

Creeping Thing that Creepeth

Genesis 1:26 - 2:6



~ In our previous report from our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God, we concluded the fifth day of creation; and now we're exactly halfway through the sixth. Let's call it high noon on Friday. The jungle got deep and dark real quick as those first few days sailed by; and if you haven't read our first three safari reports from this book of the Bible then I highly suggest you go back and do so now. For each answer God gave us concerning the creation account of the universe and of the earth we literally had three more questions. So many questions remain and, friends, I can't answer them – and neither can you – and neither can anyone else. See, the world and the things in it aren't the point of the Bible. The point of the Bible is the total depravity of mankind and how the Lord Jesus Christ is the Blessed Hope of the world. Looking back on our first eleven days on safari now seems like they really went by in a hurry. In the big scheme of things I don't think we learned a whole lot. I can't even imagine what we missed....

I

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

~ The Hebrew word for "created" is "bara." Man is now something from nothing; and something new has come onto the scene in this world, also, if you will. We have three creations in the Bible. First were the Heavens and the earth. Second was all animal and plant life; and the third and final

creation is God creating man in His own image. So, we now have a trinity of created things - and a Holy Trinity. "Us" and "our" in verse twenty-six is the Holy Trinity. The Holy Trinity is an enigmatic mystery that is almost impossible to explain. The word "Trinity" isn't in the Bible - but the Bible teaches the Trinity. Explanation of the Trinity is not conducive to this "instant" age, though. It cannot be explained in just a few moments. Like Holy Writ itself, it must be thoroughly studied from many various angles in all of the differing sections of the Bible. For example, God is soon going to say, at the Tower of Babel, "let "us" go down...." - but it also says "the Lord" scattered them at Babel! We have only One God; not three - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. All have the exact same nature. Three Persons – One God!

Let me give you a few examples of how this works out in creation and how God existing in the three Persons of the Godhead is meaningful in our everyday lives: (a) the same way music is made. There are only three structural tones from which ALL music come: (1) tonic (2) subdominant and (3) dominant. That's the harmony of Heaven – they're all your ears hear - and the Bible speaks of that harmony (b) water exists in three states: (1) steam (2) ice and (3) flowing liquid. It's all water. Steam is the Holy Spirit because of the power it holds. Ice is the rigidity of the Father and Christ is the Living Water of life which flows freely and quenches our thirsty souls (c) when we pass light through a prism we have three primary colors: (1) red (2) yellow and (3) blue. Push them back through the prism and you get one white light! Without light there would be no color; technically, everything is colorless in this world but we can comprehend color based on what can or cannot absorb light (d) Man was made in the likeness of God and in His image - and man is also a trinity: (1) body (2) soul and (3) spirit. If we understood ourselves we could better understand the Holy Trinity – but – we don't; so, we don't understand ourselves and we don't understand God.

Further, this universe exists in only three dimensions: (1) time (2) space and (3) matter. Some scientists would include energy; and I would agree – but only with certain conditions and caveats – energy is not a constant. When the switch is turned off there is no energy to the off side. So, (1) Time is broken up into only three aspects: past, present and future (2) Space consists in only three measurements: length, width and height (3) Matter

can only be explained in three principles: solid, liquid, and gas. In extreme environments, three other states may be present: plasma, Bose-Einstein condensates, and neutron stars; but any way you cut it – everything in this material and spiritual universe is divisible by three! Of course, I realize that my explanation here is totally and wholly inadequate; but it may, at least, help put us on the same page concerning the Trinity in this safari.

The revelation of Deity in the Old Testament falls into three classes: (1) Primary (2) Compound, with “El” / God - and (3) Compound, with “Jehovah” – Lord. The English form for each of those three categories falls into three sub-categories: (1) a. God, b. LORD, c. Lord (2) a. Almighty God, b. Most High God, c. everlasting God – and (3) a. LORD God, b. Lord God, c. Lord of Hosts. The Hebrew equivalent for each of those three English forms is: (1) a. El, Elah and Elohim, b. Jehovah, c. Adon or Adonai (2) a. El Shaddai, b. El Elyon, c. El Olam – and (3) a. Jehovah Elohim, b. Adonai Jehovah, c. Jehovah Sabaoth.

