

Genesis 1:1-13

The Beginning of the Beginning (Part 1)

- I. Introduction:** What we are going to learn in this study in examining the text of scripture.
- A. You are going to learn the Bible is completely **accurate** & **reliable** regarding creation.
 - B. You are going to learn why it is important for Christians to hold to a 6-day literal creation rather than a gap theory or day-age theory that many Christian colleges teach.
 - C. You are going to learn why evolution **violates** some very basic principles that the Bible teaches, and why we must believe the world was created in six, 24 hour days.
 - D. Because of evolution naturalism is the most dominant religion in the Western world.
 - 1. **Naturalism** – “the view that every law and every force operating in the universe is natural rather than moral, spiritual, or supernatural.” (MacArthur, *BFB*, p 11)
 - E. Why is it important for Christians to reject any form of evolution?
 - F. Why should we reject the day age theory?
 - 1. The problem with this view is it nowhere says or indicates there are “ages”
 - 2. It causes problems in the creation order – plants (day 3), light (day 4), insects (6).
 - G. What is the most important book in the entire Bible? Genesis is arguably the most important book of the Bible: It is the **foundation** for all the other books, because the rest of the Bible wouldn’t make sense without it.
 - 1. The NT reveals man’s redemption and Genesis reveals man’s need for redemption
 - H. Genesis means **Origin** – Origin of the universe; Origin of order & complexity; Origin of Solar System; Origin of atmosphere & hydrosphere; Origin of Life; Origin of Man; Origin of Marriage; Origin of Evil; Origin of Language; Origin of Government; Origin of Culture; Origin of Nations; Origin of Religion; Origin of a Chosen People.
- II.** What is the most important verse in the Bible? Perhaps **Genesis 1:1**
- A. **Gen. 1:1** “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”
 - B. This one verse opposes: atheism, pantheism, polytheism, materialism, dualism, humanism, & evolution
 - C. “**In the beginning**” – God existed at the beginning of time
 - 1. **Psalm 90:2** – “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.”
 - D. “**God**” (*Elohim*) – It is a word which speaks of His power & majesty
 - E. “**Created**” – *bara* = to create (only used for God’s creation)
 - 1. **Romans 4:17** – God “gives life to the dead and *calls those things which do not exist as though they did.*”
 - 2. **Hebrews 11:3** – “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”
 - F. The earth was without form and empty – darkness encompassed it (**v. 2**)
 - 1. The Heb. phrase “*Tohu wa bohu*” – tohu = “**a wasteland**” & wabohu = “**empty**”
 - G. The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters (**v. 2**).
 - H. Day 1 – God created light (**vv. 3-5**).

- III. Conclusion:** God's creation is perfect. It was created perfect & was perfect until sin changed all of that. One day it will all return to the perfect sinless state again (**Rev 21-22**)
- A. We are going to understand that believing Genesis determines your approach to believing the rest of the Bible.
 - B. We are going to understand that believing Genesis is based on fact, logic, & faith – not blind, uninformed faith, or as a crutch.
 - C. We are going to understand that we serve an awesome God who loves us deeply & designed us exactly the way we are.