

**Genesis**  
**Moses**  
**Discussion 1**  
**Genesis Chapters 1-3**  
**The Story of Creation**

**Name:** “Genesis” is a Greek word meaning “beginning.” The book tells of the beginning of everything except God who is without beginning or end.

**Author:** Moses

**Date:** 1500 BC Moses lived about as far on the other side of Christ as Columbus, who discovered America, lived on this side of Christ.

**Outline:**

1. History of the human race (Gen. 1-11)
  - a. Creation
  - b. Fall
  - c. Flood
  - d. Tower of Babel (Nations)
2. History of the chosen race, the Jews (Gen. 12-50)
  - a. Abraham
  - b. Isaac
  - c. Jacob
  - d. Joseph

	Human Race	Abraham to the Chosen Race
Genesis	Chapter 1 to Chapter 11 (2000 years?)	315 years

**HISTORY OF THE HUMAN RACE—GENESIS 1-11**  
**CREATION (GENESIS 1-2)**

*Genesis 1 outlines creation as a whole.*

*Genesis 2 retells creation especially emphasizing man’s place.*

**Opening Prayer:**

*Loving Father, as I see Your great wisdom reflected in Your wonderful creation, I want to praise You with my whole being. Thank you for the creative Word of God Who not only spoke the world into being from nothing but died for me so that I could have life – everlasting life and life more abundantly. Thank You, in Jesus' name, AMEN.*

*“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”  
 (Genesis 1:1)*

Genesis 1 outlines creation as a whole.  
Genesis 2 retells creation especially emphasizing man's place.

### 3. The Creator

- a. List what you discover about God from these chapters.
- Answers will vary, each may see something different.** \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The Bible reveals God as a "trinity" (one God three persons), God the **Father**\_\_\_\_, God the **Son**\_\_\_\_, and God the **Holy Spirit**\_\_\_\_.  
Notice the pronouns in Genesis 1:26.  
Which person in the Godhead is mentioned in Genesis 1:2? **Holy Spirit**\_\_\_\_  
Was the Son of God present in creation? **Yes**\_\_\_\_\_. (Read John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16).

### 4. The Creation

- a. The word "create" meaning to make out of nothing, is used three times in Genesis 1.  
Genesis 1:1- God created matter (the material universe)  
Genesis 1:21- God created animal life  
Genesis 1:27- God created human life
- a. Name in order, the parts of creation that God created on each day of the week:
- 1<sup>st</sup> day **light** \_\_\_\_\_  
2<sup>nd</sup> day **sky** \_\_\_\_\_  
3<sup>rd</sup> day **dry land, seas, plants and trees** \_\_\_\_\_  
4<sup>th</sup> day **Sun, Moon and Stars** \_\_\_\_\_  
5<sup>th</sup> day **sea creatures, and flying creatures** \_\_\_\_\_  
6<sup>th</sup> day **land animals and humans** \_\_\_\_\_  
7<sup>th</sup> day **REST** \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Which day did God bless and sanctify? (Genesis 2:1-3) **The Seventh Day**\_\_\_\_\_
- b. How long do you think these days were? **I don't place a time value on creation as time is irrelevant in God's eyes, however some point that it was a twenty-four hour period.**\_\_\_\_\_
- c. What does "after his kind" mean in Genesis 1:11, 12, 21, 24? **their offspring, by process of reproduction.**\_\_\_\_\_

Professor Dana said of this first chapter in the Bible, "I find it to be in perfect accord with known science." To a graduating class at Yale he said, "Young men! As you go out into the world to face scientific problems, remember that I, an old man has known only science all

my life lone, say to you, that there is nothing truer in all the Universe than the scientific statements contained in the Word of God.”

## 5. Creations Climax—Man

### a. Man’s beginning:

1. Of what two things was man created? (2:7) \_\_\_ **Dust of the ground, and breathed life into his nostrils.** \_\_\_\_\_
2. In whose image was man made? \_\_\_ **God’s Image. Image and likeness of God.** \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did God make man? (Read Isaiah 43:7, Rev. 4:11) \_\_\_ **To rule over creation—for the Glory of God.** \_\_\_\_\_
4. How do we know that God planned for man to work? (2:15) \_\_\_ **He made man and put him in the garden to work it and take care of it.** \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who named the animals and fowls that God made? \_\_\_ **Adam** \_\_\_\_\_

### b. Man’s first home: The Garden of \_\_\_ **EDEN** \_\_\_\_\_

1. This garden was probably located in the Mesopotamian plain. The name of what river is familiar to you? (2:11-14) \_\_\_ **Tigris and Euphrates** \_\_\_\_\_
2. In those days how was the earth watered? (2:6) \_\_\_ **streams came up from the earth and watered the entire surface** \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did God give man and animals for good? (1:29-30) \_\_\_ **The plan and fruit on the whole earth for food.** \_\_\_\_\_
4. What two unusual trees were in the Garden?
  - a. \_\_\_ **The Tree of Knowledge** \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_ **The Tree of Life** \_\_\_\_\_
5. What one restriction or test of obedience was given to man? (2:17) \_\_\_ **You must not eat from the tree of knowledge** \_\_\_\_\_. (In the garden there was health, happiness, and holiness.)

### b. Man’s wife or partner: called \_\_\_ **woman** \_\_\_\_\_ (2:23), \_\_\_ **Eve** \_\_\_\_\_ (3:20), and \_\_\_ **female** \_\_\_\_\_ (5:2)

2. Why was she made? \_\_\_ **to give man a companion and to help equally in the Garden of Eden** \_\_\_\_\_
3. How was she made? \_\_\_ **from one of Adam’s ribs** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MAN’S FALL INTO SIN—GENESIS 3-4

### 6. What the Bible teaches about Satan

“The old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan” (Revelation 12:9) apparently was first created as one of the **cherubim** (Ezekiel 28:1-15), having great position and authority. He fell from his heavenly estate through his rebellious attitude of **pride** (Isaiah 14:12-15).

