

Genesis 1:1-31 NKJV In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (2) The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. (3) Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. (4) And God saw the light, that *it was* good; and God **divided** the light from the darkness. (5) God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the **first day**. (6) Then God said, "**Let there be** a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it **divide** the waters from the waters." (7) Thus God made the firmament, and **divided** the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament; **and it was so**. (8) And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the **second day**. (9) Then God said, "**Let the waters** under the heavens be **gathered together** into one place, and let the dry *land* appear"; **and it was so**. (10) And God called the dry *land* Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that *it was* good. (11) Then God said, "**Let the earth** bring forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed, *and* the fruit tree *that* yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed *is* in itself, on the earth"; **and it was so**. (12) And the earth brought forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed according to its kind, and the tree *that* yields fruit, whose seed *is* in itself according to its kind. And God saw that *it was* good. (13) So the evening and the morning were **the third day**. (14) Then God said, "**Let there be** lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; (15) and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; **and it was so**. (16) Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. *He made* the stars also. (17) God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, (18) and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that *it was* good. (19) So the evening and the morning were **the fourth day**. (20) Then God said, "**Let the waters** abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." (21) So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that *it was* good. (22) **And God blessed them**, saying, "**Be fruitful**

and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." (23) So the evening and the morning were the fifth day. (24) Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so. (25) And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that *it was* good. (26) Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (27) So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (28) Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (29) And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. (30) Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. (31) Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 2:1-25 NKJV Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. (2) And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. (3) Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. (4) This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, (5) before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; (6) but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground. (7) And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (8) The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. (9) And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree

grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. **The tree of life** *was* also in the midst of the garden, **and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.** (10) Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four riverheads. (11) The name of the first *is* Pishon; it *is* the one which skirts the whole land of Havilah, where *there is* gold. (12) And the gold of that land *is* good. Bdelium and the onyx stone *are* there. (13) The name of the second river *is* Gihon; it *is* the one which goes around the whole land of Cush. (14) The name of the third river *is* Hiddekel; it *is* the one which goes toward the east of Assyria. The fourth river *is* the Euphrates. (15) Then the **LORD God** took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. (16) And the **LORD God** commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; (17) but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (18) And the **LORD God** said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (19) Out of the ground the **LORD God** formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name. (20) So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. (21) And the **LORD God** caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. (22) Then **the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.** (23) And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." (24) **Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.** (25) And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and **were not ashamed.**

Genesis 3:1-24 NKJV Now the **serpent** was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" (2) And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; (3) but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " (4) Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (5) For God knows that in the day

you eat of it your eyes will be opened, **and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.**" (6) So when the woman saw that the tree *was good for food*, that it *was pleasant to the eyes*, and a tree *desirable to make one wise*, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her **husband with her**, and he ate. (7) Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they **sewed fig leaves** together and made themselves coverings. (8) And they **heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day**, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the **presence of the LORD God** among the trees of the garden. (9) Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "**Where are you?**" (10) So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, **and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.**" (11) And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you **eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?**" (12) Then the man said, "**The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.**" (13) And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (14) So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, **And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.** (15) And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, **And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.**" (16) To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; **Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you.**" (17) Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': **Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.** (18) Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. (19) In the **sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.**" (20) And Adam called his wife's name **Eve**, because she was the mother of all living. (21) **Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.** (22) Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become **like one of Us**, to **know good and evil.** (but they would always choose wisely) And now, **lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat,**

and live forever"— (23) therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. (24) So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

Genesis 4:1-26 NKJV Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the LORD." (2) Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. (3) And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. (cursed fruit) (4) Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, (5) but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. (6) So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? (7) If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." (8) Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. (9) Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" (10) And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. (11) So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. (12) When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth." (13) And Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear! (14) Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me." (15) And the LORD said to him, "Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him. (16) Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. (17) And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch. (18) To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and

Methushael begot **Lamech**. (19) Then Lamech took for himself **two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah**. (20) And Adah bore **Jabal**. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. (21) His brother's name *was* **Jubal**. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. (22) And as for Zillah, she also bore **Tubal-Cain**, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain *was* **Naamah**. (23) **Then Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, Even a young man for hurting me. (24) If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, Then Lamech seventy-sevenfold."** (25) And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him **Seth**, "**For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.**" (26) And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him **Enosh**. **Then** *men* began to call on the name of the LORD.

Genesis 5:1-32 NKJV This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. (2) He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them **Mankind** in the day they were created. (3) And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot *a son* in his own likeness, after his image, and named him **Seth**. (4) After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years; and he had sons and daughters. (5) So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died. (6) Seth lived one hundred and five years, and begot **Enosh**. (7) After he begot Enosh, Seth lived eight hundred and seven years, and had sons and daughters. (8) So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died. (9) Enosh lived ninety years, and begot **Cainan**. (10) After he begot Cainan, Enosh lived eight hundred and fifteen years, and had sons and daughters. (11) So all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died. (12) Cainan lived seventy years, and begot **Mahalalel**. (13) After he begot Mahalalel, Cainan lived eight hundred and forty years, and had sons and daughters. (14) So all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died. (15) Mahalalel lived sixty-five years, and begot **Jared**. (16) After he begot Jared, Mahalalel lived eight hundred and thirty years, and had sons and daughters. (17) So all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five years; and he died. (18) Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and

begot **Enoch**. (19) After he begot Enoch, Jared lived eight hundred years, and had sons and daughters. (20) So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died. (21) Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot **Methuselah**. (22) After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. (23) So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. **(24) And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.** (25) Methuselah lived one hundred and eighty-seven years, and begot **Lamech**. (26) After he begot Lamech, Methuselah lived seven hundred and eighty-two years, and had sons and daughters. (27) So all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years; and he died. (28) Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and had a son. (29) And he called his name **Noah**, saying, "**This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed.**" (30) After he begot Noah, Lamech lived five hundred and ninety-five years, and had sons and daughters. (31) So all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years; and he died. (32) And Noah was five hundred years old, and **Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.**

This is a Book of Beginnings. We see the beginning of space and time. We see the beginning of stars, galaxies, solar systems, planets and our planet called Earth. We see the beginning of air and water and land. And we see the beginning of life, plants, animals. And we see the beginning of what God called Mankind.

