

## “Jesus our Creator”

## Genesis 1

As we celebrate Jesus Advent we receive Him as God in Flesh

As 2<sup>nd</sup> Member of the Trinity we know He reigns with Father & HS

Jesus is not Named in Genesis but the NT makes clear He is Creator

John 1.1-5, Colossians 1.15-17, Hebrews 1.1-4, Revelation 4.11

### 1. Presentation of the Story

#### a. History Inspired Word of God > ALL Scripture is God-Breathed

REAL PEOPLE and PLACES – Adam & Eve as real as Abraham & Sarah

Garden of Eden – Tigris and Euphrates Rivers – Mesopotamia – Egypt

Author: Moses NO Direct Claim > Gathered Info from Before Birth

Witness OT & Jesus & Apostles > Law of Moses

God builds Stage for drama of History, flourishing of His Followers

God brings order into Chaos and Darkness making his Light and Purpose

Each day begins with Announcement “and God said”

God is the Soloist, the Narrator is the Accompanist

#### b. Humble > Profound Simplicity

Is it scientific? Scientific Dimensions but Not a Scientific Document

Main Subject of Genesis is God, Not the Forces of Nature

200 PAGE BOOK TO DESCRIBE A SINGLE MOLECULE OF VIRUS

Genesis 1 is the most amazing composition in all the world’s literature, using only 76 different word-forms fundamental to all mankind, arranged in a wonderful poetic pattern yet free from any highly colored figures of speech. It provides the perfect opening to God’s book and establishes all that men really need to know of the facts of creation. No man could have written it: it is as great a marvel as a plant or a bird. It is God’s handiwork, sufficient for Hebrew children or Greek thinkers or Latin Christians; for medieval knights or modern scientists or little children; for cottage dwellers or cattle ranchers or deep sea fishermen; for Laplanders or Ethiopians, East or West, rich or poor, old or young, simple or learned...sufficient for all! Only God could have written such a chapter... and he did.

Prof. Frederick A. Filby

#### c. Holy AS PHARAOH OF EGYPT HAD FORGOTTEN JOSEPH

THE ISRAELITES HAD FORGOTTEN THE GOD OF ISRAEL

Hebrews Leaving EGYPT w/ Many gods - Enter CANAAN MORE gods

Moses intro's several million Refugee Slaves > God of the Covenant

GOD Introduced HIMSELF TO MOSES in DESERT - BURNING BUSH

"I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob" ... "I AM WHO I AM."  
Exodus 3.6,14

Self-Existent > Not Used to Be > Gonna Be > Always & Forever God

True God not back in Egypt > won't find One in Canaan > True God

Omnipresent - Everywhere at Once // Omniscient – Knows Everything

Omnipotent: All Powerful/ Infinite: Unlimitable/ Immutable: Never Chang

“God did not just create in past; he is the Creator: past, present, & future”

## 2. Person in the Story

a. **Mysterious** 1 In the beginning God: Eternal, Self-Existent, Not Lonely

v 2 earth without form & void, darkness > No Place for Mankind

Dependent Creatures: NEED Air, Light, Heat, Land, Water, Food, Gravity

NOT Trying Answer all Questions > Encourages us Ask, Explore, Develop

b. **Mighty** God's WORLD MADE BY THE SPOKEN WORD OF GOD

v. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Creation “Ex Nihilo” Latin = FROM NOTHING – Naked Word of God

No bits from Sunshine Hardw, Thrift Store Finds – Not Even DUCT TAPE

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic

Psalm 29.3,4

c. **Methodical** God of Purpose / 6 Days of Creation / Not Random Chance

What kind of days these were it is extremely difficult, or perhaps impossible for us to conceive.

Augustine

“The Bible tells us how to go to heaven, not how Heavens go.” Galileo

God does not create in time but with Time.

The week becomes the basic unit of time for all Creation

Six days of Work, One of Rest. God's Logic and Time shapes Creation

Structure of Kingdoms and Kings. Day 1: Separates Light & Darkness Day Two: Sky & Sea //

Day Three: Land & Vegetation

Over Kingdoms are Kings: Over Light & Darkness > Day 4: Sun & Stars

Over Sky & Sea > Day 5: Fowl & Fish

Over Land & Vegetation > Day 6: Man & Beast > Man Lord over All

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. Hebrews 11:3

More Faith Needed to Believe Random CHANCE OCCURRENCE –

Cosmic ACCIDENT: Resulted in such Intricate PURPOSE & DESIGN!?!

d. Moral > GOOD > True, Righteous, Just

v. 12 God saw that it was good. / v. 18 God saw that it was good.

21 God saw it was good. 31 God saw all he had made & it was very good.

Moral TRUTH – some things are good, others are bad – GOD DECIDES

1) Thankful for Creation 2) Delight in it 3) Responsible Stewards of It

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. 1 Timothy 4.4,5

e. Merciful v. 16 He also made the stars.

