



INSIDE

DEFINING TRUE SCIENCE

Observational & Historical..... 2

THE ATHEIST DELUSION

Evolution/millions of years 3

WHO WROTE GENESIS?

Moses, man of God..... 4

THE 4 CHARACTERISTICS OF SCRIPTURE

The Word of God..... 5

PASSAGE OF THE WEEK

John 1:1-4,14..... 6

ABOUT

Capitol Ministries..... 6



The 2026 Sermon Series: “Man’s word versus God’s Word”

Part 1—Genesis, Believe it by Faith



GENESIS is probably the most important book ever written while its influence on the history of the world cannot be underestimated. Genesis literally meaning “*origin/beginning*” gives vital information concerning the origin of all things and therefore the meaning of all things. Indeed, without Genesis nothing else in the Bible makes any sense at all. The Bible declares in **Hebrews 5:14**, “*But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.*” Please reflect on this verse while considering the following list, for this study I hope will be a meat filled series on the inerrant, infallible and authoritative Word of God.

So, why do we have a seven-day week? God created the heavens and the earth in 6 days and rested on the seventh. Why is there sin in the world? *Mankind disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden.* Why is there death in the world? *The judgement for disobedience was death.* Why do we wear clothes? *Adam and Eve felt shame for their nakedness that was immediately present after the fall.* Why is Jesus called “*the last Adam*”? *Because there was a first Adam.* Why did Jesus die on the Cross? *To be the means of forgiveness, the atonement for original sin.* Why are there so many languages on earth? *The Tower of Babel details the dispersion of the nations.* Why do we need a new earth? *For judgment against mankind included a cursed earth.*

A diligent effort in exegesis will be undertaken which is the critical interpretation of the biblical text to discover its intended meaning. Further application can be arrived at, which falls into the study of hermeneutics the “*art of understanding*”. This I believe will be a monumental task for the teacher and a stretch for the disciple as together we deepen our knowledge of Scripture and of God’s power and love to “*become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ*” (**Ephesians 4:13**).





DEFINING TRUE SCIENCE

OBSERVATIONAL & HISTORICAL

If we accept the Bible declaring a literal 24-hr day in Genesis, are we rejecting science?

Theistic evolutionists want to claim that they can mix science with the Bible by accepting evolutionary ideas. Others claim they can fit science into the Bible by adding millions of years. But the problem with these claims is that they have conflated two different types of science: operational (or observational) science and historical (or origins) science. Operational science deals with knowledge that is gained by observation and repeated testing in our present world. Indeed, the root meaning of science is a "state of being" according to Merriam-Webster's Dictionary and basically means "knowledge."

On the other hand, historical science deals with history, that is, looking into the past. At its core historical science deals with beliefs about the past. It is a myth to suggest historical science built on the worldview of evolution/millions of years is true science. It's not! It is a worldview based on the religion of humanism that elevates historical science into the realm of true science. Consider further that when a scientist classifies rocks as igneous, metamorphic or sedimentary, that is observational science. But if the same scientist then claims the rocks are millions of years old, that is historical science.

The debate over origins is not one of science v. religion but one of religion v. religion.

(Ham, K. "The Lie" 2017 Master Books, Green Forest AR)

OBSERVATIONS

Today many believers are not sure what God said in Genesis and the reason they are not sure is because they have been influenced by the various secular views of origins, evolution/ millions of years. This in turn has led to a generational loss of people ceasing to believe in biblical inerrancy and authority. *And it is not surprising at all that Satan would cast doubt about God's Word for that's how he tempted mankind in the garden.*

Genesis 3:1
"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "DID GOD REALLY SAY, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

What is really the issue of evolution/millions of years belief and the biblical account is the clash over worldviews and more to the point, it is a clash between **MAN'S word AND GOD'S WORD.**

- ➔ In what ways do you see Satan tempt you in your daily workday regarding the truth of God's Word.
- ➔ What should we do when Satan tempts in this way?

