

“Digging Deeper”

“Discovery Bible Study”

Genesis 1.3 – 2.3

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Additional Notes

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 is the great _____ passage in your Bible!

The importance of the early chapters of Genesis...

“_____” – key truths mentioned for the first time in Scripture are VERY important – we need to pay very close attention to them! Whenever the Bible draws upon things taught in these early chapters of the Bible, they are to be taken very seriously – they are _____ truths!

A little bit about the “situation” behind this passage and its purpose....

Who wrote Genesis?

We are not certain who wrote EVERYTHING in Genesis, but Jews and Christians alike have held that _____ was the main author/compiler of Genesis (as well as the other four books that make up the “Pentateuch”).

What was his role – his task and mission?

He was called by God and appointed to lead God’s people Israel out of bondage in Egypt to the land God had promised Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their heirs – the Promised land.

When was Genesis written?

I am inclined to believe Genesis was largely written sometime after _____ and before Israel _____.

Why do you think this passage was written?

After living for 400 years in Egypt, a pagan nation that worshipped false gods and had ungodly values; God’s people, Israel needed desperately to be _____ to the One True God, His truth, values, and their sacred history. Genesis (and the entire Pentateuch provided that). This passage begins that process of re-education.

So what is the key, unifying idea of this passage? (One of the clearest! Write it down...)

What does Genesis 1.1-2 assert about...

The existence and reality of God?

It _____ it (it does not _____ for it) Psalm 14.1

About how everything came to be?

God created it!

- ✓ God created it! God (Elohim – _____ form) “created” – _____, a word that is always used in the Old Testament with God as the subject.
- ✓ He created it “ex nihilo” (Latin “_____”) by His _____ (implied in vs. 1 – stated clearly elsewhere)! (Hebrews 11.3; Psalm 33.6, 9; Psalm 90:1-2; John 1:1-3; Acts 14.11-15; Romans 4.17b)
- ✓ The Holy Spirit was involved! A “_____” powerful presence responding to the Divine creative word!

What appears to have been the primeval state of things?

It lacked order, and content, as well as light. (“without form and void... darkness...”)

Pointing ahead... Finish this statement: When God speaks His creative word into our “chaos” (2 Corinthians 4.6)...

Central Foundational Truth

The universe (microscopically and macroscopically) and everything in it is NOT the result of a _____, but rather the _____ of a loving God – the God revealed in creation, in Scripture, and the person of Christ!

Review/summary of the 6 creative days

Creating the <u>Context</u> for Life	<u>Filling</u> the World with Living Things
Day 1: Light and Darkness – vss. 3-5	Day 4: The Heavenly Lights – vss. 14-10
Day 2: Sea and Sky – vss. 6-8	Day 5: Fish and Birds – vss. 20-23
Day 3: A Fertile Earth – vss. 9 - 13	Day 6: Land Animals and Humanity vss. 24-31

Can you identify the key elements in each creative day?

1. God _____ – “and God said, ‘Let there be...’”
2. What He spoke _____ – “and it was so”
3. God gave things _____ – “and God called it...”
4. God “_____” some things...
5. God “_____” what He had created
6. God observed what He had made _____ – “and saw that it was good... very good!”

Foundational Truths and “Take-Aways” From Genesis 1.3-31

1. God created everything that exists _____ (Latin “out of nothing”) by His “_____.” This reveals the absolute power of God’s decree – His creative word ... He _____ it and _____ ! (John 1.1-5, 10-14).
2. God “_____” or made a distinction between some things in creation. The distinctions He established in creation must be acknowledged, honored and not violated! This was the basis for what God’s people were to treat as _____ or _____ (the concept of _____).
3. From the very beginning God’s “_____” has been _____ to God’s nature and activity! In this passage God’s “blessing” is especially related to the ability to reproduce – to procreate.
4. God Himself viewed His creation with _____ (God saw that it was “good ...good...good...good...very good!” This was God’s original (and foundational) assessment! Sin has marred it... but God’s _____ can _____ it now, and one day it will be _____ restored! (Romans 8.18-39; cp. Genesis 1:1 with Revelation 21:1-5)
5. Although it is doubtful that it was fully understood by God’s people in ancient times, the language “Let us (plural) make man in our image” was probably an early revelatory allusion to the New Testament doctrine of _____.
6. Humankind was created in “_____” (Imago Dei)! This is not a physical likeness, but a _____ one, thus making it possible for us to know God personally, respond to Him, and have fellowship with Him.
7. According to Genesis 1, God has granted humanity “_____” over what He has created and has urged them to “_____” it. This high honor and responsibility should express itself in _____.

And One More Foundational Truth...

Genesis 2.1-3 – The 7th Day

- ✓ God “_____” – not because He was _____ from creating... but because “the heavens and the earth were _____ and all the host of them”
- ✓ So “God _____ the 7th day and declared it _____!” We ignore “_____” at our own peril – _____ ! (Ex. 20.8-11; Mk. 2.27-28; Rom. 14.5-6; Heb. 3.12 – 4:11).
- ✓ “Sabbath rest” is more than just honoring God with _____ ... it is “resting” in the “_____!”