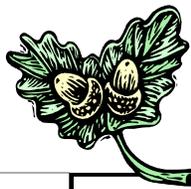


Sept 29, 2013



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Creation: The Story Begins

Gen 1:1-5, 1:26-2:3, 2:18-25

God has all power and authority over His creation (Gen. 1:1-5)

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day," and He called the darkness "night." Evening came, and then morning: the first day.

Scriptural Cross-References

Heb 11:3 Acts 17:27 John 1:1-3

God desires to be glorified by human beings (Gen. 1:26-2:3)

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them male and female. 28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth." 29 God also said, "Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This food will be for you, 30 for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth—everything having the breath of life in it. I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. 31 God saw all that He had made, and it was very good. Evening came, and then morning: the sixth day. 2:1 So the heavens and the earth and everything in them were completed. 2 By the seventh day, God completed His work that He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done. 3 God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, for on it He rested from His work of creation.

Scriptural Cross-References

Ps 8:3-41 John 5:7 1 Thess 5:23
Ps 8:5-7 Gen 2:15 Heb 4:9-10

God reveals His nature through the creation of human relationships (Gen. 2:18-25)

18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is like him." 19 So the Lord God formed out of the ground each wild animal and each bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man no helper was found who was like him. 21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. 22 Then the Lord God made the rib He had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 And the man said: This one, at last, is bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called woman, for she was taken from man. 24 This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

Scriptural Cross-References

Matt 19:4-6 Eph 5:22-33 Phil 2:5-8

(Adapted from "The Gospel Project"™: LifeWay Christian Resources Volume 1, Number 2 Winter 2012-13)

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

What does the emergence of light tell you about God? What clues about Him are woven into that act of creation, the manner in which He made light?

Can you think of some reasons Moses would want to give us two perspectives on the same creation story by referring to God in two distinct ways? What do you think he is trying to tell us about God?

When it comes to the creation of man, what does God say? What is different about how God decides to create man?

In what ways do you image God best? In other words, in what area of your life (relate, rule, work, rest) do you feel most confident that you reflect God?

NEXT WEEK

The Fall: Paradise Lost and the Aftermath

- Gen 3:1-7
- Gen 6:11-14,17-18
- Gen 11:1-7