James 4:7
"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Submit to God means to yield to His governance or authority. Therefore, to resist the devil, we must first yield to God's sovereignty over our lives. Digging deeper, the verb means to *place or arrange under*. God sets himself in array against the proud; therefore, array yourselves under God, that ye may withstand

the devil.¹ Align yourself under God for only in Him can we resist the devil and in context of this series on Genesis to resist the false teaching and unbiblical worldview of our generation.

MAN'S word vs. GOD'S WORD

Man's Word and *observational science* teaches that no one can be brought back from death after 3 days.

DO WE BELIEVE MAN'S WORD OR GOD'S WORD?

Why would one believe God's Word in the gospel accounts and deny God's clear Word in Genesis? Or more to the point, why would one believe God's Word in the Gospels and then believe man's word on evolution/millions of years?

WHY IS THIS A SERIOUS ISSUE?

In 2009, "Answers in Genesis" published "Already Gone", detailing data as to why around two-thirds of young people are leaving the church in America by the time they reach college age. For the research behind the book, AIG contracted with America's Research Group to find out why these two-thirds are walking away from the church. Britt Beemer, who heads America's research group, and his team created a study composed of questions such as, "At what age did you begin to really question contents in the Bible?" Of the two-thirds who have left the church, 40 percent had started to question the Bible by the end of middle school, and another 45 percent by the end of high school.² The same percentages were revealed when asked, "When did you first have doubts?" Can you evaluate the seriousness of the situation?

¹ Vincent, M. R. (1887). "Word studies in the New Testament" (Vol. 1, p. 756). New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

² Ham, Ken. (2013) "Six Days", (P.15) Master Books.



Secular schools say no religion in school, while they have been preaching the religion of humanism and evolution and millions of years to our kids for decades. I was cultivated as a young child in Australia with this environment of teaching and it was also prevalent in my home.

➔ Do you recall science class?

AS CHRISTIANS THIS IS WHAT WE BELIEVE!

2 Peter 1:21

“For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit”.

We believe the Word of God (the Bible that contains the 66 books of the Old and New Testament) is inspired, infallible, inherent and authoritative because God Himself is the author.

John 17:17

“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”

To be sanctified is to be holy and set apart for God. Ideally if someone is set apart for God and God’s purposes alone, that person will do only what God wants, and hate all that God hates. That is what it means to be holy, as God is holy.³

➔ Regular Bible reading?

Matthew 4:4

“Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

If you have ever been to a Golden Corral restaurant or other such similar buffet style eatery, you are offered a plethora of foods to devour and usually more than you need. While food for the

stomach is good and delicious at times, God wants us to feed on His Word for it contains the words of life and immortality. And it all begins with a born-again relationship to Jesus.

Romans 10:17

“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.”

Through the pages of Scripture, we are confronted with the love of God in the giving of His One and only Son Jesus Christ on the cross as a sacrifice of atonement, being the means by which God forgives mankind.

➔ When were you saved?

➔ When were born again?

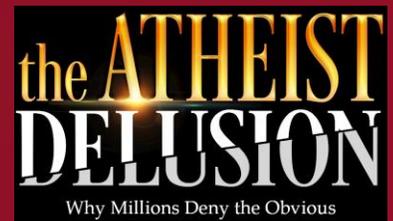
John 3:3

“Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

INTRO TO GENESIS

The title Genesis means “beginning”. It is the title of the book in the Septuagint (the pre-Christian Greek translation of the Old Testament). This perfectly describes the book for it outlines the creation of the world and humanity, the beginning of sin, the new creation after the flood of Noah, God’s plan for blessing the world and how that plan begins with the family of Abraham. Before being transliterated into Greek, Genesis was written in Hebrew apart from a few portions in *C’h’aldee* which is one of the class of languages called Semitic. Spoken among the descendants of Shem the language became known as the “*lip*” of Canaan at the time of Abraham.⁴

