Twelve Lessons

on

Genesis

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THE FIRST DAY - THE DAY OF SALVATION - LESSON 1

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Introduction: The work of God in creation is a type of the work of God in salvation. The first creation is a type of the new creation (II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15; Eph. 2:10; Eph. 4:24).

- 1. All of God's creative acts brought Him rest or satisfaction. There are five rests:
 - a. Creation Rest Gen. 2:3
 - b. Conversion Rest Matt. 11:28
 - c. Consecration Rest Matt. 11:29
 - d. Canaan Rest Heb. 4:1
 - e. Consummation Rest Rev. 14:13
- 2. All of God's works are progressive. In six days, there was a progressive work done to perfection.
 - a. In nature, there is a progressive growth, such as the grain of corn. It becomes a stalk, a blade, an ear, and finally ripe corn.
 - b. In humans, there is the baby, child, teenager, and adult.
 - c. So is the work of grace, God is working us to maturity.
 - d. In each day, it was the "...evening and the morning", God was working out of the night or darkness into the light. Created beings move toward light.
 - e. But it was not until the sixth day when God's image was seen. "*Let us make man in our image.*" Yet from the first day, and each day after God said "*…it was good.*" It is God-likeness and grace that sees good in the first stage. God sees the finished product when it is only begun. A devil can mark our faults, only grace can see the good to come.
- 3. All of God's works are sound in doctrine. In Genesis is hid all the Scripture, as the tree is in the seed; and in the days of creation is the seed of all Genesis.
 - a. The first three days, we see a separating. The light from darkness, the waters from the waters, and the land from the seas.
 - b. The second three days, we see a supplying. The lights are supplied to the heavens, the fish are supplied to the seas, and man is supplied for the land.
 - c. God never supplies until first there are separations.
- 4. All of God's works are set Note: "created" is mentioned only three times: in verses 1, 21, and 27.
 - a. Verse 1 Created the material world
 - b. Verse 21 Created the animal world
 - c. Verse 27 Created man with his spiritual nature which is far above the animal or material existence.
 - d. Note: Physical matter, animal life, and human life each involved in an independent act of creation.1) There can be no crossing the line between physical and animal or between animal and human.
 - There can be no development out of one into the other.
- 5. All of God's works end in Sabbaths, days of rest.
- 6. Seven great men in succession in Genesis correspond to the seven successive days.
 - a. First Day of Creation is Salvation Adam must be redeemed by the shedding of blood.
 - b. Second Day of Creation is Separation Abel is separated from Cain.
 - c. Third Day of Creation is Supply Noah is supplied an ark from God.
 - d. Fourth Day of Creation is Steadfastness Abraham is steadfast like the sun through four crises.
 - e. Fifth Day of Creation is Saturation Isaac is saturated with the grace of God.
 - f. Sixth Day of Creation is Submission Jacob is the most carnal of the seven but finally submits.
 - g. Seventh Day of Creation is Sabbath Joseph is a picture of Christ reigning and resting in power.
- 7. Salvation is the first day of creation Gen. 1:1-5 The first day depicts a person getting born again.

Lesson Goals:

- 1. To see the similarities between the days of creation and the work of God in our salvation.
- 2. Understand how the first day of creation is a picture, a type of the new birth.

Definition of Terms or Phrases:

1. Creation – God's action in creating the natural universe out of nothing. The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews in the New Testament declared, "By faith we understand that the world was framed by the word of God, so that

the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible" (Heb. 11:3).

2. Fall – The disobedience and sin of Adam and Eve that caused them to lose the state of innocence in which they had been created. This event plunged them and all of mankind into a state of sin and corruption. The account of the Fall is found in Genesis 3.

<u>I. BEGINNING OF TIME</u> – Gen. 1:1 – "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

A. This is the Outline of Chapters 1-2:3

- 1. God does not explain His existence.
- 2. God does explain His creation.
- **<u>B.</u>** This is the outline of conversion All salvation is initiated by God.
 - 1. 1 John 4:10 "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
 - 2. Rom 5:7,8 "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

II. BASIS OF TRUTH

<u>A. A Triune Picture</u> – the Earth's nature and condition – "And the earth was" (not became)

- 1. A Complete Devastation "*without form.*" Confusion, empty place, without form, nothing, (thing of) nought, vain, vanity, waste, wilderness. Man is "without form" in that he is hopelessly depraved and won't seek God.
- 2. A Complete Desert "void" Emptiness, void, waste. Man is "void" in that he has lost his will and is empty of desire to God.
- 3. A Complete Darkness "and darkness was upon the face of the deep" Man is in "darkness" in that his understanding is darkened. Note: The earth begins nothing, continues nothing, and perfects nothing like the lost sinner.

B. A Triune Power

- 1. The Power of the Spirit vs. 2 "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters"
 - a. A Fundamental Requirement The earth, like a lost sinner, can do nothing.
 - b. "Moved" To brood; by implication, to be relaxed, flutter, move, shake. "Moved" is "brooded" or "fluttered" like a hen sitting on an egg.
- 2. The Power of the Sovereign vs. 3 "And God said" The Word of God is necessary for salvation. a. I Cor. 2:4 – "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but
 - a. 1 Con. 2.4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdo in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." It takes the Spirit-filled Word.
 b. God's purpose in creation was accomplished by the Word.
- 3. The Power of Salvation "Let there be light: and there was light."
 - a. The first thing that happens to a lost soul is that he receives light. How he responds to that light will determine if God will give him more light (John 1:9-12).
 - b. Light reveals the reason for hell and judgment John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." Men will die and go to hell because they reject light!
 - c. Light reveals rebellion in a man John 3:20 "For everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved."
 - d. Light reveals rejection in a man John 6:35 "...I am the bread of life." John 6:66 "From that time many of his disciples went, and walked no more with him."
 - e. Light is universal It gives its blessings alike to all to the rich and poor, to the ignorant and wise, to the reputable and disreputable.
 - f. Light is pure It can not be contaminated.
 - g. Light is both gentle and severe It can melt the snow or when focused upon any combustible material can soon destroy it by fire.
 - h. Light is necessary to life.
 - i. Light is divided into three rays.
 - j. Light Pure white light is invisible.
- <u>C. A Tripartite Partition</u> vs. 4 "...*God divided the light from the darkness*." "Divided" To divide (in variation senses literally or figuratively, separate, distinguish, differ, select, etc.): To (make, put) difference, divide (asunder), (make) separate (self, -ation), sever (out).

- 1. Heb. 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
- 2. Adam's Fall His spirit fell to the level of the soul. Adam's spirit was not annihilated but alienated from God. The "Word" divides the "spirit" from the "soul" and rescues it, bringing it back into communion with God. The "spirit" is the only part of us that is capable of communion with God and is "light." The "soul" when it is not dominated by the Spirit is in darkness.
- 3. God names the light "Day" and the darkness "Night." These two symbols are used much in the Bible. The presence of light makes the day; the absence thereof makes the night. Thus it is in the history of souls. There are "the sons of light" and "the sons of darkness."
- 4. God draws a line: You're either lost or saved.