

## **Bookends of the Bible: The Grand Narrative of Creation and Restoration**

### **Dedication**

Lord, I come before You, acknowledging that these efforts are not my own but a response to the call You have placed on my heart. As I lay down word sequences, crafted with care and accompanied by graphic illustrations, images, and photographs, I pray they will empower readers with a clear understanding of the profound truths found in the opening and closing chapters of Your Word—Genesis 1-3 and Revelation 20-22.

You have shown me that these chapters are the foundational bookends of Your eternal story: creation and restoration, beginnings and endings, chaos turned to order, and promises fulfilled. May the content I share guide hearts toward Your peace, patience, confidence, and endurance, as Your Spirit continues to lead me.

### **Purpose Statement**

This project is designed to flow seamlessly from the broader vision of Advancing God's Kingdom through interconnected resources:

1. *The Bible in Ten Words* – A concise framework for grasping the Kingdom story.
2. *Bookends of the Bible* – A focused study of Genesis 1-3 and Revelation 20-22.
3. Tracts and Timelines – Accessible tools to deepen understanding of God's Kingdom throughout history and into eternity (c. 2004, c. 2022).

By placing these resources at the forefront of platforms like **KIG4AGK.com**, **AdvancingGodsKingdom.org**, and **KingdomInvestorGroup.com**, I aim to make the timeless truths of Scripture accessible to all who seek them.

### **Driving Traffic: Lord, Open the Way**

Father, You know that my heart's desire is not for numbers but for lives transformed by the power of Your Word. I ask for Your wisdom as I learn how to share this content effectively. Guide me in the practical steps needed to draw eyes to these resources so that they can hear Your voice and know Your peace. Whether through technology, word of mouth, or the quiet prompting of Your Spirit, I entrust the work of outreach to You.

Equip me with the skills and tools to connect with those who hunger for understanding and need the assurance that only You can give. Just as Pastor Chad preached to thousands today about the power of peace, patience, confidence, and endurance, may these resources become a small but faithful part of Your work in advancing Your Kingdom.

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    - **Creation, Corruption, Redemption, and Restoration:** The arc of history encapsulated in these chapters.
  - **Reader's Journey:** A roadmap for what they will learn and how it applies to their lives.
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### Part One: The Beginning of All Things (Genesis 1-3)

#### Chapter 1: The Creator's Grand Design (Genesis 1)

- **God's Sovereign Authority:** Elohim speaks the cosmos into being.
- **The Goodness of Creation:** The harmony and intentionality of God's work.
- **The Image of God in Humanity:** What it means to bear His image and steward creation.
- **Reflection and Application:** Seeing God's purpose in the world around us.

#### Chapter 2: The Garden and the Gift of Relationship (Genesis 2)

- **The Garden of Eden:** A sacred space for fellowship with God.
- **The Creation of Humanity:** Man and woman as complementary partners.
- **God's Commands and Blessings:** Boundaries as expressions of love.
- **Reflection and Application:** Cultivating intimacy with God and honoring His design.

#### Chapter 3: The Tragic Turn (Genesis 3)

- **The Craftiness of the Serpent:** Understanding the first act of deception.
  - **The Fall of Humanity:** How sin disrupted the perfect harmony of creation.
  - **God's Judgment and Mercy:** The promise of redemption amid consequences.
  - **Reflection and Application:** Recognizing the ongoing battle and trusting God's promises.
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### Part Two: The Restoration of All Things (Revelation 20-22)

#### Chapter 4: The Final Battle and Victory (Revelation 20)

- **The Defeat of Satan:** The ultimate end of the deceiver.
- **The Great White Throne Judgment:** God's justice on full display.
- **The Book of Life:** Assurance for those who belong to Him.
- **Reflection and Application:** Living in light of God's ultimate victory.