THE ATHEIST DELUSION



EVOLUTION/MILLIONS OF YEARS

The Bible says in Psalm 14:1, “*The fool says in his heart, there is no God.*” The tragedy of disbelief is always an issue of the heart, as man in not willing to accept liability for his own sin. At this crossroad 2 Cor. 4:4 is relevant, “*The god of this age (the devil) has blinded the minds of unbelievers (those currently lost), so that they cannot see the light of the gospel (that would save them) that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*” A successful way of keeping unbelievers in the dark concerns the false teaching of evolution/millions of years. The atheist delusion is a tragedy in our generation for it seeks to keep God’s creation lost in their sin. Furthermore, it is an assault against Christianity to challenge the simple reading and interpretation of Scripture. Perhaps what we need is what the apostles asked for recorded in Luke 17:5, “*Increase our faith.*” Whatever the evolutionary theory that someone wants to have faith in, it was birthed out of a deliberate disbelief in a Creator God. Today, the so-called “scientific evidence” (man’s historical science/page 2) that secularists want to build their religion on is based on the fossil record. And as you will hear often, belief in dead things millions of years before the fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden undermines the Gospel message. The consequences in our culture and nation today from evolution/millions of years teaching cannot be underestimated. The attack on God is evident through public school’s lack of teaching on creation, removal of Ten Commandments from public places, attempts to remove God from the Pledge of Allegiance and removal of Crosses, just to name a few.

³ Carson, D. A. (1991). “*The Gospel according to John*” (p. 565). Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

⁴ Easton, M. G. (1893). “*Easton’s Bible dictionary*”. New York: Harper & Brothers.

WHO WROTE GENESIS?



MOSES, THE MAN OF GOD

Most conservative scholars in the past have accepted the view that Genesis was written by Moses. This has been the uniform tradition of both the Jewish scribes and the Christian fathers. Genesis is the first book of the Pentateuch (others being Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), and all of them together taken as Law (Hebrew, *torah*) of Moses. This general view was apparently accepted by Christ Himself: "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself...These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets and in the Psalms, concerning me (Luke 24: 27, 44). Assuming that Moses was responsible for the Book of Genesis as it has come down to us, there remains the question as to the method by which he received and transmitted it.

There are three main possibilities: 1) He received it all by direct revelation from God, either in the form of audible words dictated by God and transcribed by him, or else by visions given him of the great events of the past, which he then put in his own words, as guided by the Holy Spirit. 2) He received it by oral traditions, passed down over the centuries from father to son, which he then collected and wrote down, as guided by the Holy Spirit. 3) He took actual written records of the past, collected them, and brought them together into a final form, again as guided by the Holy Spirit. I favor the 3rd option agreeing with many others that Moses was a compiler and editor of the material in the book of Genesis, always however, guided by the Holy Spirit.

(Cf. Morris, Henry. 1976 "The Genesis Record", p.25 Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan.)

Within the beginning chapters of Genesis, God is revealed as Creator, Judge and Redeemer.

Chapter 1, Verse 1

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth".

GOD

The divine name in **verse 1** is the **אֱלֹהִים** (*ʾēlō·hîm*): n.masc.⁵ Elohim stresses His majesty and omnipotence (His power). God's omnipotence simply means that God can do whatever He desires.

Genesis 18:14a

"Is there anything too hard for the Lord?"

➔ How has God's omnipotent nature been revealed in your life?

Jeremiah 32:17

"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you."

The *im* ending is the Hebrew plural ending, and used here clearly in the singular, as the mighty name of God the creator, the first of over 2,000 times used in this way. *Elohim* is a plural name with a singular meaning, a "uni-plural" noun, thereby suggesting the uni-plurality of the God head. God is one, but more than one.⁶ Seen clearly in:

Genesis 1:26a

"Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness."

DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY

God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God and there is One God.

➔ Fundamentally Important?

⁵ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁶ Morris, H. 1976 "The Genesis Record", (p.39) Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

CREATED

To assist you in your solid belief that God "created" everything is found in the word, translated from the Hebrew "Bara". It is foundational to perhaps learn that it is only ever used of the work of God. **בָּרָא** (*bā·rā*) means to make something that has not been in existence before.⁷ Only God can create – that is, call into existence that which had no existence.

GOD MADE EVERYTHING OUT OF NOTHING

Romans 4:17

"Calls into being things they were not".

Hebrews 11:3

"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."

Contrasting to this is what man does. Man makes or forms things from already existing materials into more complex systems.

What was created?

