

THE FIRST ACCOUNT OF CREATION

Attributes of God

- An attribute is the nature, quality or characteristic of someone or something.
- God is the Supreme Being because He is the CREATOR of all things and no body created Him

Some of attributes of God:

1. God is Omnipotent that is “*all powerful*”
2. God is Omnipresent means “He is everywhere at the same time”.
3. God is Omniscient means “He knows and understand everything”
4. God is Invisible – we cannot see Him with our eyes.
5. God is holy means He is without sin,

Names of God in Some Nigeria Languages

NO	Tribe	Names of God	Meaning
1	Hausa	Ubangiji	The Supreme Being
2	Igbo	Chineke or Chukwu	God the Creator or the Great Spirit
3	Yoruba	Olodumare	Almighty Supreme being
4	Nupe	Soko	The Creator; Owner of the world.
5	Tiv	Aondo	God, the Sustainer.
6	Edo	Osanobwa	The source of all being and the Sustainer.
7.	Urhobo	Oghene	God

BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF CREATION

There are six days of creation and each day is for the creation of a particular aspect of nature.

Day 1: Creation of light (Gen. 1:1-5)

God separated the light from darkness. He called the light, *Day* and the darkness, *Night*.

Day 2: Creation of the firmament (Heaven) – Gen. 1:6-8

God created the sky and separated it from the waters. He called the sky, heaven

Day 3: Creation of land, seas and vegetation (plants and trees) – Gen. 1:9-13.

Day 4: Creation of the heavenly bodies (the sun, the moon and the stars)

With the sun and moon we count our days, weeks, months and years.

Day 5: Creation of sea animals and birds of the air – Gen. 1:20-23.

Day 6: Creation of land animals and Man – Gen. 1:24-2:1

God created all kinds of animals that we can see in the world. He created man in His own image and put him in charge of everything in the world.

Day 7: God rested from all His work. He blessed that day and declared it holy – Gen. 2:1-3.

Summarily, God created the world in Six days and rested on the seventh day.

THE SECOND ACCOUNT OF CREATION *Genesis 1:26-27; 2:4-25*

THE CREATION OF ADAM AND EVE – GENESIS 2

The first man created was Adam. He was created in the image of God.

God breathe into his nostrils and he became a 'living soul'. He was kept in a garden called *Eden* so as to take care of it. In addition, Adam gave names to all animals and birds.

God saw that Adam was lonely in the garden. Therefore, God made a woman to help him. The woman was made from his ribs while he was sleeping.

When God presented the woman to Adam, he said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." (Gen. 2:23)

Then they became husband and wife.

WHY GOD CREATED HUMAN BEINGS

Man is the most important of all God's creations. He created man for the following reasons:

1. To be able to serve Him.

2. To praise and worship Him at all times.
3. To have fellowship with Him.
4. To love Him.
5. To care and maintain the world.
6. They were to take dominion over every other creature – Gen. 1:26.

IMPORTANCE OF THE CREATION STORY

1. The creation story shows that the world belongs to God. Everything in the world is under God's authority and control.
2. The creation story shows God as a God of order.
3. It shows that all God created was good.

MARRIAGE

MEANING OF MARRIAGE

Marriage is a sacred union between a man and a woman to become husband and wife. They are to live together as a family till they die.

Marriage is a social institution ordained by God for matured adult man and woman. There is no room for divorce

HOW THE MARRIAGE INSTITUTION STARTED?

God instituted marriage when he saw that Adam was alone and needed a helper.

God made a woman for Adam and the man said in Gen. 2:23, *"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."*

In Genesis 2:24, God said *"Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh."*

The man and woman were naked but were not ashamed.

HUMAN BEINGS SHARE IN GOD'S CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Man was greatly favoured in God's creative work. God gave man the ability to share in His work of creation through the ability to Reproduce(Procreation).

WAYS MARRIAGE IS LEGALLY CONSTITUTED

For the union of a man and woman to be called marriage, it must be legally constituted by the following:

- 1.The traditional customs (traditional marriage)
- 2.The Church (Church wedding)
- 3.The Court of law (Court Wedding).

FORMS OF MARRIAGE

God's plan for marriage is One man and One woman. For this reason, he gave to Adam only one wife not wives.

The major types/forms of marriage are:

1. MONOGAMY

This is a type of marriage when a man is married to only one woman. That is, one husband, one wife.

2. POLYGAMY

This is the form of marriage whereby a man marries more than one wife or a woman marries more than one husband.

There are two types of POLYGAMY namely:

1. POLYGYNY: the marriage between one man to two or more women.
2. POLYANDRY: the marriage of one woman to two or more men.

