Restored in the Creation When Our Lord Jesus Christ Returns.

## II. Genesis Lays The Foundation of Redemption Through the Issues Surrounding Eating in Genesis 1:29-30

29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground--everything that has the breath of life in it--I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

A) Mankind was Designed to Live as Vegetarians. Death and Sin Had Not Yet Entered the Creation. The Shedding of Blood for Meat was a concept later introduced as a result of sin to give Mankind a Picture of Redemption through the Cross.

B) The Eating of Meat Teaches Us About Redemption. Something Had to Die for Us to Live. This Biblical Truth Surrounds Every Meal We Eat That Contains Meat. Every Meal Teaches About the Love Story of Shed Blood for our Sins. Millions of Animals Die Each Day As a Witness to the Lord's Love for the Creation. All Sacrifice Point Us To Calvary and the Shed Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

C) One Day Death Will No Longer Be a Part of Creation. A Day Will Come When No More Blood Will be Shed from Mankind or Animals. A Picture of this is Seen in Isaiah 11:6-9, which describes the Reign of the Lord Jesus Christ over the World as the New Adam.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling {[6] Hebrew; Septuagint lion will feed}together; and a little child will lead them. 7 The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. 9 They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

III. The Concept of Sacrificial Love Is the Foundation of the Love People Have For One Another in This Life. The Drama of Redemption and Shed Blood is Seen Everywhere Today From the Battlefield to the Delivery Room.

Example: Story of the Mother Reaching into the Jaws of a Lion to Save Her Son. The Lord Reaches into the jaws of Death for us to Rescue Us from the Power of Sin by Sending the Lord Jesus into the World.

School of the Bible-Genesis Program #13

I. The Creation Story of God's Work in Genesis 1 Leads Us To Rest or Sabbath in Genesis 2:1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested {[2] Or ceased; also in verse 3}from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

A) The World Under the Power of Sin Knows Little of Rest.....Only Work and Busyness.

Example: Society has turned to a 24/7 Culture of Work and Labor. People Define their Lives by their Labors. The Lord and the Sabbath Rest of Creation are Foreign Concepts to our Modern World.

B) Genesis 2 is the 1st Place in the Bible where the Concept of Rest is Discussed. This Will Be Key for us to Understand the Meaning of Redemption and the Finished Work of the Cross

C) The Word "Rested" or "Ceased" in Genesis 2:2 is the Hebrew Word from which we get our word "Sabbath". Rest or Sabbath is Something that Begins with the Lord Himself.

D) Rest is Created for a Purpose. We Need Rest to Have Time For Fellowship with the Lord. Hence, We See the Sabbath Rest as the Place where the Purpose of Our Creation is Realized....Fellowship with the Lord. When Mankind is "Busy" with Other Things There is No Time For Fellowship with the Lord. Sabbath is the weekly Reminder of this Great Purpose and Goal of our Creation.

E) Most People Find Their Identity in Work and What They Do.....and Not the Lord Alone. This Creates a World System of "works" and not "grace". God's Rest or Grace is a Foreign Concept to People.

F) Christian Work or Service Is ONLY a Response to Having Our Value and Identity Freely Given by the Lord. Our Service as Christians NEVER Establishes Our Identity.

II The Book of Genesis Lays the Foundational Truth That God is the Worker and Mankind the Beneficiary. God Works So We Can Rest.

A) The Pattern of Work Followed By Rest in Genesis 2 Deals with Creation. This Lays a Pattern for our Future Understanding of Redemption.

B) Ultimately Redemption is a True Work of God for Our Benefit. God Worked Hard to Redeem Us So We Can Rest.

Example: The Ultimate Picture of this is the Ministry of our Lord Jesus. Our Lord's Ministry through the Cross was "His Work" so we could Rest and enter into the Sabbath Rest of the New Genesis of Redemption. We see this is John 17:3-5....

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

C) Jesus' Finished Work on the Cross for our Benefit Was Symbolized By His Being Seated or Resting. The Apostle Paul Speaks of this Rest in Ephesians 1:18-21....

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, 20 which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

D) When We Understand our Lord Jesus' Rest Following His Work for Us.....We are able to Rest as well when we are in Fellowship with Him. The Lord Jesus Worked So We Could Rest in Him and Experience a New Genesis or Beginning in this Life. Once again the Apostle Paul Speaks of this in Ephesians 2:6...

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus

### III. Only the Lord Can Bring Us Rest or Sabbath to Our Lives.

A) Multitudes of People are Exhausted and Stressed Out. People's Lives are Being Destroyed by Stress Everyone is Looking for Relief and Rest, But Cannot Find It in Themselves or the World.

B) Genesis Rest or Sabbath is Not Just an Idea .....Ultimately Rest is a Person. We Find Our Rest in Relationship with the Lord Jesus. Our Lord Jesus Invites All to Come to Him and Find Rest. Matthew 11:28-30 tells us....