After the creation of the earth he tempted mankind likewise to **act in self-will** instead of God’s will (Genesis 3:1-6). His **plan is to dethrone God** in His universe and in the hearts of men. God promises **Satan’s ultimate destruction** through the “seed of woman,” Christ (Genesis 3:15).

Three times Jesus called him “**the prince of this world**” (John 14:30, etc.). As “the prince of the power of air” (Ephesians 2:2) he heads a vast host of demons. The present world system organized upon the principles of force, greed, selfishness, ambition, and sinful pleasure is his work. In His own time, **God’s full judgement will come upon Satan** (Revelation 20:10) and the absolute, undivided sovereignty of God over His whole universe will be restored.

## 7. Temptation of Adam and Eve

1. What did Satan cause Eve to doubt? \_\_\_ **Whether God told them not to eat from a certain tree.** \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did Satan do this? \_\_\_ **By saying that if she ate this fruit she would have great knowledge, and truly be like God.** \_\_\_\_\_
3. What are some of the things Satan tempts us to doubt God about?  
\_\_\_ **Optional** \_\_\_\_\_
4. How did Jesus meet Satan’s temptations? (Read Luke 4:1-13).  
\_\_\_ **by reciting facts given to all about the belief in God. It is written: Man shall not live on Bread Alone,” “It is written: Worship the You’re your God and serve him only,” “It is said: Do not put the You’re your God to the test.”** \_\_\_\_\_

## 8. The Results of Sin

1. For the serpent? (3:14-15) \_\_\_ **Went from flying or walking to a ground slithering reptile.** \_\_\_\_\_
2. For the woman? (3:16) \_\_\_ **she would now experience pains for child birth and child rearing.** \_\_\_\_\_
3. For the man? (3:17, 19) \_\_\_ **Would now have to work the land that contains the dirt from which he was made- through sweat and brown he would eat his own food until his death when he returns to dust.** \_\_\_\_\_
4. For the ground? (3:18) \_\_\_ **That it would be cursed, and it would produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat plants of the field.** \_\_\_\_\_

5. Has spiritual and physical death resulted from sin?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  6. How can we escape spiritual death? (Romans 6:23) \_\_\_ **Through our belief in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**\_\_\_\_\_
  7. How did Adam and Eve try to cover their sin and nakedness?  
\_\_\_ **By sewing fig leaves together.**\_\_\_\_\_
  8. How did God clothe Adam and Eve? \_\_\_ **By killing an innocent animal for the use of its skin. An innocent sacrifice.**
  9. By driving Adam and Eve from Eden, God, in kindness, kept them away from what? (3:24) \_\_\_ **Kept them away from the Tree of Life. By placing cherubim and flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree.**\_\_\_\_\_
3. The First Promise of a Savior (Genesis 3:15)- IMPORTANT VERSE

**Closing Prayer:**

**Prayers of the People:**

***We pray for Donna Baker, Martha and her family, Ron who lost their brother Steven, Derren, and Maggie, and her sister and her children, those who are struggling with addiction, alcoholism, depression, anxiety, any medical conditions.***

***We pray for those in positions of power, any one in positions of power that they may lead with dignity, thoughtfulness, and reason. We pray for those who work to ensure our safety as citizens of our country. We pray that you guide our countries leaders, that they may lead our country with common sense, reason, a level head, and appropriate situational awareness, and that they may be a collaborative government that works with other countries that work towards world peace, rather than continuously creating enemies.***

***We also pray that in this season of Epiphany that you Enlighten our hearts, guide us in your way, and help us to be more worldly in our actions as we live our lives according to your will.***

***In Jesus name we pray,***

***Our Father, who art in heave hallowed be they name.***

***Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,***

***On earth as it is in Heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread,***

***And forgive us our trespasses,***

***As we forgive those,***

***Who trespass against us.***

***Lead Us not into temptation,***

***But deliver us from evil.***

*For Thine is the Kingdom,  
The power and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.*

*Heavenly Father, thank You that the picture of Adam and Eve being covered in the skin of an innocent animal, reminds us that Christ shed His blood for our sake, so that we could be forgiven of our sin, covered in His perfect righteousness, and receive life everlasting. Thank You that You did not leave us to wallow in our sin but set in motion Your perfect plan of redemption for whosoever believes in the atoning blood of Christ. Give me a greater understanding of the shocking effect of sin in the lives of individuals and the world at large, and thank You for Your unimaginable mercy, incalculable grace, infinite wisdom, and amazing kindness, in sending Jesus to be the offering for my sin. Thank You in Jesus' name, AMEN.*

*“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins and clothed them.”  
(Genesis 3:21)*

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**Moses**

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## HISTORY OF THE HUMAN RACE—GENESIS 1-II CREATION (GENESIS 1-2)

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Genesis 2 retells creation especially emphasizing man's place.

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**“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”  
(Genesis 1:1)**

### Discussion Notes:

Genesis, a word that means origin or beginning. The book of Genesis is the book which contains the account of creation of the earth, mankind, and how God dealt with man. This is the earliest history that we have of the earth and God's relationship to man. It provides a foundational understanding of many of the major Bible themes. Many events that we read about later in the Bible are cited in the book of Genesis.

There are many accounts and lists of the beginnings that are recorded in the book of Genesis. These lists include things such as The Universe, Life, Mankind, Marriage, Evil, Language, Civilization, Nations, Religion and the promises to Abraham regarding his descendants (Israel).

The author of the book from what research tells us is Moses. Genesis is part of the Pentateuch, or as it is mentioned in our Bible, the Torah. This first five books of the bible often speak of the “law” as written by Moses. None of which ideally refer to Genesis directly. But Genesis, as we can see is directly included in the law and is the beginning installment of the story that continues in the following books.

