

LESSON 9: CREATION: GENESIS AS FOUNDATION, PART 2

GENESIS & CREATION

THE BOOK OF GENESIS, WRITTEN BY MOSES, INSPIRED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, HAS SOMETIMES BEEN CALLED THE "SEED-PLOT" OF THE ENTIRE BIBLE.

- MOST OF THE MAJOR DOCTRINES IN THE BIBLE ARE INTRODUCED IN "SEED" FORM IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS. ALONG WITH THE FALL OF MAN, GOD'S PROMISE OF SALVATION/REDEMPTION IS RECORDED (**GENESIS 3:15**).

- THE DOCTRINES OF CREATION, IMPUTATION OF SIN, JUSTIFICATION, ATONEMENT, DEPRAVITY, WRATH, GRACE, SOVEREIGNTY, RESPONSIBILITY, AND MANY MORE ARE ALL ADDRESSED IN THIS **BOOK OF ORIGINS (BEGINNINGS) CALLED GENESIS.**

- **"IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS & THE EARTH."** THIS IS THE FOUNDATION FACT OF THE BIBLE. IN 6 DAYS, GOD BROUGHT INTO EXISTENCE ALL THAT WE KNOW OF THE PHYSICAL UNIVERSE.

- **GENESIS 1:1**, REFERS TO THE DATELESS PAST WHEN GOD BROUGHT THE UNIVERSE INTO EXISTENCE OUT OF NOTHING BUT DIVINE WORD & WILLFUL ACT. HE SPOKE ALL CREATION INTO EXISTENCE, FURNISHED IT, & FINALLY BREATHED LIFE INTO A LUMP OF DIRT, WHICH HE FASHIONED IN HIS IMAGE TO BECOME ADAM, (TAKEN OUT OF THE GROUND).

- THERE'S A PATTERN TO GOD'S MAJESTIC ACTIVITIES DURING CREATION WEEK. HE "FORMED" & THEN "FILLED." HE MADE 3 SPHERES OF ACTIVITY. THE HEAVENS, LANDMASSES, & THE WATERS. HE THEN FILLED THEM WITH APPROPRIATE LIFE.

- THE BOOK OF GENESIS BEGINS WITH 3 DIFFERENT ACCOUNTS OF 1 CREATION.

1. **CHPT. 1:1,2** - THE SUM OF WHOLE CREATION.

2. **CHPT. 1:3-2:3** - 7 DAYS OF CREATION.

3. **CHPT. 2:4-25** - THE CREATION OF MAN.

GENESIS 1&2 IS AN EXPANDING SUMMATION OF THE SAME OCCASION, CREATION BY GOD!!

THE OVERRIDING THEME OF GENESIS IS GOD'S ETERNAL EXISTENCE AND HIS CREATION OF THE WORLD.

- **THERE IS NO EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE AUTHOR TO DEFEND THE EXISTENCE OF GOD; HE SIMPLY STATES THAT GOD IS, ALWAYS WAS, AND ALWAYS WILL BE, ALMIGHTY OVER ALL. IN THE SAME WAY, WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE TRUTHS OF GENESIS.**

- **ALL PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF CULTURE, NATIONALITY OR LANGUAGE, ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE CREATOR.**

SATURDAY 5/23/20 - NATURALISM, EVOLUTION, DARWINISM

NATURALISM IS THE BELIEF THAT ALL THAT EXISTS IN THE UNIVERSE IS PHYSICAL, MATERIAL MATTER. THERE IS NO SOUL; WE ARE JUST A COMPLEX COLLECTION OF NEURONS. **THERE IS NO CREATOR; THERE IS EVOLUTION.** SINCE NATURALISM TEACHES THERE IS NO HIGHER AUTHORITY (NO DEITY), IT DEDUCES THAT MANKIND, CREATION, AND INDIVIDUALS HAVE NO PURPOSE IN LIFE.

- **NATURALISTS BELIEVE THAT EVOLUTION EXPLAINS HOW LIFE ON EARTH CAME TO BE WITHOUT THE WORK OF A SUPERNATURAL ELEMENT.**

- A KEY FACTOR IN THE STATE OF THE CREATION VS. EVOLUTION DEBATE IS THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF SCIENTISTS WHO BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION ARE ALSO **ATHEISTS (DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD)** OR **AGNOSTICS (DON'T BELIEVE OR DISBELIEVE IN GOD, GOD CAN NOT BE KNOWN).** **EVOLUTIONARY SCIENTISTS HOLD THAT LIFE EVOLVED ENTIRELY WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF A HIGHER BEING.**

- **ALTHOUGH BELIEF IN SOME FORM OF EVOLUTION PREDATES CHARLES DARWIN, HE WAS THE FIRST TO DEVELOP A PLAUSIBLE, NATURAL SOURCE FOR THE PROCESS OF EVOLUTION, AKA NATURAL SELECTION, (AN ORGANISM BETTER ADAPTS (EVOLVES) TO THEIR ENVIRONMENT TO SURVIVE & REPRODUCE).** DARWIN ONCE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A CHRISTIAN, BUT, AS A RESULT OF SOME TRAGEDIES THAT TOOK PLACE IN HIS LIFE, HE LATER RENOUNCED THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND THE EXISTENCE OF GOD.

