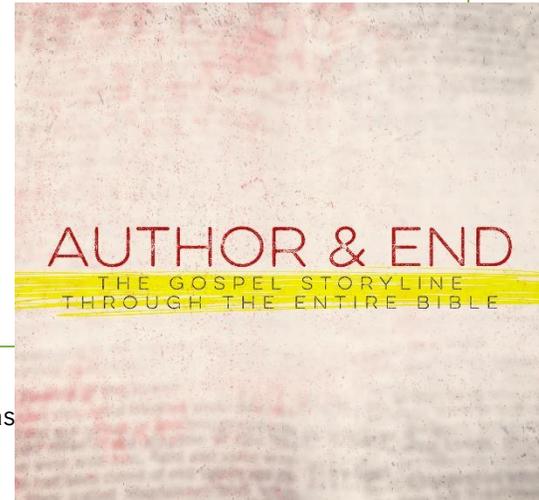


# GENESIS

## Lesson 1 – From the Beginning – Genesis -1-2

### IN THE BEGINNING, GOD... - GENESIS 1:1

- It is crucial to understand that all of our reality is rooted in this verse. **Everything that we can understand, see, experience, and described comes through an act of God.** (time, heaven, earth)
- What do we learn about the nature of God from this simple first verse of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_  
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### "ALL OF GOD, AND NOTHING ELSE"

**All of God is fully God and always has been.** God (the full Trinity) was existent and active from the beginning. The New Testament states explicitly that Jesus existed before all things and created all things.

\* Colossians 1:15-17 - "For \_\_\_\_\_ him were all things \_\_\_\_\_..."

We must note that Jesus was not created. He is God. How does this affect our view of the Gospel?

**Nothing else existed.** God made everything *ex nihilo* (Latin for "out of nothing"). Everything came into existence by Him, because of Him, and before Him. **Our story begins with nothing except God.**

Apply: How should this truth affect the way that we live our lives regarding time, people, and physical things? What are some ways we live that might neglect the fact that God is our Creator?

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\_\_\_\_\_

### FROM DAY 1... GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN ACTIVE AND INVOLVED

Worldview: Deism - belief in a supreme being (specifically a creator) that is not involved in this universe. There are countless people in this world who feel or believe this way. However, God has been involved since the very first day of time.

Genesis 1:3-5 - List the verbs used to describe God's part in these verses. Circle them in your Bible.

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Apply: Despite a world that largely ignores Him, God does not ignore His world. How should this affect our lives and decisions from day to day? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### MAN: GOD'S IMAGE AND LIKENESS – A "FORM" OF GOD'S PERSON ON EARTH

Genesis 1:26-28 - *Note the way God speaks, "Let us." Further teaching us the existence of the Trinity at creation.*

#### 1. God created mankind different than everything else.

- a. In method (Gen. 2:7) - God formed Adam and breathed life into Him. How is this different from the rest of creation? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. In purpose (Gen 1:26-27, 2:7) - God created man to be in His image. How is mankind different from the rest of Creation that reflects the person of God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. In position (Gen. 1:27, 2:15-20) - God gave man an authority that nothing else in creation had. How could the position that God gave man help mankind reflect their creator?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- d. In responsibility (Gen. 2:15-18) – Even in the perfection of the garden, God gave man a job and restrictions. What does this indicate about man’s nature regarding his will?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ How did this display a different type of relationship between humans and God compared to the rest of creation? \_\_\_\_\_

**God created us for relationship with Him!**

Apply: Why is it important that we recognize all humans are created in God’s image? How should this affect our lives and decisions daily? \_\_\_\_\_

Whether someone is unborn or elderly, acquaintance or unknown, American or not, rich or poor, crass or quaint, similar or different, and regardless of race, ethnicity, or background... all humans are created in the image of God.

How should this affect our motivation for sharing the Gospel and the root of how we explain it? \_\_\_\_\_

**THE END AT THE BEGINNING**

The things that we look forward to in the fulfillment of the Gospel were God’s intention from the start. This is not a plan that He developed along the way. All along, we were made to bear His image, praise His glory, and live in relationship with Him.

**The “ends of the Gospel” have been present since the beginning. God has never changed course, and He has not changed His mind. This was and always will be His perfect design.**

**The Bible is a God-centered book. It is not the story of man; it is the story of God and His creation. We have been given the Bible so that we might know God. When we read His Word to us, we should focus primarily on what we can learn, love, and embrace about God and His plan for all things.**

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*Seeing* **Jesus in Genesis**

OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT
<p><b>The First Adam</b> Brought Death (Gen. 3)</p>	<p><b>The Second Adam</b> Brought Life (Rom. 5)</p>
<p><b>The Protoevangelium</b> The Promise of Deliverance from the Serpent (Gen. 3:15)</p>	<p><b>The Fulfillment</b> Jesus Destroys the Works of the Devil (1 John 3:8)</p>
<p><b>Abel’s Blood</b> Cries Out for Justice (Gen. 4)</p>	<p><b>Jesus’ Blood</b> Proclaims Forgiveness (Heb. 12:24)</p>
<p><b>The Almost Sacrifice of Isaac</b> “The LORD Will Provide” (Gen. 22)</p>	<p><b>The Crucifixion of Jesus</b> “The Lamb of God” (John 1:29)</p>
<p><b>Joseph Suffered</b> According to God’s Plan (Gen. 50:20)</p>	<p><b>Jesus Suffered</b> According to God’s Plan (Acts 2:23)</p>