

# The Beginning is the Beginning, but the End is NOT the End!

#### Lesson 3

"As a Bible believing Christian, I believe in the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth!" Gerald Cumby, 2019.

Why do you believe you are saved?

Why do you believe the Bible is the TRUTH?

Does your mind tell you that the Bible (verses/Scripture) should be questioned at times?

I.e. Read Ecclesiastes and one would wonder about life and its meaning as to what happens at the end of life.

Solomon: "All is meaningless." Read Ecclesiastes 1

(How Solomon felt in the past).

But wait! There is a conclusion to all Solomon's wisdom and knowledge. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14. "Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. <sup>14</sup> For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil."

"So What?"...Says the skeptic.

Some of you may be thinking at this point, "So what? What difference does it make how the Genesis record of Creation is interpreted?"

## Let me assure you that it makes a lot of difference.

• The integrity of the Bible as the Word of God is at stake.

If we cannot believe what the Bible says about the Creation, then how can we believe what it says about the Resurrection? Or what it says about the return of Jesus?

What are some of the great "theologians and so-called wise men" of our time saying?

Theory 1: "The creation of the universe began billions of years ago...probably with a Big Bang...and it is based on some evidence that the universe is expanding."

The Bible has an explanation for this.

- Eleven times we are told in the Scriptures that God "stretched out the heavens" from the point of creation. One example is taken from Isaiah 42:5—"Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it..." (ESV)
- If the universe truly is expanding, then it is most likely "left over momentum" from God's stretching of the heavens.

# The Days of Genesis 1

We are told in Genesis 1 that God created the universe and life in six days and then rested on the seventh.

How do we know they were six twenty-four hour days?

The answer is simple. We know the text is speaking of 24 hour days, because it says so! Each day is described literally as an "evening and a morning."

The fact that the Genesis account is speaking of 24 hour days is affirmed in Exodus 20:8-11 — "8) Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

9) Six days shall you labor and do all your work, 10) But the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work. 11) For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day..."

# 6,000 Years of History

#### How do we know all this happened only about 6,000 years ago?

- Because the biblical genealogies going back to Adam and Eve cover a time span of only 6,000 years from today's time.
- Jesus Himself said in <u>Mark 10:6</u> that the beginning of creation dates from Adam and Eve: "...from the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female."
- NOTE: The Bible is the only written account of human civilization that provides historical information before the flood of Noah that took place some 4,300 years ago. All other records of human history, such as the Chinese and Egyptian, date back only to the time of the flood.

## **Carbon Dating**

But what about carbon dating? Hasn't it revealed human skeletons much older than 6,000 years, as well as animals like dinosaurs that are even millions of years old?

- The problem with carbon dating is that it is based on evolutionary assumptions the primary one being the principle of uniformitarianism, which is the scientific theory that life on earth has been uniform ever since the beginning and therefore the carbon content in the atmosphere has always been the same.
- However...Those who put their faith in carbon dating will admit that if there ever was a world-wide flood, then all carbon-dating is inaccurate.
  - ✓ These scientists deny the occurrence of any such worldwide catastrophe, even though there is overwhelming evidence of it throughout the earth and there are references to it in the folk lore of all ancient civilizations.

#### Science Book

Some skeptics respond at this point by saying, "The Bible is not a science book, so we cannot take seriously what it says about scientific matters."

- It is true that the Bible is not a science book, but it is also true that when the Bible speaks about scientific matters, it speaks with authority and truth.
- It would be impossible for the Bible to contradict true science because God is the author of both.

Examples of scientific truth that can be found in the Bible, and these examples are only a few of those that could be cited (Next page).

All these scientific principles were expressed in the Bible long before they were "discovered" by scientists.

- 1. The earth is a sphere suspended in space (Isaiah 40:22 and Job 26:7)
- 2. Atmospheric circulation (Eccl. 1:6)
- 3. Ocean currents (Psalm 8:8)
- 4. The hydraulic cycle (Isaiah 55:10)
- 5. Life is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11)
- 6. The First Law of Thermodynamics (2 Peter 3:7, 13) this is the law of the conservation of mass and energy that was not discovered until 1850.
- 7. The Second Law of Thermodynamics (Romans 8:21) all of creation is in bondage to decay. (Also discovered in 1850.)
- 8. Basic laws of hygiene (Leviticus 11-15)
  - ✓ The basic laws of hygiene outlined by Moses in the book of Leviticus were far superior to anything practiced in ancient times, whether in Egypt or anywhere else.
  - ✓ During the period of the Great Plague in Europe in the 14th Century, the Jews were often blamed for it because their infection rate was far less than the general public. But their seeming immunity was due to the practice of the Mosaic laws of hygiene. (Keep in mind that this was a time in history when people took baths only once a year and then, only if they really needed one!)

# The Truth: God created everything out of nothing.

- ✓ "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

  Genesis 1:1
- √ "By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible."

Hebrews 11:3

√ "For in [the Son] all things were created: things in heaven and
on earth, visible and invisible."
Colossians 1:16

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2 Corinthians 5:7, "For we live by faith, not by sight."

<u>Hebrews 11</u>:1-3, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. ...

# FAITH IN AN ALL-KNOWING LOVING GOD!