Now as the Bible stands as the guide to life, law, and righteousness, there are some who deny that Moses was the author of this book, and event of the following four books.

The way that we should try to approach the book of Genesis, is as a divinely inspired history. Its account should be viewed as history, including: Acts, Matthew, and several others. It is not legend or myth, nor is it symbolic (except for occasional symbols that are understood by the same means as any other occasional book in a book of history). In many cases, Genesis discusses **only** accurate written history, since it gives the account of the only One (God) who was present and has give a written eyewitness account.

Some statements to keep in mind as we view the book of Genesis as history:



1. Other books of the bible including statements from Jesus, treat Genesis (specifically the first 11 chapters, as inspired historical fact.
2. Genesis has been repeatedly confirmed by archeology and other proofs but has never been proved wrong by any historical, geographical, or scientific proof.
3. People generally can distinguish whether a writing is intended to be history or myth.
4. One identifying characteristic of that which purports to be history is the use of genealogies.
5. Genesis 12-50 is general accepted to be history. Yet, there is no evidence in Scripture to identify chapters 1-11 as being different in nature.
6. Viewing Genesis as myth or legend leads to confusion through the rest of Scripture.

Although we are provided a general outline in our discussion guide, the following outline goes a little further in providing a look at how Genesis is better identified as history.

#### I. Creation and the Flood (and related events) – chap. 1-11

##### A. Creation and the first people (chap. 1-5)

1. Creation of the universe (chap. 1,2)
2. First sin (chap. 3)
3. Cain and Abel (chap. 4)
4. Generations of Adam (chap. 5)

##### B. The Flood (chap. 6-9)

##### C. The descendants of Noah (chap. 10,11)

1. Generation of the sons of Noah (Table of Nations - chap. 10)
2. Tower of Babel (11:1-9)
3. Generation of Shem (11:10-32)

#### II. The Patriarchs – chap. 12-50

##### A. Abraham – 12:1-25:18

##### B. Isaac – 25:19-28:9

##### C. Jacob – 28:10-36:43; chap. 38

##### D. Joseph – chap. 37,39-50

#### ***In the Beginning.....***

From the first words of the Bible “***In the Beginning...***” states that this was the beginning of time. The first verse of this book begins with one of the most fundamental phrases that shows that man wants to know their very origin. Where did we come from? How did we come to be? What were we truly made of?

Young people “drop out” of society to try to find out “who they are.” Older people go to psychiatrists. Philosophers and scientists spend time and money investigating where humans came from. The Bible is the one anthology that answers that very question, with one of the simplest affirmations known to man.

### ***The Big Question.....***

When was the beginning? Evolutionists tell us that it was billions of years ago, but we will see that evolution is false and its methods are faulty. However, without creation, evolution could not truly exist. The Bible does not answer the question with mathematic precision, but it does define it quite closely. Through close study of the Bible, we can trace genealogies of man all the way back to 4000 BC, but we also find problems with this study in theory.

As we study the Bible, we start to see the reassurance that the Bible affirms Gods existence, and that is the story of His work, His will, and His revelation to man. So, it makes sense that we begin with God.

God can be described in many ways, we see that He is described here as all-wise, all-powerful, infinitely righteous, merciful, and as a loving Creator and Ruler of the Universe. Some or most of these characteristics are observed in this account.

While it is proper to speak of God in singular, He can also be spoken in the plural sense also. Our God is both singular and plural at the same time, it is not explained at this point until we further our study. It is important to remember that we worship one Godhead consisting of three separate and distinct individuals: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All three beings in God were present on this occasion, as they are throughout the entire history of the creation, humankind, and the spread Christianity. The Son was the active force in creation (John 1:1-3, Heb. 1:2, Col. 1:15), but the Father was also present (John 1:1), and so was the Holy Spirit (Gen 1:2, compare Job 26:13). Compare verses 26, 27 where God is again presented as being both plural and singular. There is only one true God, but that God consists of three individuals united in all aspects of their character and work.

The concept is best understood by comparing it to the plural gods of idolatry. Idolatry has many gods having different character, different authority, different will and goals, often conflicting and even warring with one another. Some have authority in other areas, etc. They are plural gods, not just in the sense of plural beings, but in the sense of plural matures and wills, etc.

The true God is three distinct individuals, but all united perfectly in will, character authority over created things, etc, so that there is never difference or conflict of any kind. So, one united God, yet three Beings. We usually refer to God as "Him" or "He" referring to the united whole yet, often three Beings are involved. While this may at times seem confusing that singular terms are used to refer to plural beings, remember that the Bible often does it, including in this very first verse.

CHAPTER 1  
CREATION OF THE WORLD  
GENESIS 1:1-2:2

As we begin WE READ GENESIS 1:1-2:2, noting that the key words and phrases indicated below.

***Day 1: God creates planet earth, followed by light. He then separates light from darkness and gives names to both.***

1:1 BEGINNING: The bible opens. In its very first verse, at the beginning of our physical universe. This does not include, heave, the abode of God, but it does include everything in our plane of creation—stars, sun, planets, and whatever lies beyond that man has not yet discovered.

2. WITHOUT FORM and AVOID: this Hebrew phrase simply means that the created sphere that we call earth was initially empty and unshaped. Some attempt to find “waste” or “chaos” in this phrase, but one cannot have “chaos” in an empty vessel—which is the essential meaning here. The earth was like an unshaped lump of clay, awaiting the Potter’s loving hands.

SPIRIT of GOD: This is our first glimpse of God’s triune nature, existing in three distinct Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. At this point, although present the Son has not taken His human form. But we know that He was present. One of the very agents of creation.

HOVERING: The Hebrew word implies a gentle fluttering and is used to describe a mother hen as she flutters above her chicks. From the very beginning, we see the Spirit of God as He shapes His creation.