#### Chapter 5: The New Heavens and New Earth (Revelation 21)

- **The End of the Old Order:** No more death, mourning, or pain.
- **The New Jerusalem:** A vision of God dwelling with His people.
- **God's Eternal Kingdom:** The fulfillment of every promise.
- **Reflection and Application:** Anticipating and preparing for eternal life with God.

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- **Bridging Genesis and Revelation:** Seeing the continuity of God's plan.
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1. **Kingdom of God Timelines (c. 2004, c. 2022)**
2. **Tracts and Study Guides**
3. **Visual Graphics and Illustrations**
4. **Recommended Reading and Scripture References**

Connect for Gaining Resolution about Concerns, Critiques, or Counsel.

Please receive welcome to connect via the Connection Form on the websites. A quick reply will arrive for sincere content!

## Introduction: The Story's Bookends

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### Opening Prayer and Dedication

Lord, as I embark on this journey to connect the beginning and the end of Your Word, may Your Spirit guide every word written here. Illuminate the hearts of those who read this book, giving them wisdom, understanding, and a deeper relationship with You. Bless this work to bring clarity and peace to minds and inspire action for Your Kingdom. All glory to You, our Creator and King. Amen.

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### The Purpose and Vision

The Bible begins with three chapters that describe the majesty of God's creation, the beauty of His perfect design, and the tragedy of creatures' rebellion. It concludes with three chapters that reveal the ultimate restoration of all things, the defeat of evil, and the eternal joy of God dwelling with His people. These six chapters serve as the bookends of God's grand narrative—a story of creation, corruption, redemption, and restoration.

This book, *Bookends of the Bible*, invites you to journey through these pivotal chapters, to see the unified story they tell, and to understand your place within it. It is an invitation to fellowship with the Creator, embrace His redemptive work, and anticipate the eternal joy of life in His Kingdom.

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### Thematic Preview

At the heart of the Bible's story is God's unchanging character: His holiness, love, justice, and grace. Through Genesis 1-3 and Revelation 20-22, we see His purposes unfold:

- **Beginnings and Endings:** Genesis introduces God as the Creator, while Revelation reveals Him as the ultimate Restorer.
- **Creation and Corruption:** In Genesis, we witness the perfection of Eden and humanity's fall into sin. Revelation shows the complete defeat of sin and the renewal of all things.
- **Redemption and Restoration:** From the first promise of a Savior in Genesis to the victorious Lamb in Revelation, God's plan of redemption is fulfilled.
- **God's Dwelling with Humanity:** The fellowship lost in Genesis is fully restored in Revelation as God makes His dwelling with us.

By exploring these themes, this book aims to deepen your understanding of God's Word and inspire a life aligned with His purposes.

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### The Reader's Journey

This book is not just about theology; it is a call to action and transformation. As you engage with these chapters, you will:

- **Discover God's Grand Design:** See the beauty of His creation and the depth of His love for humanity.

- **Understand the Battle:** Recognize the spiritual conflict that began in Eden and continues today.
- **Claim the Victory:** Learn how Jesus' sacrifice secures redemption and the promise of eternal life.
- **Anticipate Eternity:** Find hope in the promise of a new heavens and new earth.
- **Live Between the Bookends:** Embrace your role in advancing God's Kingdom now.

This book is for anyone who longs to know God more deeply, find purpose in His story, and live with confident hope in His promises.

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### **A Roadmap to the Book**

The journey begins with Genesis 1-3, exploring the origins of life, humanity's purpose, and the tragic entrance of sin. It concludes with Revelation 20-22, unveiling the defeat of evil, the renewal of creation, and the eternal joy of God's presence. Along the way, we will reflect on how these chapters frame our understanding of God's character, His plan for redemption, and the hope we have as His children.

Through prayer, reflection, and practical application, this book seeks to bridge the story's bookends and bring its truths to life for readers today. Together, we will marvel at the beauty of God's Word and the hope it offers to all who trust in Him.