So, the Holy Trinity is suggested by three groups of three deities – all One – all in all. This is not some arbitrary arrangement, friends; it inheres in the Old Testament itself. This revelation of God by His Names is invariably made in connection with some particular need of His people; and there can be no need of mankind to which these Names do not answer. Man’s true and only resource is the Lord Jesus Christ – the Son of God. Even our human failure and sin but evoke new and fuller revelations of His divine fulness. The Old Testament Scriptures reveal the existence of a Supreme Being; the Creator of this universe and of mankind. God is the source of all life and of all intelligence. He is to be worshipped and served by both men and angels.

Quite frankly, I would have preferred more information about the creation of the universe. Because we didn’t get that information it must be part of His plan not to tell us everything. God could have filled in the details very easily, I suppose. I say that because all the details are filled in regarding one creature – man. Evidently, the Bible is not directed at animals or planets or anything besides you and me, personally. I guess I would have felt cheated, honestly, to be included in a book about all of those things. Wouldn’t you? Maybe that’s why I am writing this all down? ~

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

~ We have five things mentioned in verse twenty-eight that man is to do relevant to creation; and we will look at three of them briefly under our safari microscopes. The first of which we will examine is to “replenish.” That word fits our understanding of re-stocking an earth that was void – when God did the re-creating – it was like replenishing an account with no funds. The world had been “voided” out like “no-sale” on a cash register. A transaction had been started but had not been completed. Or, the contract had been legally cancelled. Now that contract is to be re-negotiated, re-stocked, or, more accurately, *replenished*.

Second, we are to “subdue” the earth – and, as Christians, we have to be VERY careful about this issue. In the strictest sense of the meaning “subdue” means, amongst other things, that the animals are our “subjects,” - and that would be a very cold statement if we were to just leave it at that; but “subdue” is also influenced by the word *seduce* in the etymological sense. So, this becomes literally mind boggling. I’m not defining the word for you, look it up – it’s a 14th century word. Subduing is the basis for scientific learning, research, exploration and technology today.

Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter ~

Third, “dominion” means to dominate the earth. Man is to be the dominant force and the prevailing prosecutor of earthly matters and laws. In other words, *master* the universe – not bow down to it. Make a note. Meaning, “the supreme authority in the order of the angels.” Again, look it all up for yourself. It also means absolute ownership of the earth – it is the inheritance of all believers. Christ had complete control over nature when He was here on earth - He had and has full deity. He stilled the storm and provided the fish – and the gold in the fish’s mouth for taxes, by the way. Adam could have done that before the fall - where he lost dominion over the earth for mankind.

Man is like God in the sense that he is a trinity – but not only is man physically, mentally and spiritually in His likeness; the reality of truth in the meaning of it is *much* deeper than that. The “free-will” of mankind is unique to man in the world. That God created man in His own image is a remarkable spiritual revelation but we won’t get the details about the physical make-up of man until we get into chapter two. That’s another reason why I don’t think God was overly inclined to give details about the origin of this universe; because, if He had, I think we would have had another chapter between one and two relevant to it, also. It is certainly the place that it would fit in. Interestingly, whereas I was wanting more on the account of creation I suddenly realized we already have too much. So, all we can do is move on. No other explanation is offered except for He made and created everything that is or ever has existed. You will have to have faith to survive this Spiritual Safari, my beloved....

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

~ That is a strange order of the food chain because, evidently, man didn’t eat meat and there were no meat-eating animals at this time in which we are studying. With that, God concludes chapter one but before He leads us on let’s make a brief resume. So, far, God has been mentioned thirty-two times. There have been no attempts to prove He is Who He says He is in Scripture. His credentials are not questionable – although all of us secretly do our own little background check on Him – either way, the fool hath said in his heart, “there is no God.” The Bible was written to reveal the spiritual – the redemptive – truth. That truth only comes to us by faith. The invisible things of God are seen – clearly seen – how? – in the things that are written! Even His eternal power and Godhead, so unbelievers are without excuse....