3. GOD SAID: God created by His words alone, with the sole exception of mankind. For the rest of creation, He merely spoke His will and it became reality—instantly. The Gospel of John tells us that “all things are made through Him without Him nothing was made that was made.” (1:3) John refers to Jesus as the Word, and in Genesis 1 we are seeing Him at work.

LIGHT: Some people have argues that there could not have been “light” prior to the Sun’s creation., but that clearly does not make sense. The sun is not the only source of light in creation. God Himself is light (see 1 John: ), and it is entirely possible that the Spirit of God had at this point revealed the Light to God’s developing world.

4. GOD DIVIDED THE LIGHT FROM THE DARKNESS: Right from the beginning of creation, God set darkness apart from light. This may seem self-evident in the physical realm, but it will become of deep spiritual significance after Adam sins. This is the first of several divisions that God established at creation.

5. GOD CALLED THE LIGHT DAY: God chose to name some aspects of creation; while giving Adam the authority to name others. In ancient cultures, it was a sign of authority to bestow a name on a person or thing. Thus, God retains to Himself of final authority over the physical elements of His creation, including the cycles of earth that we know as “night” and “day.”

THE EVENING AND THE MORNING: Some people also argue that evening and morning could not exist prior to creation of the sun—however, cycles of time are not dictated by the sun nor the moon. This solely depends on the earth’s rotation. Our planet, was rotating on its axis on day 1, Moses was letting us know that the first day—24 hours had passed.

### **CREATION AND ITS DAILY DEVELOPMENT:**

FIRST DAY: It is purposed in popular doctrine (day/age theory) that each day represents a great period of time—and that the “first day” was actually thousands or million of years long.

Personally: I have also read this in a catechism textbook that one day in God’s time was approximately 1000 years.

This however, in the Genesis Bible Study Booklet stated by John MacArthur states that this cannot be so.

He goes on to tell us that this book is an actual account of actual people and events, from a historical perspective. Moses in this book was not writing Metaphorically, but literally. When he states that the “evening and the morning were the first day,” he meant an actual 24-hour period.

In the Book of creation, we start to see how the world was formed in 6 days with the 7<sup>th</sup> day being a day of rest. The 7<sup>th</sup> day is signifying that with every project we need time to recuperate, so that we may always be our best self in the work that we do.

DAY 2: *God creates the sky and divides the waters above from the waters on earth.*

6. FIRMAMENT: The Sky

7. GOD CALLED THE FIRMAMENT HEAVEN: We see God naming the physical aspects of creation, indicating that He is the One in final authority over what we call “the heavens and the earth.” He retains this authority over the physical environment that he created. He closes the day by seeing HOW GOOD IT WAS.

DAY 3: *God separates dry land from the seas and then creates plant life.*

11. LET THE EARTH BRING FORTH GRASS: The planet is now ready to sustain life, so on day 3 God calls life into existence. This is not sentient life, or creatures that are capable of thought and independent action; but will come on day 5 as we will see as we further our study.

It is important, from God's perspective, that the environment be fully ready to sustain sentient life prior to the creation of animals, birds, and even fish.

By separating the earth into dry land and water, allows for both forms of life to live in harmony.

ACCORDING TO ITS KIND: This phrase is reiterated frequently. This phrase alone precludes any element of evolution being read into Genesis 1. An example of this is that grass and bring forth grass.

DAY 4: *God creates the stars, sun, moon, and other planets.*

14. LIGHTS IN THE FIRMAMENT: Everything that God made—from planets to animals to heavenly bodies—was complete and fully functioning when created.

LET THEM BE SIGNS AND SEASONS, AND FOR DAYS AND YEARS: God intended from the beginning that mankind would use the stars to gauge the passage of time. They were to serve as a sign of his great power. These same stars would be used thousands of years later to guide the wise men to the Newborn King in the Manger as we read in Luke 2.

16. TWO GREAT LIGHTS: The sun and the moon. We must read Genesis 1 literally. Although God creates plants on Day 3, the sun is created on Day 4. Plants can easily survive 24-hours without sunlight.

DAY 5: *God creates fish and birds.*

20. LET THE WATERS: Day 5, God created fish and birds. Evolution teaches us that birds evolved from fish, but Genesis teaches that fish and birds appeared on the same day.

21. ACCORDING TO ITS KIND: Moses reiterated, that birds and fish can only bring forth its kind.

22. GOD BLESSED THEM: this is the first time that God spoke directly to His creatures. It is also significant to notice that these words were also words of blessing.

BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY: This was God's first commandment. There is no negative connotation here—only the positive words of blessing.

DAY 6: *God creates land animals and then finally mankind—directly, by His own hands.*

25. GOD SAW THAT IT WAS GOOD: Moses repeated this phrase at each stage of creation. It is God's statement that His creation is good, but it is more than that: it is God's declaration of "it is finished" on each aspect of creation. In every stage, we read that "HE SAW THAT IT IS GOOD, NIGHT AND DAY THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY."

This then in the essence of history, gave any need for evolution from any group of animals, creatures, birds, fish, etc.

26. LET US MAKE MAN IN OUR IMAGE: This is the first time that God speaks to Himself. This is significant, he uses the term "OUR, and US." We have already seen God's Spirit "hovering" over the waters while God speaks His creation into existence. Some suggest that this is spoken to the Angels. He is truly revealing His triune nature.

ACCORDING TO OUR LIKENESS: Mankind is different from the rest of creation. The earth brought forth each living creature "according to its kind," and all those were creatures were created according to the likeness of earth. GOD created man in his image, something that no other part of creation was created in.

DOMINION: We have already seen that God retained some aspects of creation under His own authority, but now we discover that He placed other aspects under man's authority—specifically, all sentient life forms.

28. BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY: God is not worried about the over population of the earth. Scriptures often reiterate that children are a blessing from God—the more children the greater the blessing.

31. IT WAS VERY GOOD: Every element of creation had been "good," which indicates that each life form was complete. Yet the whole of creation was not complete until God had created an overseer to rule over the lower life forms. He created every special creature in His own image. With the creation of mankind, both male and female— He pronounced that this was more than good, that it was "very" good.

