

# **The Gospel in the Old Testament**

## **The Creator of Heaven and Earth**

**Lesson 1**

**Genesis 1**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*June 2, 2019*

# What is the Gospel?

- ▶ Good tidings or good news (Greek: *evangelion*)
  - Gospel of the kingdom (Matthew 4:23)
  - Gospel of God (1 Peter 4:17)
  - Gospel of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:1)
  - Gospel of Christ (Romans 15:19)
- ▶ The Gospel – John 3:16; Acts 16:31; John 20:31; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
- ▶ The message of the Great Commission: Preach the Gospel (Mark 16:15)

# What was the earliest Gospel message?

- ▶ Genesis 3:15 – *protevangelium*
- ▶ Genesis 12:3 – Galatians 3:8 (Acts 13:32)
- ▶ All nations – Jews and Gentiles – a universal message
- ▶ Will be blessed
  - Psalm 133:3 – life eternal
  - Psalm 32:1 – sins forgiven
- ▶ In you (Abraham)
  - Sons of Abraham by faith (Genesis 15:6; Galatians 3:7)
  - The great nation (Genesis 12:3; 28:4; Romans 11:11-12, 15)
  - In Christ Jesus (Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:14)
- ▶ The Bible is the story of the Gospel (John 5:39)
  - The creation record and the Gospel

# **In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1**

- ▶ Foundation of the Bible message – implies an ending
- ▶ Pre-creation or Gap Theory
- ▶ Title Theory
- ▶ A complete creation account beginning with verse 1
  - God, defined by His work as the Creator
  - Genesis 1:1 is the first event of creation (Romans 4:17)
  - The heavens, the earth and everything in them (Exodus 20:11); Psalm 102:25; Isaiah 42:5; 45:12; 48:13)
- ▶ The word of the Triune God
  - God the Father – Sovereign Creator – plural noun; singular verb
  - God the Spirit (Genesis 1:2)
  - God the Son (John 1:1-3; Hebrews 1:10)

# Creation (Genesis 1:1-25)

- ▶ Day 1 (1:1-5)
  - Created the heavens and the earth
  - Formless and empty; dark; alone in the universe
  - “Let there be light!” Separated into day and night
  - Light was good
  - Atomic elements and energy (light)
- ▶ Day 2 (1:6-8)
  - The expanse – atmosphere
  - The space between the waters on the surface of the earth and the clouds

# Creation (Genesis 1:1-25)

- ▶ Day 3 (1:9-13)
  - Dry land separated from the seas
  - It was good
  - Plants yielding seed and trees with fruit containing seeds
  - After its kind
  - It was good
- ▶ Day 4 (1:14-19)
  - Lights in the heavens to designate day, night, seasons, days and years
  - Greater and lesser lights govern day and night on the earth
  - “He made the stars also.”
  - It was good



# Creation (Genesis 1:1-25)

- ▶ Day 5 (1:20-23)
  - Water creatures and birds – after their kind
  - It was good
  - God blessed them and commanded them to fill the seas and earth
- ▶ Day 6 (1:24-25)
  - Land animals – after their kind
  - It was good
  - Creation of man – special attention (1:26-31)

# Creation Controversy

- ▶ No conflict with true science
- ▶ Conflict arises from denial of God
- ▶ Attempts to reconcile scientific theories with Biblical truth
  - Gap theory
  - Theistic evolution
  - Successive creation
  - Framework hypothesis



## FRAMEWORK HYPOTHESIS

CREATION KINGDOMS	CREATURE KINGS
Day 1 – Light	Day 4 – Luminaries
Day 2 – Sky Seas	Day 5 – Sea Creatures Winged Creatures
Day 3 – Dry Land Vegetation	Day 6 – Land Animals Man
THE CREATOR KING Day 7 – Sabbath	

# Creation Controversy

- ▶ Death came by Adam (Romans 5:12)
- ▶ Plant life before the sun, moon and stars – days 3 and 4
- ▶ What is a day? (Gen 1:5; Exodus 20:11; 31:17; Ps 90:4)
- ▶ “After its kind” (Gen 1:11, 12, 21, 24, 25)
- ▶ Uniformitarianism denied by Scripture (2 Peter 3:4-7)
- ▶ Human v. Divine wisdom (Prov 8:22-31; 1 Cor 1:20)
- ▶ A question of faith



# The Creation of Man (1:26-31)

- ▶ “Let Us make man . . .” – the Divine consensus and an everlasting covenant
- ▶ The image and likeness of God – a display of God
- ▶ A ruler over creation – the work of God
- ▶ Male and female – multiply and fill the earth – the hope of mankind
- ▶ The work of subduing creation – display the glory of God
- ▶ An impossible dream in a very good creation

# The Gospel in the Creation Record

- ▶ The beginning and the ending
- ▶ The preeminence of God the Creator and the Sovereign Almighty God
  - The great gulf between the creature, man and woman, and God
  - The solemn obligation to obey and worship the Possessor of heaven and earth
- ▶ God blessed them, male and female
  - A people, “chosen before the foundation of the world” to rule (Eph 4:11)
  - The plan: represent the Creator and rule over His creation
- ▶ “God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.” (Gen 1:31)
  - Good – possessing all the intended qualities for its intended purpose
  - God’s purpose is righteous and holy
  - Isaiah 40:28-31 – worthy of our trust in Him
  - Isaiah 45:18 – created the earth to be inhabited and did not do so in vain
- ▶ The Gospel guarantees the success of the Divine purpose for creation