- **DAY 5 - GOD MAKES EVERY CREATURE OF THE WATER, AND IN THE AIR. EACH CREATURE, WHETHER "FISH" OR "FOWL" IS CREATED MATURE, FULL-GROWN.** THIS IS THE ANSWER TO THE OLD QUESTION: WHICH CAME FIRST, THE CHICKEN OR THE EGG? THE CHICKEN. EACH ANIMAL, WHETHER IN THE WATER OR IN THE AIR, REPRODUCES AFTER

ITS OWN KIND; THERE IS NO GRADUAL CHANGE FROM ONE KIND TO ANOTHER. THE WATER CREATURES AND THE CREATURES OF THE AIR ARE TO REPRODUCE. **THAT IS THE INSTRUCTION OF GOD. THERE IS NO SUGGESTION OF EVOLUTION.**

- **DAY 6** - GOD MAKES EVERY CREATURE OF THE LAND, INCLUDING AND CULMINATING IN MAN. EACH CREATURE IS **CREATED MATURE, FULL-GROWN**. EACH CREATURE REPRODUCES AFTER ITS OWN KIND; **THERE IS NO GRADUAL CHANGE FROM ONE KIND TO ANOTHER KIND**. EVERY INSECT, EVERY ANIMAL THAT GRAZES, EVERY PREDATOR, AND EVERY SCAVENGER IS CREATED BY GOD. **WE ARE NOT THE PRODUCT OF A GALACTIC ACCIDENT.**

TAKE AWAY: NATURALISM VS GENESIS

1. THE BIBLE IS CLEAR: GOD IS THE CREATOR. ANY INTERPRETATION OF SCIENCE THAT ATTEMPTS TO REMOVE GOD FROM INVOLVEMENT WITH ORIGINS IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH SCRIPTURE.

MONDAY 5/25/20 - ANCIENT LITERATURE/CULTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT IS TRUE!

- **ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROOFS SHOW THAT THE OLD TESTAMENT IS BOTH HISTORICALLY AND SOCIALLY ACCURATE.**

- A LETTER FROM THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE ENTITLED, **THE BIBLE AS HISTORY**, STATES: **"ON THE OTHER HAND, MUCH OF THE BIBLE, IN PARTICULAR THE HISTORICAL BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, ARE AS ACCURATE HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AS ANY THAT WE HAVE FROM ANTIQUITY AND ARE IN FACT MORE ACCURATE THAN MANY OF THE EGYPTIAN, MESOPOTAMIAN, OR GREEK HISTORIES.**

- **THESE BIBLICAL DOCUMENTS CAN BE AND ARE USED AS ARE OTHER ANCIENT DOCUMENTS IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK."** THERE IS NO ONE FACT THAT CAN BE SHOWN TO BE INCORRECT SCIENTIFICALLY OR HISTORICALLY WITHIN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

TAKE AWAY: ANCIENT LITERATURE/CULTURE

1. THE GENESIS ACCOUNT OF CREATION WAS NOT BORROWED FROM ANY ANCIENT CULTURE.

TUESDAY 5/26/20 - PAGANISM

PAGANISM CAN REFER TO POLYTHEISM OR THE WORSHIP OF MORE THAN ONE GOD, SUCH AS IN ANCIENT ROME. A PAGAN IS ALSO CONSIDERED TO BE ONE WHO, FOR THE MOST PART, HAS NO RELIGION AND INDULGES IN WORLDLY DELIGHTS AND MATERIAL POSSESSIONS; SOMEONE WHO REVELS IN SENSUAL PLEASURES; A HEDONISTIC OR SELF-INDULGENT INDIVIDUAL.

- **ANY FORM OF PAGANISM IS FALSE DOCTRINE.**

- **GOD TO MOSES, EXO.34:14**, "YOU MUST WORSHIP NO OTHER GODS, FOR THE LORD, WHOSE VERY NAME IS JEALOUS, IS A GOD WHO IS JEALOUS ABOUT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU.

- IN SPITE OF COMMON ASSUMPTIONS, MOST PAGAN WORSHIPPERS CLAIM THEY DON'T BELIEVE IN SATAN. **HOWEVER, THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT SATAN IS THEIR CHIEF SOURCE OF INFLUENCE AND CONTROL. THEY DEIFY HIM IN THEIR WORLDLY AND SENSUAL PRACTICES.**

TAKE AWAY: PAGANISM

1. TO THE FAITHFUL BELIEVERS WHO KNOW THE LORD, PAGAN WORSHIP IS WHAT IT APPEARS TO BE—THE POWER AND DECEIT OF THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD, SATAN (1 JOHN 5:19), WHO "PROWLs AROUND LIKE A ROARING LION LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO DEVOUR" (1 PETER 5:8).

2. THE GENESIS ACCOUNT OF CREATION IS THE ANTITHESIS OF PAGANISM.