

=FAVORITE BIBLE CHAPTERS=

## Lesson 15

## Genesis 1

INTRODUCTION: Here is the foundation chapter for the entire Bible. If this chapter is not true, then none of the Bible can be trusted. Thank God, it is true! It gives us the Biblical account of creation. For that matter, this is the historical account of creation. There is not one shred of scientific evidence that the theory of evolution can be true. Even theistic evolution has no scientific basis. God created the heavens and the earth and prepared them for man. Psalm 8 reminds us that the heavens were made for man. The heavens were made, according to Genesis 1, by the direct creation of God Himself. Since Jesus Himself is the Jehovah God of the Old Testament, he was the Creator. John reminds us in his Gospel, "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made," John 1:3. Colossians 1:16, 17 remind us, "...all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." The word "consist" means "held together."

Now let us enter into a study of Genesis 1.

- I. JESUS IN GENESIS 1. We are not advocating that all things listed here are definitely placed in the Bible as types of Jesus. There are, however, some beautiful reminders of Him in this chapter.
  1. "In the beginning..." Genesis 1:1. Here we have Jesus, for He is the beginning. Revelation 22:13 says, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."
  2. "In the beginning God..." Genesis 1:1. Here we have Jesus again, for in Isaiah 9:6, Jesus is called, "The mighty God." Isaiah 9:6, 7, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."
  3. "In the beginning God created..." Genesis 1:1. Here we have Jesus again because He is the Creator. John 1:3, "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."
  4. "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Genesis 1:2b. In this verse we not only have Jesus, but we have the plan of salvation. The earth being without form and void is a type of man's condition in his natural state. The Spirit of God moving upon the face of the waters is a type of the Holy Spirit moving on Jesus, Who is the Living Water, as given in John 4. In Genesis 1:3 there is the inevitable result—light. First, there is darkness; then the Spirit of God moves upon the face of the waters; then there is light. This is a beautiful picture of salvation. First, there is darkness; then, the Spirit of God moves upon Jesus; and then comes light.
  5. "And God said..." Genesis 1:3a. Here again is Jesus. He is the Word of God. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Revelation 19:13, "And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God."
  6. "Let there be light." Genesis 1:3b. Here is Jesus again. John 8:12b, "I am the light of the world."
  7. "...and God divided the light from the darkness." Genesis 1:4b. Here is the sinless life of Jesus Christ. Here is also a picture of separation. We are to walk in the light and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness.
  8. The Lord Jesus Christ is pictured in the story of rain, vapor, and the firmament. See Genesis 1:6-8. A cloud is a type of God the Father. He led the Israelites in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. When a cloud breaks up and becomes rain, we have a picture of God coming to earth in the form of His Son, the Living Water. When that rain seeps into the ground, we have a picture of

the death and burial of that Son, our Saviour. When the sun shines on the ground and the water comes out of the ground, we have a picture of the glorious resurrection of our Lord.

9. The seed in Genesis 1:11 is a picture of Jesus, the Promised Seed. See Genesis 3:15.
10. The sun in Genesis 1:16 is another picture of Jesus. In Malachi 4:2 He is called “the Sun of righteousness.”
11. The stars in verse 16 picture Him because He is the Bright and Morning Star.
12. He is found in Genesis 1:26a, “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” Here we have Jesus being part of the trinity. For that matter, the word “God” in verse 1 is a word that means a “uniplural God” or “three-in-one,” if you please.

- II. THE SIX DAYS OF CREATION ARE LITERAL DAYS. Notice in Genesis 1:5b, “And the evening and the morning were the first day.” See verse 8b, “And the evening and the morning were the second day.” Again, we read it in verse 13, “And the evening and the morning were the third day”; verse 19, “And the evening and the morning were the fourth day”; verse 23, “And the evening and the morning were the fifth day”; verse 31b, “And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.” We must come to the conclusion that these days were not just periods of time, but definite 24-hour days!

Now the question is raised, why doesn't it say, “the morning and the evening,” instead of “the evening and the morning”? This is because to the Jews the day started at 6:00 in the evening. Consequently, the evening came before the morning.

- III. EVERYTHING WAS “AFTER HIS KIND.” Ten times in this chapter we find that God brings forth everything after his own kind. It is said that grass, herb, fowl, animals, etc. are each brought forth “after his kind.” Dogs bring forth dogs; cats bring forth cats; horses bring forth horses, etc.

There are four forms of life: plant life, animal life, human life and spiritual life. None of these can by improvement of itself become another. For example, a scientist can improve a potato or a tomato, make an orange seedless, or make a banana bigger; but there is no way that by improving a plant one can make it an animal.

The same is true of animal life. One may improve on a certain animal by good breeding, etc., but all the grooming, breeding and improving that man can do cannot make an owl into a human.

If improvement cannot make a plant into an animal or an animal into a human, logic would lead us to believe that improving a human cannot make him spiritual. Baptizing a human will not make him spiritual any more than baptizing a petunia will make it a cocker spaniel. For a human to drink some juice and unleavened bread, call it a sacrament, and thereby become spiritual, is just as ridiculous as for a poodle to have some wine and bread in order to become a human. One may as well sprinkle a sprout in order to make it a quarter horse or sprinkle a heifer to make it a woman as to sprinkle a human to make him spiritual. A plant must be born a plant. An animal must be born an animal. A human must be born a human. A Christian must be born a Christian. This is what our Lord meant when He said in John 3:7b, “Ye must be born again.”

This is just another way to teach the necessity of the new birth.