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

C) Sabbath Rest Is a Relationship with the Lord That Can Take Place Every Day.....Not Just on the Sabbath Day. We Need to Look to the Lord to Find that Rest Each Day.

D) Finally, We Need To Remember that our Christian Service is an "Easy Yoke and a Light Burden" .....Born out of Love for our Lord Alone. When Christians Become Bitter or Burdened by Service They Have Not Entered the Rest of Genesis that is Fulfilled by our Lord.

#### School of the Bible, Genesis Program #14

I. The Old and New Testaments Give a United Witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This is no Disunity in Scripture.

#### II. The Structure of Genesis 1-2:3

The Biblical purpose of the 1st Creation Story in Genesis 1-2:3 is to provide a succinct literary unit that contains the entire work of Creation. This allows the reader to see the Lord's "Big Picture" in a short time. The Creation Story in Genesis 1 centers on the Sabbath as the culmination of God's work. Sabbath becomes the focus of Creation and Redemption.... a time when God and Man will live in fellowship together.

#### III. The Structure of Genesis 2.....The "Second" Creation Story

Genesis 2 provides us with a "second" story of Creation. However, the Lord's purpose is not to contradict Genesis 1. Rather, the reason for Genesis 2 is to focus on the center of God's purposes in Creation, namely the relationship between God and Man. Therefore, Genesis 2 gives us fuller detail about Man and his specific details of Creation.

A) We notice in the early verses of Genesis 2:4-7 that no rain has fallen. The world is watered and life is sustained from a hidden source in the deep

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens-- 5 and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth {[5] Or land; also in verse 6}and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth {[5] Or land; also in verse 6}and there was no man to work the ground, 6 but streams {[6] Or mist}came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground..

B) We see that water is a picture of the Lord's provision. The Lord is the One Who gives all life to the Creation, including Man. The fact that no rain has fallen is because we have no sin in Genesis 2 yet. Rain will 1st appear later in Genesis during the story of Noah and the Flood. For now God and Man are in harmony together.

C) The concept of water flowing through the Garden is repeated in Revelation 22. The Lord tells us at the close of Biblical revelation that Creation has been restored from sin. The Creation returns to a Garden, flowing water and rest or Shabbat. Revelation 22:1-5 states...

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

#### IV. The Creation of Adam In Genesis 2:7

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.

A) The name Adam is chosen by the Lord because it is related to what Adam means in Hebrew. The Hebrew word for ground is "adamah". The Lord wants to remind Adam and his descendants that they are nothing more than dirt or ground without the Lord. This is a way for the Lord to work humility into the human condition. This also relates to the Latin word for soil "humus" is where we get our word "humility". The Lord wants Man

to be humble, lest he seeks to leave fellowship and become a "god" unto himself.

B) Modern science has shown that the chemical composition of the human body is close to that of typical soil found in the earth. This is an exciting connection to the Genesis account of Man's creation.

C) Adam is introduced as the 1st character of Creation out of the ground as an early picture of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our Savior would also come out of the ground as the Savior of the world through His glorious resurrection on the 3rd day. The Lord Jesus would one day come as the New Adam, Who comes to restore the world back to sinless beauty of the Genesis. This relationship between the Two Adams is given by the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 15:45-49...

45 So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being" {[45] Gen. 2:7}; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. 46 The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. 47 The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. 48 As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. 49 And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

B) The Two Adams also contain the Two Images of God. God originally created Man in His Image (Genesis 1:26). We see in the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ that this desire to restore the Image of God remains. The Bible tells us in Romans 8:29 that the Lord desires us to be "conformed to the Image of His Son". This is a return to the original intention for Adam...now in the New Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ.

C) The Christian Life flows out of focusing on the Lord Jesus Christ and having the Holy Spirit shape us back into the Image of the New Adam to fulfill our original intention in Genesis. The Apostle Paul speaks well of this goal and purpose in II Corinthians 3:17-18...

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect {[18] Or contemplate} the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

## V. The New Genesis of Adam's Creation Story is Found in the New Testament

The exciting thing about our story in Genesis 2 is how the Lord repeats it in the New Testament. The Lord Jesus meets the disciples in His post resurrection appearance in John 20 and "breathes" on them through the sending of the Holy Spirit. This pattern is connected to Genesis 2 and shows us that the Lord Jesus Christ is the God, Who breathed

on Adam in the Garden to give him life. Our Lord is giving life eternal to the disciples and commissioning them to share the life giving Gospel with the world. The passage in John 20 helps to confirm our Lord's Divinity as well as His humanity. Our Lord is the New Man or Adam out of the ground or resurrected that also sends life as the Creator to His people. John 20:21-23 shows us this...

21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."  
22 And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

VI. Life Has Meaning and Purpose. The Lord's Original Intention of Creation is Maintained as we are Conformed to His Image Again and Forever