One of Greatest THROW-AWAY LINES IN ALL of LITERATURE

BIBLE 50 chapters OT tabernacle – only 5 words about Creation of Stars

Moses to Jews > OUT of Polytheistic EGYPT into Polytheistic CANAAN

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Deuteronomy 6.4

1500 years APPROX > After MOSES Someone came and DARED to Say  
Jesus: "I and the Father are one." John 10.30

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. John 1.1-4

### 3. Purpose of the Story

Modern Worldview LOOKS at STRUCTURE – HOW Things Happen

CHURCH > BIG FIGHT over 24 Hour – 6 Days of Creation STORY

Ask BIOLOGY Prof – Why are we here? Why a World? Why Man?

SEND you to PHILOSOPHY Department or PRISON or the LOONY BIN

ANE Structure is Function of Purpose > Most Important Quest – WHY?

Gen 1 FOCUS on WHY – NOT HOW world made but Who & Why

More than 30 X's in Chapter 1 > Name of GOD

#### a. Declare God NOT Defend God – He's Doing Fine w out our HELP

Mauna Kea > GIANT, EXPENSIVE TELESCOPES

Unmatched Vistas into Space: Clear Air, Cloudless Nights, Deep to Space

NOT YET Found END of Space – 100 Billion Stars – Still COUNTING!

science will never be able to raise the curtain on the mystery of creation. For the scientist who has lived by faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he is about to pull himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.

Robert Jastrow – Director of NASA's Goddard Institute

#### b. Derive Hope > Doctrine Creation gives COURAGE in Creator God

RUN from Mighty Egypt: Pharaoh & Armies REPLACED > REVENGE

Judah > Mighty Babylon: "This is what the LORD says-- the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker.. It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens"  
Isaiah 45.11-13

On their release, Peter and John ...reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them...they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. Acts 4.23,24

#### c. Dignity Revealed Man & Woman made in Image of God > Unique

Not that we LOOK like God > He is Spirit > God's Nature, Character

God is not a man > But he's made us humans in his own likeness.

People in His image > God can communicate to us and we to him.

He gave people ears to show He hears our cry, Eyes to show He sees us

God's Image AND Likeness > We are distinct from him.

God rested 7<sup>th</sup> Day > NOT TIRED > Day NO Evening & Morning

More than just a day > State of Glory, Holiness, where God Dwells

By Faith we're Invited into God's Sabbath Rest

Sabbath becomes a picture of communion with God, fellowship with God.

New Testament > Sabbath rest achieved thru Jesus, Lord of Sabbath

God's command "I want you to extend this Garden to ends of the Earth"

God's People / God's Place / God's Rule

wonderful insight of Reformation. implication everything in Earth to enjoy

not need work in church, fulfill God's calling.

He gave world to explore, fill, subdue, enjoy

we speak about people inventing things > but we have no power to create

No scientist is capable of making something out of nothing

we use what God has created: technologists Poets, artists, Architects,

we R capable because God embedded the potential // Vocation = Calling

Johannes Kepler "we scientists are just thinking God's thoughts after him"

we astronomers priests of bk of Nature > read what God has written there

d. Drive Us to God

EVOLUTION – Rests on Weak Scientific base – Great APPEAL – WHY?

MAN Exalted – GOD IS ELIMINATED // Man is Highest Being of All

Want INFINITE CREATOR God to Run LIFE, Can You can do BETTER?

If God a MAN > Ignore him, RUN Away, FORGET him, even KILL him

GOD is NOT Going Anywhere – Never Changes, Tires, Grows OLD

ETERNAL – no beginning, no end – who, is, and is to come

Can be trusted to do as he promised, never changes

Cannot be escaped, does not change His mind, more or die

Reject HIM – WE will find HIS ETERNAL REJECTION OF US

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.  
Psalm 139.7-18

Psalmist > Wonderful Truth because he LOVED and LONGED for GOD

GOD Knows You – Thinks About You – NOTHING HIDDEN from Him

YOU? – Running from GOD – TRUTH strikes Terror! HORRIBLE!

NEVER able RUN FAST Enough – God is Everywhere, Always, Forever

If God were not the Creator, he would be only part of the world process, coming and going, waxing and waning. He could not help us. If he is only a little bigger than we are, if he is only a big brother and nothing more... than there are not standards. There is no absolute. It is every man for himself, anything goes. What may be right today may be wrong tomorrow; so let us get through life as best we can... The Bible does not so speak. It tells us that God has created all things. That is why there is meaning in life, and why there are absolute standards that do not change. God tells us what is right and what is wrong, and why there is meaning in life. That is why you and I who believe in this God can very well say that our chief reason for existence is to glorify him and enjoy him forever.

E. J. Young

1. Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

The Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

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Psalm 56 - Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me;

**all day long an attacker oppresses me;**

my enemies trample on me all day long,

**for many attack me proudly.**

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

**In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.**

What can flesh do to me?

**All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil.**

They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life.

**For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God!**

You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?

**Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call.**

This I know, that God is for me. In God, whose word I praise,

**in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.**

What can man do to me? I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.

**For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life. Amen and Amen.**