



The Creation Story Summary

By Gerald Cumby

Last Lesson, A Generic Look at Genesis

As we have examined the Creation story in the last few weeks (Really...all our Christian life), we have found that it has more to it than you might imagine.

The Creation story is about the creation of all that we can and could know about this life and...the afterlife (the Sabbath Rest); but...this story is also about the Creator Himself (No...themselves).

What do I mean by “themselves”? I think the “Let US make” gives a big clue as to who “themselves” are!

We have discovered in our time of studying the Bible that this “Biography” is both a “Biography” and an “Autobiography.”

Men wrote the story...Yet God did the speaking and the editing.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,¹⁷ so that the servant of God^[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

“No prophecy (or writing) was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit” (2 Pet 1:20-21).

The Bible is not so much a book about the heavens as much as it is about how to get there.

- ***Throughout the Old and New Testament we see a story of Restoration of lives, Redemption of mankind, and the Redeeming Love of a Creator who loved that which He declared as a “VERY GOOD” work from the beginning.***
- ***Mankind was seeking (looking for) the Messiah in the Old Testament and the Messiah made Himself known in the New Testament.***

The beauty of the “seeking” was that God, the Redeemer, sought us before we sought Him. He made a way when there seemed to be no way.

Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; No man comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6).

Although there are some scientific facts about Creation, we cannot simply read the Bible like a textbook or science book. We must see God’s purpose for Creation (the total and complete creation). We do know that the purpose for the creation of the universe and mankind is to glorify God. David wrote in Psalm 19:1 that **“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”** It is interesting that the words “above” that follows the word “sky” is literally “the expanse.” Guess what? The universe seems to be expanding as man still searches the heavens. What is wonderful about it is that man is just now finding out new areas of the universe that God knew from the beginning.

As for mankind, we were created in God’s image (Gen 1:27, 31) and for His glory (Isaiah 43:7). The universe was not created for any other purpose but for God’s glory and when we understand that, we can look at the creation account in a different light. It was not written for scientists to explain the cause of the universe. It was written to inform man how to be a part of the Kingdom of God.

Most scientists and physicists agree that everything there is fits into one of five categories and these categories are time, force, action, matter, and space and they all fit the description of the creation and can all be found in Genesis 1:1: “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”

Let’s break it down with these five categories:

1. In the beginning (that’s time),
2. God (that’s force),
3. Created (that’s action),
4. The heavens (that’s space), and
5. The earth (that’s matter).

This is not written as a scientific description of the universe but it does give the five categories. It makes no qualms over Who the source of this creation was. No apologies, no hedging, just the fact as plain as can be.

God, the Unmoved Mover

The Greek Philosopher Aristotle sought to explain the existence of and the cause of the universe in a logical way. He called the cause the “unmoved mover” or the “prime mover.” This was his way of showing that the universe had a single causal reason or system which is explained through an examination of the notion of movement.

God had a purpose for creating and He did it without one inkling (that is a good word) of fooling people or exaggeration of truth.

Remember...God chose forty men, living in different locals, over the course of 1500 years to record His inspired word by the power of the Holy Spirit’s illumination.

The “I Am Who I Am” (Exodus 3:14)...the omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, immutable, and eternal God...**chose** to reveal His glory using the redemption story to draw all mankind to Himself. His promises and covenants are eternal for He cannot lie:

Hebrews 6:16-20, “For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath, given as confirmation is an end of every dispute. In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of his purpose, interposed with an oath, in order that by two unchangeable things, in which **it is impossible for God to lie**, we may have strong encouragement, we who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

Now that we have a glimpse of how the plan (Creation through Redemption and the Reclaiming) will take us through eternity, we will quickly look at the promises and covenants from the beginning.

- ***A promise - in scripture - is a declaration of a commitment God makes to man that He will surely keep.***
- ***A covenant is a binding sealed agreement/contract, made between two parties with parts that can be conditional or unconditional.***

The two types of covenants: conditional and unconditional is seen in the various covenants and promises God made with individuals...but in the end, was for all of mankind.

A conditional or bilateral covenant is an agreement that is binding on both parties for its fulfillment. Both parties agree to fulfill certain conditions. If either party fails to meet their responsibilities, the covenant is broken and neither party has to fulfill the expectations of the covenant.

An unconditional or unilateral covenant is an agreement between two parties, but only one of the two parties has to do something. Nothing is required of the other party.

A common fallacy is that God has made completely different covenants in Old Testament times and in the New Testament era, as if God had made a mistake with ancient Israel and failed them, and is now trying to correct the blunders with a New Covenant. The truth is that God is reliable and trustworthy and does not make mistakes. He deals fairly and consistently and the covenants illustrate these qualities. His Covenant with mankind throughout history is neither fragmented nor capricious. ¹

We are now in both the Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3) and the New Covenant promised (Jeremiah 31:31-34 and mentioned in Hebrews 8:6-13)

We who are living today and have made amends with God through our belief in the Savior, Jesus, God's Son, are "blessed" in the Abrahamic Covenant (Abraham's family and the families of the earth would be blessed through him according to the promise of God).

Our belief...our faith in the working of the Holy Spirit on us and in us...will be a guarantee of receiving the reward promised to us for "those who believe."

Note: This will be a two (2) part lesson for the series: A Generic Look at Genesis

Next week, the Abrahamic Covenant brings us to a New Meaning for the New Covenant.

Aren't you glad that you are "blessed" because of our faith in the God of the Universe...The God of the Beginning?



¹ Christian Churches of God, www.logon.org, The Covenant of God, page 1.