We were not told what it was like before the beginning. Everything that is written from Genesis through Revelation is about mankind and his/her struggle to have a relationship with his/her God.

There are major themes running through the Bible and many of them, if not all of them are established in what we call “The Beginning”.

The first theme is “God exists, and He Speaks”.

In the Beginning, the author does not try to explain or defend the existence of God. God simply IS. But we learn a couple of things about Him: He Creates something out of nothing. It wasn't until He created Man and Woman that He created something from something else. Our Creator also speaks. This becomes increasing more important when He creates Mankind.

Part of this theme is the importance of how we refer to Him. We know He is called “Elohim” which is a plural word. We know He said that man would be made in “their” image. The full revelation will not be manifested until the Son of God is revealed. But God is revealed along with the Holy Spirit. And one other Name is given: YHWH, the 4-letter personal name of God. It is used by Moses when He was writing Genesis. It's exact meaning is a mystery, but it has become to mean “the Self-Existent One” or “I AM that I AM”. It is written in most English translations as LORD. Jews do not even try to pronounce it preferring to use the Hebrew word for Lord, Adonai.

The topic of God will be covered in many teachings!

The next theme is “Order”.

The first 5 chapters reveal a God of perfect Order. The Days of creation flow logically and rationally from Day 1 thru Day 6. Why? Because of us, men and women made in the image of God.

Light, atmosphere, water, land, grass, herbs, seeds, trees, stars, suns, moons, solar systems and galaxies filled the empty space of the universe He created in the Beginning. He filled the earth with living things, animals, birds, foods to eat and waters to drink. Everything was in it's proper order that would be hard to deny.

Finally, when all was ready, God formed Man out of the dirt of the ground. And out of the Man, God formed Woman.

Even after that, there is order. But the order does not last long. Disorder enters in the form of sin. But, there is another type of order in these chapters: generations. We read a lot of names but 10 of them are revealing:

Hebrew	English
Adam	Man
Seth	Appointed
Enosh	Mortal
Kenan	Sorrow;
Mahalalel	The Blessed God
Jared	Shall come down
Enoch	Teaching
Methuselah	His death shall bring
Lamech	The Despairing
Noah	Rest, or comfort.

The generations show us an orderly transition from person to person until the Son of Man, the Son of God would appear as promised in 3:15. The transition can be understood as a blood-colored thread winding its way through history towards the consummation of all things so that the Creator can create a new beginning, a beginning without end!

A sub-theme of the Order of creation is “Separation”.

We have read that God created Light and then separated Light from Darkness. God created seas and separated them from land. God created lights in the skies to divide the day from the night. And of course, He created time and divided it into days, weeks and years. He also separated one day, a day when no work was to be done. It was a day of **rest** which in the Hebrew language is “Shabbat”. He even separated the creation of the world and all that was in it from the crown of His creation: creatures made in His image.

But understand this one idea: **God is separate from His creation.** He lives outside time and space. He manifests Himself in ways that grant us access to Him: For example, He manifested Himself as a Man walking in the cool of the Garden. (in Exodus, we will read that He manifested Himself in a burning bush, in a pillar of Cloud and a Pillar of Fire to name a few). We are given these manifestations of God so that our finite minds can comprehend our infinite God. In other words, God, in His pure state cannot be seen and has never been seen by any man on earth. It’s a form of His choosing that we can see until we get to heaven and the Perfect God: Man Jesus is ever before our face!

The theme of Relationship:

Made in the image of God and having the LORD breathe into Man’s form His very Spirit so that Mankind would become living souls is a picture of our relationship with our Creator. Because of this spirit, mankind enjoyed a relationship with the Creator that no other creature could have, let alone find satisfaction. The relationship Adam had with Eve was to mirror their relationship they had with God. The two became one-flesh, that is, a unity of two persons of equal value to their Creator who is a Tri-Unity. They were to learn to trust each other and love each other just as they needed to trust and love their Creator.

The Theme of Free-will

However, another theme came crashing upon the theme: free-will. Our parents had choices to make, including the greatest choice of all, to love Him and obey Him and live or turn away from Him and disobey Him and die. The main victim of the fall was the relationship

they had with their Creator. They chose to believe lies and deceptions; and they chose to believe that the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil could make them equal with their God. Their choice was known from the foundations of the world created for them!

The Theme of Restoration

Restoration of the relationship with God involved three things: **Atonement, Redemption and Reconciliation.** These three words give us the ideas of “covering”, “purchasing” and “repairing”. God introduced this when He killed an animal to use its hide to make a covering for Adam and Eve. I don’t think they were ashamed of their nakedness as much as they were ashamed of having their sin totally exposed to their LORD. The coverings came about by the shedding of blood. The shedding of blood is the cost of disobedience and the price of reconciliation.

It is also a picture of the love and grace of God towards Mankind’s sin-nature. It was His love and grace that allowed an animal’s blood to be used in covering the sin and paying the price for reconciliation.

Can we make sense out of all these themes? In the grand scheme of things we will be studying two critical themes: the Fall of Mankind and its effects on the world **and** the lengths God has to go in order to restore His creation He loves and declare what He made is indeed, very good.