Genesis: "In the Beginning God — Growing In Our Awe and Worship of God" Genesis 1:1-2; Psalm 33:6-9; Exodus 20:11

## Introduction:

- Moses was the writer of the book of Genesis (1450-1410BC). The Hebrew word for Genesis (beresheet) means "in the beginning". The Book of Genesis can be divided into two sections: Primitive History and Patriarchal History. Primitive history records (1) Creation (Genesis chapters 1-2); (2) the Fall of man (Genesis chapters 3-5); (3) the Flood (Genesis chapters 6-9); and (4) the dispersion (Genesis chapters 10-11). Patriarchal history records the lives of four men who knew and were known by a great God: (1) Abraham (Genesis 12-25:8); (2) Isaac (Genesis 21:1-35:29); (3) Jacob (Genesis 25:21-50:14); and (4) Joseph (Genesis 30:22-50:26) (GotQuestions.com)
- "In the beginning": The eternality of God (Matthew 3:16-17; Matthew 28:19; Deuteronomy 6:4).
  - o "In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1) "And now, Father, glorify Me (Jesus) in Your own presence with the glory that I had with You before the world existed." (John 17:5) "I and the Father are one." (John 10:30) "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God." (Psalm 90:2) "Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe and they will pass away, but You are the same, and Your years have no end." (Psalm 102:25-27).
- "In the beginning": Jesus was the Creator of all things.
  - "All things were made through Him (Jesus), and without Him was not any thing made that was made." (John 1:3) "For by Him (Jesus) all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." (Colossians 1:16-17). "But in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. He (Jesus) is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power." (Hebrews 1:2-3) "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father." (John 14:9)
- "In the beginning": Genesis 1:1: The destroyer of all other religious beliefs.
  - Atheism (the disbelief in God); Polytheism (there is more than one God); Pantheism (the universe is God), Dualism (there are two opposing gods fighting for power); Deism (God doesn't reveal himself to mankind), Idealism (nothing can truly be known, subjectivism).
- "In the beginning": Jesus created something out of nothing.

"By faith, I, an evolutionist, understand that the worlds were not framed by the word of any god, so that what is seen has indeed been made out of previously existing and less complex visible things, by purely the natural processes, through billions of years."

"By faith we understand that the universe was created by the Word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible." (Hebrews 11:3)

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"We either put our faith and trust in the Word of God and the God who was there when it all happened, or we put our trust in human intellect, unaided by divine revelation. Which faith is more reasonable and satisfying?"

- The trustworthiness of God: "God is not a man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change His mind. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not fulfill it?" (Numbers 23:19) "....In which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us." (Hebrews 6:18) "in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began." (Titus 1:2) "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth." (John 17:17) "The sum of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous rules endures forever." (Psalm 119:160) "knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- <u>Christ created the world out of nothing:</u> "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible." (Hebrews 11:3) Things done naturally are done through a process. Things done supernaturally are done instantaneously.
  - The water into wine (John 2:1-12); The feeding of the 4,000 and the 5,000 (Matthew 14:15-21; Matthew 15:32-39); The haul of fish (John 21:1-14).

"An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense, the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have been satisfied to get it going." (Francis Crick; atheist Nobel Prize winner)

## **Announcements:**

- ★ **BAPTISMS:** Our next Baptism Service is <u>NEXT</u> Sunday, January 30th! If you are interested in being baptized or have any questions about baptism, please talk to Pastor Jeremey, Pastor Joel, or one of the Elders.
- ★ <u>DONATIONS</u>: Throughout the rest of the month of January we are collecting donations for Heartbeats. They are in need of the following items: baby wash, baby shampoo, diaper rash cream, new sippy cups, 0-3 months and 2T clothing for boys and girls. Please put your donations in the tote by the back table.
- ★ **FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner <u>NEXT</u> Sunday, January 30th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign up list on the back table, please sign up to bring something! EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!
- ★ **NEW MEMBERS MEETING:** We will be having a New Members Meeting in <u>TWO WEEKS</u>, on Sunday, February 6th, immediately following the worship service. If you have any questions about church membership or are interested in becoming a member, please plan to stay for that meeting.