DAY 7: *God declares His work finished and rests.*

2:1 FINISHED: Moses reiterates here, that all of creation was completed in six days. There is nothing ongoing, nothing left incomplete, and nothing that is evolving. Modern science teaches us that evolution is constant—that the work of creation is never complete—but this is directly contrary to the teachings of Genesis.

2. GOD ENDED HIS WORK... AND HE RESTED: With the dawn of the seventh day, God ended his work and "rested" from creating. He was not able to fully rest due to weariness, but He simply abstained from further creative work and, in doing so, established the pattern of man's work cycle. Later, the Sabbath ordinance of Moses would be based on

this creation week. (Exodus 20:8-11). The Sabbath would be God's sacred, ordained day in the weekly cycle.

A few important things to remember as we learn about creation, and the beginning of the existence of man on earth:

1. God loves His Creation. He saw that all was good, and he was pleased, and with mankind he was "VERY" pleased.
2. There is order in God's creation. Although we may not understand why he created in the order that he did, or why he created some of these things, there is an order known to God that is all part of His master plan.
3. In all of creation, Mankind, has the most unique features, and God was "VERY" please with this part of creation.

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## CHAPTER 2: ADAM AND EVE

**READ GENESIS 2:3-25, noting the key words and phrases in the text.**

As we read chapter 2, we start to see that this "Second Story of Creation," We see that this story is focused on the history of mankind, and the story of Adam and Eve.

*CREATING MAN: God rolls up his sleeves and creates a special being that bears His own image.*

2:7 GOD FORMED MAN: The first thing that strikes us about man's creation== from the advent of light through the higher forms of animals—were created by a *divine fiat*, by God's verbal command: "Let there be.... And there was." With Mankind, God created us with His hands. The reference to God in physical form, is essentially metaphorical because God is merely a Spirit, he does not have a physical body. Yet the language indicates a greater level of intimate involvement in the creation of man than in God's other creative acts.

OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND: At this point God, picks us dirt from the earth, this element is what connects the creation of man to the rest of creation. Man shares the basic physical element with the rest of creation, but the origins are very different than modern evolutionary theory purposes.

BREATH OF LIFE: Adam came to life when God breathed the breath of life into his nortils. This is the foundation of what it means to be created in God's image: we are both physical and spiritual beings. The Spirit of man bears the resemblance of God Himself, even as our physical beings bear a resemblance to other physical life forms in this world.

*PLANTING A GARDEN: After creating man, God gets His hands dirty again (metaphorically speaking), this time planting a physical place for man to live and work.*

8. GOD PLANTED A GARDEN: this is not some special, secondary act of creation, as some think. He created this garden so that his more prized piece of creation could live harmoniously. This is a symbol of God's loving-kindness toward his creation.

9. PLEASANT TO THE SIGHT AND GOOD FOR GOOD: This demonstration is yet another remarkable piece of the generous and tender love of God for his creation. It would have been enough if he provided a safe place for them to live safely, with plenty of food and water, but he went one step further allowing a safe place, protected from all aspects of evil where they could live without worry. Although there has to be evolution, this is one aspect of creation that evolution cannot explain, but it is clearly laid out in this portion of the bible.

TREE OF LIFE: This appears to have been a unique tree one of a kind, that God had planted near the center of Eden. Adam must have observed it and perhaps even eaten of its fruit (see Genesis 2:16), thus sustaining his life. However, later we see that Adam and Eve fail, and they both eat off the tree. This is the first instance of evil penetrating the Garden. The serpent convinces them that they would have all knowledge if they ate from this tree.

TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL: Like the tree of life, this tree did not possess any magical properties of bestowing knowledge on Adam. It served merely as a symbolic capacity to provide Adam with a tangible test of obedience. Adam already knew of good, however by eating the forbidden fruit, he would gain a deadly and irreversible knowledge of evil—by experiencing it firsthand.

13. TO TEND IT AND KEEP IT: God intended that mankind should work even before sin and death entered the world. It is part of being made in God's image; mankind has a specific job to do, unlike the rest of creation. Before the Fall, however, man's work brought genuine pleasure and satisfaction. It was Adam's sin that introduced the elements of drudgery and frustration into work.

*THE FIRST NEGATIVE: God introduces a new element into creation: a commandment with a negative result. For the first time, God allows one of His creatures the option of disobedience.*

16. YOU MAY FREELY EAT: God's original creation included an abundance of freedom, pleasure, and satisfaction. In fact, nothing whatsoever was off limits or forbidden (with small exception), and man was to do whatever he pleased.

17. BUT: It is significant that God issued this stipulation—the first negative command in all creation—to man. God told no other creature to refrain from anything. This is yet another element of being created in God's image: the capacity to understand right from wrong and to make moral decisions. Eve had not been created—the responsibility for obeying and disobeying this commandment fell on the shoulders of Adam alone, not Adam and Eve together.



**YOU SHALL NOT EAT:** this was a small stipulation. “Eat from every tree in the garden: eat to your hearts content! Enjoy every aspect of My creation, with nothing forbidden except this one small thing: **DO NOT EAT FROM THIS ONE TREE.**” Obedience to God could not have been any easier. Right from the beginning mankind failed to follow this one instruction.

**IN THE DAY THAT YOU EAT OF IT YOU SHALL SURELY DIE:** this statement contains two important elements: (1) Death did not exist in the world prior to Adam’s sin, and (2) the curse of death involves more than the physical death of the body. God created all things perfectly, and He did not intend for any of His creatures to die, suffer, or be in poverty, sickness, or danger of any kind. **HOWEVER**, God made it clear from the start, that if Adam were to disobey, he would inflict or incur the necessary consequence for man’s rebellion. This consequence or penalty would be **DEATH**.

