



In-Depth Studies Canada



– Home Bible Studies –

The Unfolding Revelation of Christ in the Bible

Week 2 “Creation” (Gen. 1-2)

Jesus is our Genesis

“The creation story must never be regarded merely as a sort of biblical ‘once-upon-a-time.’ The fact that God is creator and that man is his creature establishes at the outset the basis for understanding the Kingdom of God. When we speak of the sovereignty of God, we use a word which means his kingship, a kingship which is absolute and uncompromised. The creature is ruled and belongs, as a creature, within the sphere of God’s perfect rule. In making all things by the power of his word (II Peter 3:5), God shows the right he has as Creator to rule all things. The only perfect existence for the creature is that which is found within the framework of the rule of God.”

Graeme Goldsworthy, *The Goldsworthy Trilogy*, p. 58

Timeline

The Triune God exists eternally, perfect in sufficiency and pleasure.

Jesus Christ – *the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world* (Rev 13:8) – is called to suffer and save, offering himself *through the eternal Spirit* (Heb. 9:14) and ensuring the salvation of his own *before the creation of the world* (Eph. 1:4).

Creation

The Fall

The Flood

New creation

1. Who is God? In Gen. 1-2, God is the creator

God is different from his creation (John 4:24: *God is spirit ...*)

Only the Creator deserves worship (Romans 1:25)

Creation by Word (Gen. 1:3, Psalm 33:6, 9; 2 Peter 3:5)

God created the universe to show his glory (Ps. 19: 1, Romans 1:20, Rev. 4:11)

2. Who are we? In Gen. 1-2, we are creatures made in God’s image

God made man to represent him (Gen. 1:27)

God creates man in the context of God’s own communal fellowship within himself (Gen. 1:26: *us*) (The one God is a plurality of persons)

God creates man to live in community as well (Gen. 1:27, Gen. 2:18)
God created man to multiply his glory (Is. 43:7, Eph. 1:11-12, Gen. 1:28)

How Does Gen. 1-2 Point Us to Christ?

A. Jesus is the creator (Col 1:16)

Jesus' commands have divine effect (Matt. 8:3, 13; Matt. 8:26; John 11:43)

B. Jesus is the image of God (Col 1:15; 2 Cor. 4:4; Heb. 1:3)

C. Jesus is the Word of God (John 1:1-18)

In Chapter 1 of John's gospel, Jesus is identified as God's incarnate Word, God's own expression and interpretation of God himself.

“In short, God's `Word' in the Old Testament is his powerful self-expression in creation, revelation and salvation, and the personification of that `Word' makes it suitable for John to apply it as a title to God's ultimate self-disclosure, the person of his own Son.”

D.A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John*, p. 116

What Does Gen. 1-2 Mean for Us?

God is sovereign

God still speaks

We represent God

We represent God together

We represent God together by spreading his word and his image throughout the creation

Care and compassion for others

What God planned for humanity

Creation Rest – a picture of salvation (Gen. 2:2):

God's First Work of Creation - Gen. 1:1-2:3

- Physical creation:

- (1) Work announced
- (2) Work finished
- (3) Satisfaction with the work (It was good.)
- (4) Rest in the finished work

The first Adam - natural, of the earth - given dominion.

God's Second Creation Work

- Spiritual creation (the new creation)

- (1) Work announced (Gen. 3:15) - the announcement of the intended work to remedy the tragedy of the fall.
- (2) Work finished (John 19:30) - God finished His planned work of redemption and re-creation at the cross.
- (3) Satisfaction in the work (Acts 2:25-36; Rom. 1:1-4) - God expresses His satisfaction with the finished work by raising our Lord from the dead.
- (4) Rest in the finished work (Heb. 1:1-4; 10:12) - God rested in what He accomplished through the work of His Son. Jesus sat down. Was it because He was tired? No, He rested because He finished the work His Father had given Him to do.

The last Adam - spiritual, the heavenly Man - given dominion.