

The Next Seven

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Volume 1 Number 11

The Doctrine of Creation

1 The Seven Days of Creation

Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:25

2 The Purpose of Creation

Reading: Ephesians 1:1-14 (v4, 9); Revelation 4:1-11 (v11)

3 The Method of Creation

Reading: Psalm 33:1-22 (v6, 9); Hebrews 11:1-3

4 The Joy of Creation

Reading: Genesis 1:31; Job 38:1-7 (v7)

5 The Fall of Creation

Reading: Genesis 3:1-24; Romans 5:12-21; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

6 The Redemptive History of Creation

Reading: Genesis 3:15; Luke 3:23-38

7 A Future Rest of the Creation Followed by the New

Reading: Romans 8:18-23; Isaiah 11:6-10; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1-5

The Foundational Doctrine of Special Creation

Lesson 8

The gospel of Jesus Christ is clearly built upon the Biblical doctrine of Special Creation. In this lesson let's explore an outline of this foundational doctrine as it relates to world history from the beginning until the consummation. The simplicity of it all should really stand out as we proceed today. Let's use these main points for an outline:

- the source of Creation
- the purpose of Creation
- the method of Creation
- the joy of Creation
- the fall of Creation
- the redemptive history of Creation
- the coming rest for the Creation
- the coming new Creation

First, let's consider:

I. The Source of the Creation

Genesis 1:1 immediately compels us to deduce several conclusions about God:

- In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. God is the Creator and source of all life; *Genesis 1:1 is in harmony with the known scientific law of Causality:*

- God is self-existent, the God of eternity
- He has life in himself
- He is transcendent
- He is all wise and omnipotent

Next, consider:

II. The Purpose of the Creation

- Revelation 4:11: “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

For thy pleasure, or it pleased the Lord at his bidding to create all things; by his will and out of his own desire he created all things; no one has ever been an advisor to the Lord!

- Let’s look at a passage of Scripture in Ephesians chapter one that sheds more light on God’s great purpose in the creation: Eph. 1:3-10 . . .

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the

beloved.

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

*9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, **according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:***

10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him”

God has purposed in himself to gather together in one all things in Christ!

- Without doubt at the heart of God’s purpose for creating all things is his plan to redeem a people who would love him of their own volition! Heaven will be populated with a people who return the love He first showed to each of us in Christ.

Next, let us consider:

III. The Method of Creation

- God created by His spoken Word: In Genesis one the phrase “*and God said*” appears eight times in conjunction with the various creative acts that followed. In Psalm 33 we read: “*By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth . . . For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.*” Furthermore, in Hebrews 11 we read: “*Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*”

God did not use pre-existing materials of any kind to bring his creation to maturity. Rather, all was framed by the power of his word. Creation is *ex nihilo*, or “out of nothing.” God brought forth a fully mature creation at the end of His creative work which concluded on day six.

- Before we move on from this point please note God’s method of creation for man. God created the first man from the *dust of the ground* and the first woman from the side of Adam. Mankind uniquely bears the image of God as a living soul. ***He is special and is in no way related to any animal.***

- God placed mankind on an inhabitable planet earth, the central feature in His vast cosmos. The Lord specifically states that the earth was made for man (Psalm 115:16—“*The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord’s: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.*”) It is obvious that mankind is not fitted to live anywhere else in the universe, nor is any other planet groomed for the survival of mankind. Furthermore, we cannot even hope to travel to other parts of the universe. We would be dead before we were half-way to any where!

- as a side note: the earth is obviously the most important focus of God in the universe since he came here to live, die, and raise from the dead; as well he plans to rule here in the millennial age to come!

- It should be noted that God’s work of creation by the power of his word occurred over a span of six literal days. God chose to rest on the seventh day and thus gave mankind a seven day week observed since the very beginning.

Now let’s move on to:

IV. The Joy of Creation

- God saw that all things were good: Genesis 1:31—“*And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.*”

- The very good creation would have included the heavenly angelic hosts who still lived in harmony in the presence of God. In fact the book of Job tells us that they rejoiced as they witnessed the creation. The passage I’m going to quote from the book of Job is actually the Lord speaking to Job at the end of Job’s great trial. Job 38:1-7 says . . .

- 1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,*
- 2 Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?*
- 3 Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.*
- 4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.*
- 5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?*
- 6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;*
- 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

So the Lord indicates here the angelic hosts shouted for joy as they witnessed his creative acts!

- When God concluded that everything that he made was very good that clearly means there was no rebellion in heaven or earth, no death, no sorrow, no

curse, and certainly no graveyards formed over a mythical millions of years of death and dying!

Next, let's move on to:

V. The Fall of Creation

- The fall of creation actually began with Satan's rebellion. The fall of Lucifer occurred shortly after the very good creation was completed

- Satan proceeded to approach Eve in the garden leading to Adam's disobedience

- Adam's sin resulted in the curse upon the whole of creation and the introduction of death into the formerly very good creation

- Adam and Eve lost paradise and were driven from the Garden of Eden. The fall of Adam alienated mankind from God because of the presence of sin. Spiritually mankind died.

In light of Adam's fall our next point is of the greatest importance. Let's look now at:

VI. The Redemptive History of Creation

- Genesis 3:15 gives the promise of a Savior to Adam and his race in the garden

- God proceeded to preserve the promise of a Savior through Noah

- After Babel God formed the nation through whom the promised Savior would come (Israel)

- In relationship to Israel, God established the Old Covenant (the Law) through Moses. The great purpose of the Law was to bring us to Christ who was foreshadowed by the Law in type and symbol.

- In the fullness of time our Creator came near to us in the person of His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ

- Our Creator/Redeemer died for the sin of the world, destroyed him who had the power of death through the work of his cross, and was fully vindicated as the conquering seed of the woman by his triumph over the grave!