18. **IT IS NOT GOOD:** This statement is one that catches us off guard, for this would be the first time that God was not pleased with His creation, so he creates man a companion. This companion he would create and call woman. Thus, Eve is conceived.

**HELPER COMPARABLE TO HIM:** Part of Adam’s calling was to “be fruitful and multiply” (Genesis 1:28), which he could not do alone. He was responsible and was the caretaker of all of creation. God creates woman, a companion who would be an equal and share the authority. A co-image bearer.

19. **BROUGHT THEM TO ADA:** God brought animals to Adam, which again demonstrates his dominion over all creatures. This is comparable to the angelic host who presented themselves before God (Job 1); it is a sign of submission to authority.

**THAT WAS ITS NAME:** As part of Adam’s authority over the lower orders, whatever name he bestowed on a creature was the name would be its name.

*CREATING WOMAN: Adam is given the chance to find himself a mate. Naturally, that is a failure, so God creates a helper perfectly suitable for him.*

20. **THERE WAS NOT FOUND A HELPER COMPARABLE TO HIM:** It is interesting that God declared it “not good” for Adam to be without a helper and then postponed creating Eve until after Adam had named all the animals. This more than likely allowed Adam to discover for himself that he had not equal in creation.

21. **ONE OF HIS RIBS:** God created woman from one of Adam’s ribs. While Adam was sleeping God took one of his ribs and created Eve.

22. **HE BROUGHT HER TO THE MAN:** God did not have Adam and Eve meet together in the garden; instead, He brought her before the man. This is similar to the way which He brought the animals before Adam for naming. This demonstrates that Adam had headship over Eve.

23. SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN: Adam bestowed a name on his sife, which again demonstrates his leadership over her. It also demonstrates that he understood her nature and character, because, as we have discussed prior is that the one giving the names had to understand the full nature of each creature and being.

24. THEY SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH: God intended permanent, monogamous marriage for mankind from the beginning of creation. Divorce, unfaithfulness, polygamy were all inventions of sinful man that go against God’s original design.

*REFERENCE: Romans 5:12-19- Paul explains some of the implications of Adam and Eve’s sin. Read that passage and note that key words and phrases below.*

*FIRST ADAM AND LAST ADAM: Adam brought sin and death into the world, but he was just “a type of Him who was to come.” His failure provides vivid contrast to Christ, the LAST ADAM.*

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### CHAPTER 3: THE FALL OF MAN

#### CONTEXT

When Eve spoke with Satan in the garden of Eden, she both added and subtracted from God’s words, and it did not end all that well.

God finished creating the universe, mankind being the last. The amount of time it took is unknown, between the first Sabbath to the day of the rest.

Adam ruined it all by committing sin. It seems that the concept of time that is applied does not to be a lot of time. It may have even been the very first day.

God told Adam—Adam alone—that he was able to eat from any tree except the tree of knowledge. This tree would reveal the secret and gift of knowledge of good and evil. We are unable to truly know if Adam was told only once or if God the Creator reiterated this commandment later in Eve’s presence.

Scripture indicates or points to Adam as the one to blame for telling Eve about the tree. It is also important to remember that as we dive into this, portion, there is no death in the world.

All creation is at perfect peace. All is perfect, All is well, conflict is not present, there is not sickness or fighting—most of all there is NO DEATH.

#### KEYS TO THE TEXT

As We read Genesis 3:1-24, we will take note of the important key words and phrases.

*THE TEMPTATION: We now fast forward a short time. God has created Eve from Adam's rib, and we see her standing beside the tree of knowledge.*

3:1 THE SERPENT: The New Testament states that the one speaking to Eve was Satan himself. (2 Corinthians 11:3, Revelation 12:9). He appears as a serpent or snake, by which he spoke to Eve.

AND HE SAID: We do not know if the snake spoke, but we do learn that snakes did not slither on their bellies prior to the Fall of Man. They may have had wings, or may have been a dragon. AS ancient myths and legends allude to and speak of.

TO THE WOMAN: Its interesting that Satan approached Eve with his lies, rather than Adam. After all—Adam had headship over creation and to corrupt him would corrupt all creation.

SATAN: a creature of devious nature. This was of course part of this evil plan or design. He chose to first corrupt Adam by overturning the order of creation.

HAS GOD INDEED SAID: The first thing the evil one did in his seduction of the woman was to question the word of God. Remember that Eve was not present when God gave the commandment, so she was relying on what Adam said to her. Satan was tempting Eve into doubting the word of God, and her husband.

YOU SHALL NOT EAT OF EVERY TREE: Satan was using the tree to tempt Eve into eating off the tree, by saying that God was keeping a secret from them, but by eating off the tree, you will gain to this knowledge. Satan made God sound like a stingy ogre who denies the creatures he created things that they need or crave.

*THE MISTAKE: Eve makes her first mistake by debating with the devil. The devil is not interested in learning the truth, as his goal is only to confuse or mislead.*

2. WE MAY EAT THE FRUIT OF THE TREES: Eve subtly misquoted God herself at this point. God's words were "of every tree of the garden you may freely eat," (Genesis 2:16, italics added). These words of God imply generosity and freedom—this sense, Eve lost or misquoted when she spoke.

*It is best when we quote the word of God, that we quote it Verbatim.*

3. NOR SHALL YOU TOUCH IT: Here Eve makes an addition to God's words. It is possible that Adam added to this stipulation intending to avoid temptation in the first place. Adam, by creating his own rules of not touching the tree, in order to avoid temptation. Whatever the reasoning, Eve corrupted God's words, first by subtracting then by adding.

LEST YOU DIE: Here again we hear Eve misquoting God. God's words were "You shall surely die," which does not stray from the outcome—Eat the fruit and die. Eve's word choice however, left doubt in what was said.

*THE LIE: Satan now speaks his native language. Every word from his mouth is a lie or is tainted by a lie.*

4. YOU WILL NOT SURE DIE: Satan first words were insidious suggestions to islead and cause doubt in Eve's mind. But now he tells an outrageous lie—the very first lie in God's creation.

