

## **Genesis 1:1 Creation's Beginning**

### **Introduction:**

Genesis is the book of beginnings. The word itself means, "Origin" "generation" "descent" from the Greek. The Hebrew is baraysheeth meaning "beginning." Genesis is primarily geocentric. The earth is emphasized far more than heaven in chapter 1, "Earth is mentioned 15 times in Chapter 1 and 114 in the entire book. Heaven is mentioned 9 times in Chapter 1 and 39 times in the entire book.

Importance of Genesis:

The importance of Genesis would be virtually impossible to understand the doctrine of salvation without first understanding the story of man's fall.

The theme is the redemption of God's people by the saving work of Christ on the cross. All roads lead to Genesis 3:15 where is where we see God's remedy for man's ruin. Where Lucifer (Satan) shall be ultimately crushed and the Son of God shall be "bruise on the heel" speaking of His ransom death for the elect. Jesus gives his stamp of approval on Genesis in the Gospel accounts (Matt. 19:8; 24:21; Mark 10:6; 13:19; Luke 24:27)

### **I. The Most Comprehensive Statement in the Bible – v.1**

#### **A. Before there was anything there was God**

1. God is Active: God creates, said, saw, divided, called, made, placed and blessed. Pas. 33:9
2. God is Self-existent and self-sufficient – (A W Pink)

#### **B. Hermeneutics of Genesis**

1. Is historical account not poetic
2. Turn To: **Psalm 104:5-35** - is poetic. (Job has poetic account of creation)

#### **C. Absolute Creation:**

1. Hebrew sentences are written with simplicity: "In the beginning God..."
2. This is not the beginning of human history.
3. "Create" is the Hebrew "bara" meaning to take from nothing" (Rom. 4:17; Heb. 11:3; cf. Psa. 33:6,9 and John 1:1)
4. "Create" and "form" are two different Hebrew words (bara and yawtsar)

#### **D. A Closer Look at God's Creation:**

1. When God created it doesn't mean He formed a part of Himself.
2. When God created it means He created everything in heaven and earth. This is a fact of creation. There are no dates to calculate regarding the original creation. (A W Pink, J D Vos comments)
3. The age of the earth, no one knows. (R C Sproul)

### **II. Unformed Earth – v.2**

#### **A. An unformed emptiness – Heb. Tohu, bohu**

1. The importance of Hebrew grammar: (circumstantial clauses and verbal clauses)
2. V.1 is a verbal clause; v. 2 is are circumstantial clauses

#### **B. Process of Creation:**

1. Absolute creation – v.1
2. Descriptive process – v.2
3. God said, "Let there be light" (verbal clause) Psa. 19:1

#### **C. The Triune God involved in Creation**

1. Gen.1:1 - The Father
2. Gen. 1:2 – The Holy Spirit
3. John 1:2,3 – Jesus, the Son of God – Heb. 1:2