31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

~ Christians deny both Pantheism and Polytheism as the result of a Spirit-filled and Spirit led, competent and educated Bible study - one where the Lord Jesus Christ makes Himself real to us, by the way - and we reject those two errors because the Bible literally expels even the remotest possibility of either being true. It all had a created beginning, my atheistic and apostate friends. Take it or leave it. Period. Full stop. Both Fatalism and Humanism, as defined by the Book of Ecclesiastes, are both also summarily rejected on this safari on the sole basis that God acts through the freedom of His Own will – just as you and I do – we are all free moral agents, friends. Only when and if we get these things right in our thinking will we ever start acting right, which will lead to order; perfection, progress and promptness in our lives – just to name a few....

||

~ That brings our Spiritual Safari out of thick bush in Scripture and into a vast clearing – a plain of endless rolling fields of revelation can be seen now in chapter two. Pressed upon these plains of principles we are going to see the fingerprints of inspiration. I told you we needed a background check on God. We need to get those prints on file so we can consider whether or not we're going to trust Him. The law of recurrence and the law of recapitulation allow us to obtain His Spiritual identity requirements lawfully; and we're certainly going to get them in this chapter. When the Spirit of God reveals the Word of God He has a pattern by which He operates - always. He doesn't just blurt it all out at once incoherently – but it is presented in a series of facts and truths that are summed up completely and totally in undeniable conclusions in our minds. What I mean is, as an example, Deuteronomy will be the interpretation of the law after forty years experience with it in the wilderness. Deuteronomy is not a repeat of the law – but *a re-interpretation* of it. When we get to that second interpretation of the Mosaic System of Levitical Law, some of us will have to part ways – because this safari is going with Jesus - but let's leave that all up to the Holy Spirit....

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

~ We must understand the importance of the Sabbath Day. Why did God rest from His work? Did He get tired and need to take a nap? Was that first leg of this so called safari too much for Him? Speaking strictly spiritually, and without sensational scare tactics, if we rested right here we will not complete our expedition through the entire Word of God - and I assure you death in the jungle. It's that simple. We must keep moving now for a number of reasons. At the end of day six, God had His work complete – but ours isn't. That's one of the greatest spiritual truths there is in the entire Bible. Everything that He set out to accomplish was done and He was able to stop, rest and reflect in total peace because He knew what He had done *was good*. We are told in Hebrews that we enter into His rest – in the language Hebrew: *we enter into His Sabbath*. What does that mean? – It means we enter into His perfect redemption.

Christ's death on the cross offers redemption to mankind, by which we can enter into His eternally peaceful rest. Being justified by faith we have peace with our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Neither one of us have to lift a finger to be saved. Jesus – Lord - Christ – God – He - did it all. All to Him I owe – and so do you, by the way. Sin had left a crimson stain; He washed it as white as snow. Friends, those are some of the sweetest words in the vocabulary of mankind – and a few of my favorite, indeed – the Word of God is the only place I can find the things I really love, adore, cherish and treasure more than any person, relative, child or acquaintance – *Him*. I hope you feel the same way. If you don't, then something is radically wrong in your relationship with God. If that's your problem, then I highly suggest you take your problem to Him today – right NOW – and get it straightened out immediately....

4 These are the (families) generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

~ Our Spiritual Safari ends this leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God in a very tranquil place with these three overwhelmingly peaceful verses. They also form a summary of the first *five* days of this earthly renovation, as we have seen in our Spiritual Safari. These are the families of Heaven and earth. Many things were here on earth long before man made it on the scene. With that realization we can begin to discover the true plan and purpose of God set forth in Scripture. It's pretty important, friends. We already asked the question: what is God going to do? – and we saw that He was preparing a home for man on this thing He named earth – a good and pleasant home. Now, God prepares to move man into that home. The things we have seen in a very brief period of time in the Bible so far are remarkable - and we will bask further in our field of discernment, understanding, compassion and humility that we have received through faith and revelation by the power of the Holy Spirit in our next report ~

