Living Hope Ministries
Bible Study

Genesis 1

Genesis is the book of beginnings.

Chapter one describes the six days of creation. The purpose is to tell us that God is the creator. Genesis is not intended to be a scientific text book, but it is good to know there are many scientists who support the Genesis record.

Verse 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth

From this we can conclude that as well as the earth, the whole solar system, the planets and the galaxies were all created by God.

Verse 2

At the very beginning, everything is described as formless, empty and dark: but God's Spirit is hovering. And when God speaks all will change.

Verse 3

God said...

When man constructs there is digging, scaffolding, machinery and much effort.

But when God builds, it just takes a word and effortlessly things just happen.

Verse 4

Day

The Hebrew word for day can mean 24 hours or a period of time.

Bible-believing Christians are confident that God is almighty and all powerful, nothing is impossible for Him.

Verses 3-5

Day One

God brings light. The light is good. Day and night are built into the created order.

Verses 6-8

Day Two

The waters are separated. The sky is created above the waters.

Verses 9-13

Day Three

Further separation takes place as the land and the seas are defined.

The land produces all kinds of vegetation: grass, plants bearing seeds, fruit bearing trees and so on.

Their creation indicates that we are seeing God's sustainable and long-term plan.

Verses 14-19

Day Four

Lights are created in the sky. They separate the day from the night. The Bible will later clarify the difference between good signs, seasons and messages in the heavens from evil interpretations that bring harm and destruction. The two great lights also created at this time are the sun and the moon, playing their part in providing an ordered universe.

Verses 20-25

Day Five

All beings living in the seas and rivers are created. Then all creatures which find their home primarily in the sky are made. All creatures and animals that live on the land are made next.

We are witnesses to an amazing variety of life coming to the earth. The stage is set for the pinnacle of God’s creation which is man.

Verses 26-31

Day Six

Man is created by God in His own image. The significance of this is that the man is not just flesh, but also has a spirit. This means that a level of communication is possible between man and God, making man unique in all of creation.

Man is to rule over all that God has created and is responsible for the care of the earth and all is creatures.

Man is charged to be fruitful and increase in number. Genesis Chapter 1 includes man and woman, but Chapter 2 two will give us a fuller description of the creation of woman.

God provides a planet full of resources so that man's needs are fully met.

The phrase **God saw that it was good** is true of every day of creation but is specifically mentioned in **verses 10,13,18,25**.

After the creation of man and the completion of God's creativity, God declares it to be **very good** (**verse 31**).

Points to consider:

- How important is it to believe that God is the creator of all things?
- Read John chapter one and Hebrews chapter 1. What extra significance do these passages bring to the creation story?
- How grateful are we for God's ample provision for our needs?
- How well are we responding to the challenge of caring for the earth we live in?
- According to Genesis 1, what is the main purpose of sexual intimacy?
- **What would God say as He looks at your life or mine? Can He say that it is good?**