Jesus tell us that Satan “was a murder from the beginning because he speaks everything except the truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father.” (John 8:44)

5. FOR GOD KNOWS: Satan hinted that God held a secret in order to keep Eve under domination.

YOUR EYES WILL BE OPENED AND YOU WILL BE LIKE GOD: This is an ancient heresy called Gnosticism. The Gnostics were active during the early church, Paul addresses this in Colossians. Gnosticism teaches us that we need to acquire a “higher knowledge” in order to understand God's word. This heresy is alive and thriving in our modern society, and has brought about new age and even false religions.

*THE ORIGINAL SIN: we now have the painful task of watching the father of the human race reject the lordship of God and submit himself first to his wife—and ultimately to the devil or to Satan.*

KNOWING GOOD AND EVIL: Adam and Eve already knew good. They discovered evil after eating off the tree.

SHE TOOK OF ITS FRUIT AND ATE OF IT: Eve was deceived into eating the forbidden fruit. (2 Corinthians 11:3). This began as a bit of doubt and later grew much larger. Questioning the character of God, her husband's trustworthiness, then to worldly lust, then sinful actions.

HER HUSBAND WAS WITH HER: It's entirely possible that Adam was standing nearby during this entire conversation. Whether he was there or not, God held him responsible.

AND HE ATE: Adam was not deceived (1 Timothy 2:14), he sinned knowingly which is the greatest of all sins. Sinning knowingly, deliberately, and willingly is said to be a grave sin. Because he was given headship of all creation, it was his not Eve's sin. This lead to the sinful nature of all mankind.

*THE RESULTS: Somehow that piece of fruit did not taste as good as promised. This is always the case with sin.*

7. THE EYES OF BOTH WERE OPENED: This suggests that they guarded this knowledge along with evil, shame, and death. The things God was trying to protect us/humankind from—death, sin, shame, guilt, other things that can cause hurt.

**THEY KNEW THAT THEY WERE NAKED:** This is not “self-discovery” as some may suggest. Adam had self-awareness from the start (Genesis 2:20-23). This was self-obsession. Adam and Eve had turned their attention away from each other towards themselves. This gave birth to what is known today as *Self-Esteem*.

**THEY SEWED FIG LEAVES TOGETHER AND MADE THEMSELVES COVERINGS:** Adam and Eve at this point knew they needed to cover up their shame, but yet had to learn what that covering would cost. They were able to cover their physical bodies, but not their guilt. They needed a covering for their sin.

*THE CONFRONTATION: God comes looking for Adam, but He does with a quiet calmness, not in wrath. Tragically sin has already separated man from Him.*

**8. THE SOUND OF THE LORD GOD:** The Hebrew word for “sound” can also mean “voice.” God entered Eden calling Adam’s name. There is a gentleness about this—God is not calling in anger.

**WALKING IN THE GARDEN IN THE COOL OF THE DAY:** This implies it was a habit and a regular habit for God to come to speak with Adam. Adam had an incomparable privilege to speak daily with God face-to-face. This privilege is about to be revoked.

**ADAM AND HIS WIFE HID THEMSELVES:** The moment Adam and Eve sinned, they were filled with shame. Their guilt cursed them to hide themselves from God’s presence.

**AMONG THE TREES IN THE GARDEN:** The thought that mankind hid from God is pretty bad, but to hide themselves behind a tree is even worse. But this is the very mindset of society/mankind constantly convincing themselves that God does not see all. Adam hid behind a tree that provided him the chance to sin, and now he was hoping that the trees would shield him from God’s presence.

*This also is a principle of the world system: we tend to turn to things of the world for pleasure, satisfaction, and gain, but we later find out that they only bring us turmoil and temptation to which we gain nothing when we meet our creator.*

**9. GOD CALLED TO ADAM:** In this first phrase we get a glimpse of the patience and grace of God. He came into Eden looking and calling for Adam even as he was hiding.

It is important for us to note that he was calling only to Adam, not to both Adam and Eve. This is because God gave the responsibility for all creation even Eve to Adam, now he was holding him accountable.

**WHERE ARE YOU:** This is the first time we hear God ask a question. Not because he didn’t know where Adam for a confession or the first confession. This also brings light that something is very different in their relationship.

**NOTE: now hiding- never hid before. This is a demonstration of shame and guilt.**

11. WHO TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE NAKED: God asks a second question, to draw forth another part of the confession. No one needed to tell them they were naked, because it was obvious or evident, now innocence was lost and conscience was awakened to sin.

HAVE YOU EATEN FROM THE TREE? A third question, God was not seeking answers because he already knew, but rather He was seeking a confession or reconciliation.

SHIFTING THE BLAME: Adam now sets a pattern of mankind for all time—he blames someone else. Yet God, gently leads him to a small confession of sin.

12. THE WOMAN: Ada passed blame to Eve, instead of confessing.

WHOM YOU GAVE TO BE WITH ME: First Adam blames Eve, then goes a bit further to blame God. He thought it had to be God's fault that he sinned, because he created Eve for him to spend his life with.

AND I ATE IT: This leads us to an almost complete confession. God accepts this confession, and he is reconciled.

THE SERPENT DECIVED ME: This was a truth but did not exonerate or reconcile Eve of her sin or guilt.

AND I ATE: Still following Adam's example, she makes a halfhearted confession. Now keep in mind a confession of sin, as long as you are truly sorry for what you have done. God accepted this as her confession of guilt.

*THE CURSE: God responds by informing Hid creation of what will result from Adam's sin: This is not God's ranting and cursing. He is telling them what will follow naturally. Indeed, He brings a promise of His grace.*

14. GOD SAID TO THE SERPENT: Notice God did not ask the serpent anything. God did not give the devil a chance to say his peace. God's plan of salvation was only available to the descendants of Adam. No opportunity was offered to Satan and his minions.

