

Connected

In The Beginning: Genesis

with Pastor Jacquie

Lesson One

As you read the first chapter of Genesis, ask yourself: Do I believe in God? Do I believe in His Word? Do I believe God created the heavens and earth?

The book of Genesis besides being introductory, is also explanatory. The first chapter of Genesis describes the most extraordinary event in the history of the universe: its creation.

The importance of the first word *Bereshith* is the first word in the Hebrew text and gives us the name for the book of Genesis which means “in the beginning.”

In English, we use the word beginning to define a point in time or space at which something starts. In regard to God’s Creation, this definition is actually inaccurate, because when God created there was neither time nor space. He created them both and then in time continued to create over a period of six twenty-four-hour days.

How important is Genesis 1:1?

Henry Morris explains that “this one verse refutes all of man’s false philosophies concerning the origin and meaning of the world:

- It refutes *atheism* because the universe was created by God.
- It refutes *pantheism*, for God is transcendent to that which He created.
- It refutes *polytheism*, for one God created all things.
- It refutes *materialism*, for matter had a beginning.
- It refutes *dualism* because God was alone when He created.
- It refutes *humanism*, because God, not man, is the ultimate reality.

- It refutes *evolutionism* because God created all things.

Illustration:

Joe and Charlie were arguing about Genesis 1:1. Joe said he believed the record of creation just as it was written. Charlie was an unbeliever and went to great lengths in giving his own theory of how the world began and then how life developed from a primordial cell through reptiles, monkeys, and up to man. When he was all through, Joe looked at him and said, “were you there, Charlie?” It was a good question. “Of course, I wasn’t there,” he replied. Joe said, “Well, God was. He was the only one there and I’ll take the word of the Eyewitness rather than the guesses of those who rely on their own imagination.”

Application Question:

Considering God’s creation, what do you find astounding? What aspect amazes you about it? What inspires you to worship Him?

Quote:

A God wise enough to create me and the world I live in is wise enough to watch out for me. *Philip Yancey*

Prayer:

Lord, I thank You that You are the Creator. Nothing happened by chance. You have a plan for the world and You have a plan for me. Amen.

Read Genesis Chapter One