

Pushing Repeat in Genesis 1-11

Has your Mom ever said: “How many times do I need to repeat myself?” Listen up, pay attention! The Holy Spirit used the human authors of the scriptures (remember this is a divine/human book) to craft this story. When the author wants us to perk up and listen, repeated words and patterns, vivid imagery or poems are used. Here are some highlighted ones that will help us on our journey from Genesis to Deuteronomy.

The creator is defining what is good and not good. Humans are the “main dish” in Genesis 1. All that was created was done so with humans in mind.	
Genesis 1: 4	God saw it was good.
Genesis 1:10	God saw it was good.
Genesis 1: 12	God saw it was good.
Genesis 1: 18	God saw it was good.
Genesis 1: 21	God saw it was good.
Genesis 1: 25	God saw it was good.
Genesis 1: 31	Humans are created on day 6. God saw it was VERY GOOD .
Genesis 3: 6	When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it.

	Garden of Eden Theme	Jesus Provides the Way Back to the Garden
Ideals of Eden are repeated over and over again. Seems that God wants to get us all back to Eden.	God and humans are together.	Jesus promised to send another Helper, the Holy Spirit. He will live inside our hearts and be with us forever. We are walking micro-edens. We can have the life of God living inside of us. (John 14: 15-17)
	Rivers	Jesus said He was water, from which those who are thirsty, could come and drink from. He said rivers of living water can spring from our souls. He was speaking of what happens when we receive the Holy Spirit in our souls. (John 7:37-39)
	Trees	Jesus said He is the TREE that provides His branches (us) life, in order that these branches grow a lot of fruit (John 14: 5)
	Enough food for humans and animals	A crowd gathers to hear Jesus speak. The people are hungry. Jesus takes 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish and blesses it. Somehow this fed the crowd of 5,000 plus people. He supplied enough food so they all “ate and were satisfied”. (Mark 6:32-44)

	Garden of Eden Theme	Jesus Provides the Way Back to the Garden
	Male and female co-ruling together	We are equal in God's kingdom. (Galatians 3:28)
	Fruitfulness	Jesus also sees us as trees that bear fruit. If someone "bites" you, what do they get? Fruit that's bitter, salty, spoiled, sweet, etc.? He provides the power for our lives to produce good fruit. (Luke 6: 43-45)
	Human flourishing	Power in Jesus' kingdom is not like the power structures of the world. Humans flourish when service, love of neighbor and humility rule. Up is down. Down is up. The last will be first. The first will be last. Those with power, lay it down. Those who are powerless are lifted up in this model of living. (Matthew 20:20-28)
	Blessing	
Revelation 21:1-4	We are headed back to Eden.	

Image of God Poem	
Genesis 1: 26-28	<p>So God created mankind (humans) in His own image. In the image of God He created them, male and female He created them.</p> <p>The word for "image" in Hebrew is "tselem". It means "statue" and is the word people would have used to describe hand-crafted idols. People used to craft "tselems" to represent their gods. These could be made from wood, gold, etc. These "tselems" were usually found in temples and in people's homes. God has created human statutes of Himself. He has hand crafted humans to represent Him. He has planted theses "tselems" in the earth-which is His temple. This idea is ground shaking to an Israelite. This is where we get the idea of human rights. People have worth and value. We have worth and value!</p>

Where is the snake crushing human (hence all the genealogy)?	
Genesis 3: 15	<p>"And I will put enmity (hostility) between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her, he will crush your head and you will strike his heel."</p> <p>We are not talking about baby snakes and humans fighting! Whatever this snake represents, those who are influenced by it will create division and brokenness in God's good world. There is coming a human who will somehow deal destroy this snake, but in the process be wounded. God's answer to humanity's rebellion is a person. This is Jesus Christ!</p>