YOU ARE CURSED: This is not a covenant between God and man, but does represent the first transaction between God and his creation after the FALL OF MAN.

14. ON YOUR BELLY YOU SHALL GO: Today this seems like a figurative curse that snakes never had legs, but that is not the thrust of the passage. God was telling Adam of the changes to come and how it would affect all order of creation.

15. HE SHALL CURSE YOUR HEAD, AND YOU SHALL CRUSH HIS HEEL: The original word used here is “bruised.” The Hebrew word translated “to bruised” can also mean to crush.

A bruised or crushed heels is hardly fatal, but a crushed head is much more fatal. Jesus Christ would crush the head of the serpent once and for all. We are given our first glimpse of salvation for mankind—a plan revealed on the very day of man’s first sin.

16. IN PAIN YOU SHALL BRING FORTH CHILDREN: God’s original plan for child birth and child rearing was to be pain free, until the fall of man. Then this all changed.

YOU SHALL DESIRE YOUR HUSBAND AND HE SHALL RULE OVER YOU: the same phrase is used later in Genesis 4:7 where God told Cain “*Sin lies at your door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.*”

God ordained that mankind should have a companion to live together harmoniously, each satisfied with their role. But now that that relationship was corrupted, one would take control over the other.

17. BECAUSE YOU HAVE HEEDED THE VOICE OF YOUR WIFE: It’s important to note that Adam’s sin was twofold. First, he “heeded the voice” of his wife, that is the submitted voluntarily to her leadership. Second, he ate the forbidden fruit. Eve fell into sin when he went along with that foolish plan. With this Satan accomplished his initial desire: to turn the created order upside down.

CURSED IS THE GROUND FOR YOUR SAKE: Adam’s sin had consequences that reached far beyond himself. His sin brought cheers of awareness and knowledge of death and sorrow to all creation, from mankind all the way to the dust of the ground from which we were created. This brought to light that one man’s sin set the path to the rest of mankind for all eternity, a path of suffering. However, this message was balanced with the good news that Jesus will save all of creation, give salvation and grace to many who were not innocent.

IN TOIL YOU SHALL EAT OF IT: God placed Adam in Eden, his work a source of joy and fulfillment. All of creation cooperated with him. Now all would begin to rebel against him, just as Adam rebelled against God—and Eve rebelled against Adam.

The curse touched man and woman in the very seat of their toils and sources of satisfaction. Woman will now give birth thru pain and man would work the soil with sweat and sorrow.

19. TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN: Adam and Eve and all their descendants for all time were now subject to death. To the very source from which we were created. If Adam had not sinned, we would never have to return to dust from which we were made. Our relationship with God would be perfect as it was meant to be, and he would never endure suffering, pain, sickness, and any other negative emotions, or feelings. But due to sin now we must endure these things.

*THE COVERING: Adam and Eve had tried to cover their own shame. Now they would find out that only God can completely cover their shame and guilt—but at a very costly price.*

21. GOD MADE TUNICS OF SKIN AND CLOTHED THEM: Adam and Eve learned that their shame and guilt needed to be covered, but they were unable to anticipate how it should be covered. First, they were unable to cover their shame themselves it must come from God. Second, Fig leaves would only cover their physical being, not their spiritual shame. Third, the covering could only come from an offering of innocent blood, as God had to take the life of an innocent animal for their skins. This provides a picture of the loss of salvation on the cross.

24. HE DROVE OUT THE MAN: This was an act of judgment and an act of mercy. Judgement because God did not tolerate sin. Grace or Mercy, this is ironically because man would die, and NOT have to live forever under the conditions that he was banished to- sin, decay, and death.

\*\*\*Hebrews states that “It is the appointment of men to die once,” (Hebrews 9:27) but this death can force us from the curse of death forever, thru Jesus Christ.

HE PLACED CHERUBIM: As we will see later in Israel’s history, two cherubim or angelic figures guarded the Ark of the Covenant and the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle (Exodus 25:18-22), where God communed with His people.

### Closing Prayer:

#### Prayers of the People:

*We pray for Donna Baker, Dennis, Ariana, Julie, Deb, Lisa, Alexis, Darlene for her knee surgery, Martha and her family, Ron who lost their brother Steven, Derren, and Maggie, and her sister and her children, those who are struggling with addiction, alcoholism, depression, anxiety, any medical conditions, for the people in Florida who experienced devastation from natural disaster.*

*We pray for those in positions of power, any one in positions of power that they may lead with dignity, thoughtfulness, and reason. We pray for those who work to ensure our safety as citizens of our country. We pray that you guide our countries leaders, that they may lead our country with common sense, reason, a level head, and appropriate situational awareness, and that they may be a collaborative government that works with other countries that work towards world peace, rather than continuously creating enemies.*

*We also pray that in this season of Epiphany that you Enlighten our hearts, guide us in your way, and help us to be more worldly in our actions as we live our lives according to your will.*

*In Jesus name we pray,*

*Our Father, who art in heave hallowed be they name.*



*Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those,  
Who trespass against us.  
Lead Us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.*

*For Thine is the Kingdom,  
The power and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.*

*Heavenly Father, thank You that the picture of Adam and Eve being covered in the skin of an innocent animal, reminds us that Christ shed His blood for our sake, so that we could be forgiven of our sin, covered in His perfect righteousness, and receive life everlasting. Thank You that You did not leave us to wallow in our sin but set in motion Your perfect plan of redemption for whosoever believes in the atoning blood of Christ. Give me a greater understanding of the shocking effect of sin in the lives of individuals and the world at large, and thank You for Your unimaginable mercy, incalculable grace, infinite wisdom, and amazing kindness, in sending Jesus to be the offering for my sin. Thank You in Jesus' name, AMEN.*

*“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins and clothed them.”  
(Genesis 3:21)*