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### **Closing Reflection**

The story of the Bible is God's story—a story He invites you to be a part of. From creation to restoration, His love and purposes remain steadfast. As you journey through this book, may you see His fingerprints on every page and hear His voice calling you to walk in His ways. Let us begin this journey together, with open hearts and minds, ready to encounter the Creator and King.

## Connecting with the Creator

How can a human connect with the eternal Creator?

It begins by hearing His Word through others who are dedicated to leading people to Him.

### **But how does this “hearing” happen?**

It happens when a person encounters the name of God—His hallowed name—which guides the hearer toward an understanding of His kingdom. This kingdom encompasses all that He rules, including His will for this earth within the cosmos He created.

This present cosmos is His kingdom, but it is not the only one.

In Revelation 21 and 22, we learn about an Eternal Kingdom that will never fade away. Scripture makes it clear that God has known about this coming cosmos long before the founding of the present one. He created our cosmos in six days, but He has been constructing the Eternal Cosmos ever since!

Our minds struggle to grasp the glory of the current cosmos. Imagine, then, the incomprehensible grandeur of the next one. The energy source of that cosmos is not a solar system—it is God Himself.

To ensure your place in that Eternal Kingdom, it is vital to safeguard your name in the Lamb’s Book of Life. Cry out to Him with urgency:

**“Lord, please do not erase my name from the Book of Life!”**

Here are key principles for living as a good steward of the manifold glory of God deposited within you—your *imago Dei*:

1. **Recognize Your Design:** God created you in His image and likeness. He made you uniquely, loves you deeply, and desires for you to follow Him wholeheartedly.
2. **Treasure the Message:** If you have heard this truth, you are profoundly privileged. Hold onto it with all your intentionality. Cry out to Him in prayer and trust His promises.
3. **Engage with His Word:** The Holy Bible is God’s covenant with humanity. It reveals His mind, His intentions, and His rescue operations for all creation. Through it, you can learn, live, and lead yourself in alignment with His will.

### **A Foundation of Truth**

Many have heard varying versions of how the Holy Bible came to be across the long ages of human civilization. Allow me to share how I believe it unfolded—a story that invites you to embrace the unchanging truths of His Word.

## Creator Communicates

The Holy Bible is a collection of contracts—communications between God and humanity, conveyed through human authors and preserved by faithful lawyers.

The first written document in history was authored by God Himself, a covenant recorded in Genesis 1:1–2:3, often referred to as the "Seven Days of Creation." This text serves as a foundational contract, verifying the creation of the cosmos and humanity's role within it. Moreover, it was how Creator taught Adam to write.

### The Contracts of Genesis

Genesis is composed of distinct contracts that reveal God's interactions with humanity:

1. **Genesis 1:1–2:3** – God's account of creation, a divine proclamation for Adam and all subsequent generations.
2. **Genesis 2:4–25** – A personal narrative by Adam, written before the corruption of creation, detailing his unique role in the Garden of Eden.
3. **Genesis 3:1–24** – The account of humanity's fall through deception and the subsequent judgments, intertwined with God's redemptive mercy.
4. **Genesis 4:1–26** – Adam's final contract, chronicling the tragedy of Cain and Abel, illustrating the struggle to lead future generations in righteousness.

### Preservation Through the Ages

Adam's writings were preserved and handed down through Noah, surviving the great flood (circa 3000 BC) and continuing through the patriarchs. By the time of Moses (circa 1446 BC), these documents, along with the histories of Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, were compiled into the Book of Genesis, forming the foundation of the Torah.

### The Revelation of the End

At the other end of the Bible lies Revelation, written by the Apostle John during his exile on Patmos (circa 94 AD). In Revelation 20–22, we witness the culmination of history:

- The **Millennial Kingdom**, where Christ reigns for a thousand years.
- The **Final Judgment**, where Satan is defeated, and all humanity stands before God.
- The **New Heavens and New Earth**, a cosmos of unparalleled perfection where righteousness dwells eternally.