The gospel we preach is rooted in the real history of the world!

Next let's consider:

VII. The Coming Rest for the Creation

- Today the whole of creation still groans under the curse. Today mankind struggles with the consequences of sin and rebellion against God. But there is a rest coming! The Lord Jesus Christ is destined to return to rule and reign in great power over all the earth. In that day the curse will be lifted and a glorious rest will

fall over the whole world as the knowledge of the Lord covers the earth like the waters cover the sea! (Cf. Romans 8:18-23 . . . Isaiah 11:6-10)

And finally we come to:

VIII. The New Creation

- 2 Peter 3:10-13 . . .

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

- Revelation 21:1-5 . . .

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is

with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Conclusion

God created mankind as His special treasure. However, sin alienated us from our Creator. Sin separated all of us from the Lord, but he would not leave us in that condition! In the fullness of time he came to provide redemption for Adam's race in the person of his dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

No man can ever know his purpose, enjoy an abundant life, or possess hope beyond death until he is reconciled to his Creator through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Rejoice today that you are one of His redeemed!

Activity

Below is an exhaustive list of Scripture references to the subject of Creation. As you are able take the time to read them all!

Scripture references to the subject of Creation

Genesis 1:1-31
Genesis 2:1-9, 18-23
Genesis 3:1
Genesis 5:1-2
Genesis 6:6-7
Genesis 7:4
Genesis 9:6
Exodus 4:11
Exodus 20:9 -11
Exodus 31:15-17
Numbers 16:22
Numbers 27:16
Deuteronomy 4:32
Deuteronomy 32:6, 15, 18
1 Samuel 2:8
2 Kings 19:15
1 Chronicles 16:26
2 Chronicles 2:12
Nehemiah 9:6
Job 4:17
Job 9:8-10
Job 10:3, 8-9, 11-12
Job 12:9-10
Job 26:7-8, 10, 13-14
Job 28:26
Job 31:15
Job 32:22
Job 33:4,6

Job 35:10
Job 36:3
Job 37:16, 18
Job 38:4-12, 19, 21, 33, 36
Job 40:15, 19
Psalms 8:3, 5-6
Psalms 19:1, 4
Psalms 24:1-2
Psalms 33:6-9, 11
Psalms 65:6
Psalms 74:16-17
Psalms 78:69
Psalms 86:9
Psalms 89:11-12, 47
Psalms 90:2
Psalms 94:9
Psalms 95:4-7
Psalms 96:5
Psalms 100:3
Psalms 102:18, 25
Psalms 103:22
Psalms 104:2-6, 8, 24, 26, 30
Psalms 111:4
Psalms 115:15
Psalms 119:73, 90-91, 152
Psalms 121:2
Psalms 124:8
Psalms 134:3
Psalms 136:5-9
Psalms 139:13, 16
Psalms 146:6

Psalms 148:1-6
Psalms 149:2
Proverbs 3:19
Proverbs 8:26-29
Proverbs 14:31
Proverbs 16:4
Proverbs 17:5
Proverbs 20:12
Proverbs 22:2
Proverbs 26:10
Proverbs 30:4
Ecclesiastes 3:11
Ecclesiastes 7:29
Ecclesiastes 11:5
Ecclesiastes 12:1, 6
Isaiah 17:7
Isaiah 22:11
Isaiah 27:11
Isaiah 29:16
Isaiah 37:16, 26
Isaiah 40:26, 28
Isaiah 42:5
Isaiah 43:1, 7, 10, 15, 21
Isaiah 44:2, 21, 24
Isaiah 45:7-9, 11-12, 18
Isaiah 48:7, 13
Isaiah 49:1, 5
Isaiah 51:13, 16
Isaiah 54:5
Isaiah 57:16
Isaiah 64:8

Isaiah 65:17-18
Isaiah 66:2
Jeremiah 1:5
Jeremiah 5:22
Jeremiah 10:11-12, 16
Jeremiah 14:22
Jeremiah 16:20
Jeremiah 27:5
Jeremiah 31:35
Jeremiah 32:17
Jeremiah 33:2
Jeremiah 51:15, 19
Hosea 8:14
Amos 4:13
Amos 5:8
Amos 9:6
Jonah 1:9
Zechariah 12:1
Malachi 2:10

Matthew 13:35
Matthew 19:4
Mark 10:6
Mark 13:19
John 1:1-3, 10
John 17:24
Acts 4:24
Acts 7:50
Acts 14:15
Acts 17:24-26, 28-29
Romans 1:20, 23, 25

Romans 4:17
Romans 8:19-22
Romans 9:20
Romans 11:36
1 Corinthians 8:6
1 Corinthians 11:9, 12
1 Corinthians 12:18, 24
1 Corinthians 15:38, 45, 47
2 Corinthians 5:17-18
Ephesians 2:10
Ephesians 3:9
Ephesians 4:24
Colossians 1:15-17
Colossians 3:10
1 Timothy 2:13
1 Timothy 4:3-4
1 Timothy 6:13
Hebrews 1:2, 10
Hebrews 2:10
Hebrews 3:4
Hebrews 11:3
Hebrews 12:9
James 3:9
1 Peter 4:19
2 Peter 3:4
Revelation 3:14
Revelation 4:11
Revelation 10:6
Revelation 14:7

(See also other related words in Gen 14:19,22; Psa 118:24; Isa 40:22; Eze 28:13,15; Mat 25:34; Eph 1:4; Heb 4:3,4; Heb 9:26; 1 Pet 1:20; Rev 13:8; 17:8.)

* A special thank you to gospelway.com for their assistance with compilation of this list.