

Genesis 1:26-31

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SERMON NOTES

Genesis:

In the beginning...

“The big questions haven’t gone away. Does human life have meaning? Do suffering and death have a purpose? Are we more than our material selves – is everything about the human condition explicable by biochemistry and physics? What is a good life? Is there any reason to lead a good life rather than a bad one? Should I live for myself or for others? Does love matter?”
- Harry Lewis, *Excellence Without a Soul: Does Liberal Education Have a Future?*

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

- *Genesis 1:1*

- What is the nature of the Creation account we find in Genesis?
- How does Genesis present itself?
- What can we deduce from what the book actually says?

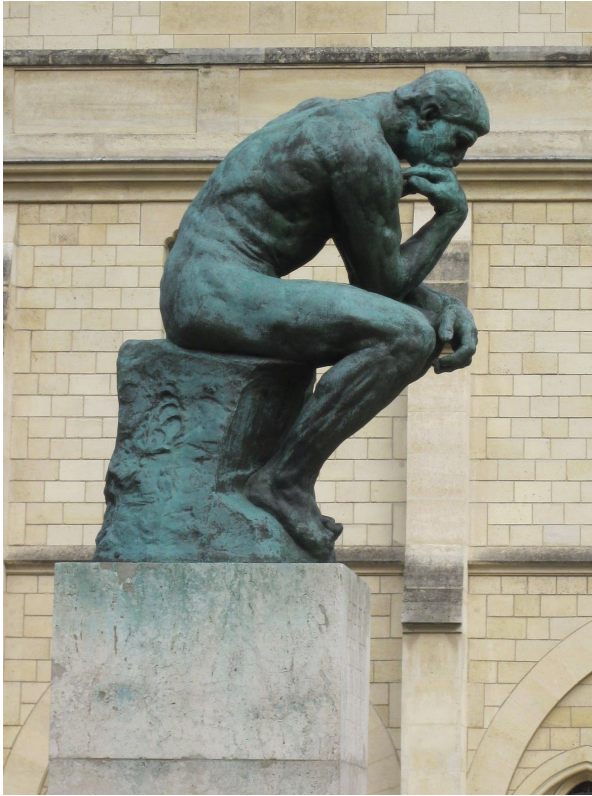
Genesis is not an *explanation* of *how* God created everything.

Genesis is a *declaration that* God created everything.

Genesis 1:26-31

“As the director of the Human Genome Project, I have led a consortium of scientists to read out the 3.1 billion letters of the human genome, our own DNA instruction book. As a believer, I see DNA, the information molecule of all living things, as God’s language, and the elegance and complexity of our own bodies and the rest of nature as a reflection of God’s plan.”

- Dr. Francis Collins



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Conception



8 weeks



16 weeks



20 weeks



28 weeks



Birth

“Men go abroad to admire the heights of mountains, the mighty waves of the sea, the broad tides of rivers, the compass of the ocean, and the circuits of the stars, yet pass over the mystery of themselves without a thought.”

- St. Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions*

“The amazing success of the theory of evolution has protected it from significant critical evaluation in recent times. However, it fails in a most important respect. It cannot account for the existence of each one of us as unique self-conscious beings.”

- Sir John Eccles

What does it mean to be a human person?

The answer you arrive at to this question will have a profound impact on...

- How you view your own life
- How you view the lives of others
- How you view the world in which we all live

Genesis teaches us that human beings...

1. Are created
2. Bear the image of God
3. Serve as God’s vice-regents

“In the absence of any other proof, the thumb would convince me of God's existence.”

- Isaac Newton (1642-1727)

“As long as we are human we are, by definition, in the image of God. But spiritual likeness — in a single word, love — can be present only where God and man are in fellowship; hence the Fall destroyed it, and our redemption recreates and perfects it.”

- Derek Kidner

“The redemption with which He is concerned is both social and cosmic, and therefore the way of its working involves at every point the re-creation of true human relationships and of true relationship between man and the rest of the created order.”

- Lesslie Newbigin, *The Household of God: Lectures on the Nature of Church*

“The yearning to know What cannot be known, to comprehend the Incomprehensible, to touch and taste the Unapproachable, arises from the image of God in the nature of man. Deep calleth unto deep, and though polluted and landlocked by the mighty disaster theologians call the Fall, the soul senses its origin and longs to return to its Source.”

- A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*