### Implications for Today

The Bible's bookends—Genesis and Revelation—are more than historical or prophetic accounts; they are a framework for understanding our existence and purpose. Genesis tells us where we come from, while Revelation shows us where we are going. Between these two points, we find guidance for living, learning, and leading in alignment with God's will.

## Living in Anticipation

Revelation 21–22 invites us into a vision of limitless joy, learning, and fellowship with Elohim. In this new creation, God’s energy sustains all life, and His glory illuminates every corner. As King David sang, King Solomon calculated, Isaiah prophesied, Paul preached, and John declared—our response is to rejoice, pray, and worship relentlessly.

## A Call to Action

Let us embrace the foundational truths of Scripture, not only as a guide for understanding but as a call to faithful stewardship. In a world marked by challenges and corruption, we are called to live with intentionality, reflecting God’s image and preparing for the eternal glory to come. “Come, Lord Jesus, come!” May our understanding deepen and our hearts overflow with gratitude as we grow in faith and obedience.

## Acceleration

Because your name is written in the Lamb’s Book of Life, your objective is to **accelerate your participation in Advancing God’s Kingdom**.

### **Kingdom Investor Group for Advancing God’s Kingdom**

#### **KIG4AGK**

Learn to **live your leadership capacities—now, next, and later**—as you engage fully in spaces of cooperation around the **Ten Piers of Production** within the Kingdom Investor Group.

### **Foundational Realities to Guide Your Participation:**

1. **Every corporation** on this planet participates with others around the **Ten Piers of Production**.
2. **Every human** simultaneously engages in **Seven Cultures Amid Chaos**—personal, familial, occupational, recreational, national, global, and sabbatical.
3. **Every human** has the capacity to **accelerate their participation** in Advancing God’s Kingdom.
4. **Conscious intentionality** ensures that participants **keep their names written** in the Book of Life and secure their entrance into the **Eternal Kingdom** of the **new heavens and new earth**, as foretold in Revelation 21 and 22.

## Expectations

Each of us, as DNA-driven humans, are supernaturally crafted by Creator Elohim through the intricate operation of three quarks within each proton and neutron, forming the atoms that compose our being—estimated at **28 octillion atoms** in the average human. This divine orchestration reflects both the complexity of His creation and the intimacy of His care. We hold the expectation that God will continue to love those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life, as promised in Scripture.



With this divine reality in mind, each human should focus on fulfilling their role within the Creator's ordained order:

- For **men**, this means faithfully enduring the curse of *toiling to provide for themselves and their households* (Adam's curse).
- For **women**, this means cultivating and nurturing their *Familial Cultures*, particularly within relationships and the raising of the next generation (Eve's curse).

By embracing these roles, we honor the Creator's design and demonstrate our trust in His ongoing provision and love.

**At the close of the first quarter of the 21st century**, among the 193 nations of the United Nations, Christmas remains a central marker in the fulfillment of God's promise in Genesis 3:15. There, Creator Elohim declared His plan to crush the serpent's head—a victory ultimately realized in Revelation 20:11-15 when the devil is cast into the lake of fire.

Christmas commemorates the coming of the promised Seed, Jesus, whose birth likely occurred in the spring of 6 BC—around two years before the death of Herod the Great in spring of 4 BC. Herod, the ambitious builder of Caesarea on Israel's Mediterranean coast and the refortifier of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, sought to eliminate this newborn King. After realizing the Wise Men from the east (from regions formerly within the Achaemenid Empire) had eluded him, Herod ordered the slaughter of all male children under two years old in Bethlehem, fulfilling the prophecy of lamentation and great mourning.

So if they persecuted Jesus and His followers, do not be surprised fiery ordeal that comes upon you for your testing as though some strange thing were happening to you. To the degree that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so will your rejoicing abound now, next, and later.

Merry Christmas 2024

Darren

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