

Created: The Creator

Spring harvest - Thanks for praying

Story of hearing Hewie North Korean believer 72 years old

- Leader Kim Jong ung 'The Great Leader'

Introduction

The first three chapters of Genesis are foundational to our understanding of scripture. All the key themes are there. This series focuses on the facts that human beings are:

1. We are created by design in the image of Creator God

There is ONE GREAT STORY WHICH DOES MOMENTOUSLY ACCOUNT FOR WHERE WE'VE COME FROM, WHY WE'RE HERE AND WHERE WE'RE GOING. ONE 'PLOT-LINE' which reveals and reflects the true meaning of existence. The plot-line of creation, fall, redemption and final consummation contained in the Old and New Testament Scriptures and embodied in the life, ministry, death and glorification and reign of JESUS CHRIST... Rev Dr **David Hilborn**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **Genesis 1:1**

- In the beginning God
- He created, this is his design
- We are not here by accident but by God's divine design

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." [27] So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. **Genesis 1:26-27**

- We are created in God's image and likeness
- A beautiful design and purpose and one that works when followed

There is no more important decision you can make about the universe than this. Is there a Person behind it or not? How you regard the universe, how you treat it, what you hope to get from it and give to it, how you view your own life and work and relationships and goals – all will be shaped decisively by how you answer that question. **Mike Lloyd** Café Theology

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. [2] Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. [3] They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. [4] Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. [5] It is

like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. [6] It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth. **Psalm 19:1-6**

- Unchangeable
- Unshakeable
- Unstoppable

2. We are created to be in friendship with God and together an expression of His character on earth

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. [9] But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” **Genesis 3:8-9**

- Created for friendship, relationship and connection with the maker
- Abraham a friend of God, David a man after God’s own heart
- In fact only in that place of relationship are we complete and whole
- We are then called to be an expression of his character on the earth

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. **John 17:3**

You are my friends if you do what I command. [15] I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. **John 15:14-15**

3. We are created for a purpose: to steward the world and to govern it wisely and fruitfully

God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground. ” [29] Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. **Genesis 1:28-29**

- Created for purpose
- To steward the world and govern it - Care for nurture
- Wisely and bearing much fruitful
- This is both how we treat the earth that God created, etc
 - The land and how we farm
 - The rivers and seas not to use them as our litter bins
 - the animals
 - The forests

- but also the people on this globe

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **Matthew 28:19-20**

4. God restores us

The enemy aims to “kill, steal and destroy” and the image in humankind is broken, but in the Cross/Resurrection Jesus makes it possible for us to share in His life and so fulfil the original intention of God for humankind

Genesis 3 - Tempted to disobey God and sin entered the world, relationship with God broken ... but...

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. [32] It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, ” declares the Lord. [33] “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. **Jeremiah 31:31-33**

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. **John 10:10**

5. So we have some choices to make: live like Jesus in the power of the Spirit or live in independence?

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

- A new creation

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, [7] rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. [8] See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. **Colossians 2:6-8**

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. [3] For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. **Colossians 3:1-3**

Born by God's Plan and timing

For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. **Romans 8:19**

Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones. **Jude 1:14**