THE HEAVENS

In the Hebrew Bible "*heavens*" **שָׁמַיִם** (*šā·mā·yim*):n.masc.;⁸ is sometimes used as a synonym for "*firmament*" to describe the dome-shaped covering over the earth that separated the heavenly waters above from the earthly waters beneath. Heaven is indeed the realm of God where God abides, like the area of the sky, but with a focus of where God abides, sometimes described as the upper regions above the upper sky. Furthermore, it is the area of the stars, skies, air, as a region above the earth, basically **space**. That said, God is omnipresent, which means He is present in every point in space with His whole being.

⁷ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁸ Ibid.



THE EARTH

אֶרֶץ (ʿ-ṛeṣ) “eres” is the surface of the earth where man dwells. It is the natural material of which the earth is made. The earth refers to the beginning of matter in the universe. On day one there were no other planets, stars or other material bodies in the universe, nor did they come into being until the fourth day. The earth itself originally had no form to it; so, this verse must speak essentially of the creation of the basic elements of **matter**.

WE HAVE WHAT...NOW WHEN?

“In the beginning” אִתְּחִלָּה (rē()·šīt) - the first word of the Hebrew text of Genesis and hence the Hebrew name for the Book.⁹ In Hebrew it means the initiation of an action, process, or state of being, “a point in time which is the beginning with nothing prior”.¹⁰

On the 1st day of creation we have the beginning (**time**), heavens (**space**) and earth (**matter**).

“The transcendent, omnipotent Godhead called into existence the space – mass - time universe. Though this verse does not specify that God is trinity, it is exceptional to recognize that the product of His creative activity was a tri-universe.”¹¹ Also, think on this... the universe is not part space, part time and part matter, but rather the universe is all space, all time and all matter... and so is true of the trinity.

➔ Do we wonder enough on the miracle of God’s Creation?

Revelation 21:6
“He said to me: It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life”.

CONCLUSION & INVITATION

- ➔ What are the implications in being shown that God is all powerful, creating time, matter and space out of absolutely nothing?
- ➔ Do you know for the first time that you have been created with purpose?

Ephesians 1:4a
“For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.”

If we have not asked ourselves the **BIG question** in life, then it’s time!

- ➔ **If you were to die today, where would you spend eternity?**
- ➔ What have you done with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ?

Romans 3:23
“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Romans 6:23a
“For the wages of sin is death.”

John 3:36
“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them.”

I will be present and available at the Capitol throughout the week. Please email, call, text, message or stop me in the hallway if you want to visit about salvation or if you need prayer for anything. See you next week!

Seeking to serve Jesus,

Rev. Matt D Goodsell
 Cell/text: 660.238.4341

THE 4 CHARACTERISTICS OF SCRIPTURE



THE WORD OF GOD

The inerrancy of Scripture means that Scripture in the original manuscripts does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact. When we say the Bible is infallible, we are stating it is without flaw and true. With these truths as a building block for understanding let’s look at the four characteristics of the Word of God; authority, clarity, necessity and sufficiency. “The **authority** of Scripture means that all the words in Scripture are God’s Words (God breathed-2 Tim. 3:16) in such a way that to disbelieve or disobey any word of Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God.” The **clarity** of Scripture relates to the character of God’s Word that relates Biblical truth to the simple. Psalm 119:130 declares, “The **unfolding of your words give light; it gives understanding to the simple**”. “The **necessity** of Scripture means that the Bible is necessary for knowing the gospel, for maintaining spiritual life, and for knowing God’s will, but it is not necessary for knowing God exists or for knowing something about God’s character and moral law.” “The **sufficiency** of Scripture means that Scripture contained all the words of God he intended his people to have at each stage of redemptive history, and that it now contains all the words of God we need for salvation, for trusting Him perfectly, and for obeying him perfectly”.

Cf. Gruden, W. 1994 “Systematic Theology” (Ps.73-127) ZondervanPublishingHouse. Grand Rapids MI.

⁹ Cross, F. L., & Livingstone, E. A. (Eds.). (2005). In *The Oxford dictionary of the Christian Church* (3rd ed. rev., p. 192). Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.

¹⁰ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

¹¹ Morris, Henry M. 1976 “The Genesis Record” (p.42) Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