THE DEMANDS / EXPECTATIONS OF GOD IN MARRIAGE (EPHESIANS 5:21-31)

1. The husband is the head of the wife and the home.
2. The husband is to love his wife.

3. The husband is to leave his parents and stay with his wife
4. The wife should submit to her husband.
5. The wife is to reverence or respect her husband.

WAYS GOD WANTS HUMAN BEING TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF CREATION

1. Through procreation – giving birth to children.
2. Through caring for the natural resources of the earth. This is done through nurturing, planting, and reservation.

FUNCTIONS OF MARRIAGE (EPH. 5:21-31)

1. **Companionship**
2. **Procreation.**
3. **Bringing up responsible children.**
4. **Prevention of sexual diseases.**

IMPORTANCE OF MARRIAGE

- 1) For raising and training of responsible children in the society.
- 2) To provide enabling environment for the initial education of the children.
- 3) To provide the enabling environment for the development of a balanced emotional life.
- 4) To show love to each other.
- 5) To nourish each other.
- 6) To give birth to children.

SOME MORAL LESSONS FROM MARRIAGE

1. God gave man the ability to share in His creative activities. We must learn to use our God-given creative powers and gifts to make our environment, homes, schools and communities friendlier and more comfortable than we met it.
2. We must wait to grow and be ready before having our own children.
3. Women must submit themselves to their husbands, and in return, husbands must love and care for their wives.

4. We should be faithful to our spouses in order to prevent sexually transmitted disease (STDs)

WRONG USE OF SEX

Sex is created by God and it was good but the devil corrupts it and makes people to use it wrongly.

Sex is meant for the husband and wife, for the purpose of enjoyment, intimacy and particularly procreation.

SOME WAYS HUMAN BEINGS ENGAGE IN SEX WRONGLY

These ways are:

1. Homosexuality and Lesbianism
2. Teenage sex
3. Sex before Marriage (Fornication)

WHY SAME SEX MARRIAGE SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED

1. Same sex marriage is a sin against God and humanity. Because of this, God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19:1-28)
2. Our culture does not support it.

TEENAGE SEX AND PREGNANCY

Teenage sex is an act where teenagers engage in sexual acts which may result in unwanted pregnancy.

Due to its huge effects, teenagers are expected not to engage in it until they are fully grown and married. Any sexual relation as teenagers is a SIN.

EFFECT OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY ON THE TEENAGE GIRL CHILD

1. She becomes a mother at a very early age when she is not yet physically and mentally matured or fit to do so.
2. She may experience difficulty during child birth.
3. She loses the chance of having a good education to become a professional.
4. She becomes a great burden to her parents and the society.
5. She may try to have an abortion and die in the process or lose her womb.

EFFECTS OF TEENAGE SEX ON THE BOY

- 1) He becomes a father at a young age when he is not yet physically and mentally matured or fit to do so.
- 2) He loses his respect in the home and in the society.
- 3) He becomes a disgrace and a burden to his parent and the society.
- 4) He loses the opportunity to get a good education.

HOW TO AVOID TEENAGE SEX AND ITS EFFECTS

- 1) Have the fear of God. (Joseph)
- 2) Say 'NO' to premarital sex. (Proverbs 1.10)
- 3) See sex before marriage as a great SIN against God.
- 4) Make efforts not to visit clubs, parties, film houses and ungodly places.
- 5) Do not stay alone with an opposite sex behind closed doors and in odd places.
- 6) Join a Christian fellowship group and be active in it. Use the opportunity of being in CHS to grow spiritually and respond to fellowship teachings.
- 7) Be the doer of the Word of God you are hearing.
- 8) Discuss sexual advances from any opposite sex with your parents or teachers.
- 9) Avoid browsing and watching *PORNOGRAPHIC* sites.

DISOBEDIENCE (1)

Genesis 3:1-13

MEANING OF DISOBEDIENCE

Disobedience is failing or refusing to obey rules and regulations given at a particular place and time.

BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF FIRST HUMAN DISOBEDIENCE

(Gen. 3:1-13)

God placed man and woman in the garden of Eden to till the ground and to eat from it. Eve was deceived by the serpent as she ate from the tree and also gave Adam to eat.

As a result, their eyes were opened and knew they were naked and made for themselves fig leaves to cover their nakedness.

When they heard God walking in the garden, they hid among trees and when he called out to them, Adam answered from behind the trees and immediately, God knew that they had broken His commandment.

God says to them that they have eaten from the tree He commanded them not to eat from, but Adam blamed Eve his wife, who in turn, blamed it on the serpent.

God punished them for their disobedience. For Adam, he was to eat from his sweat; Eve was to suffer during child bearing and for the serpent, it would have to crawl on its' belly and dust will be its food while its' head will be crushed.

Children and students alike disobey their parents, teachers and school rules.

For every act of disobedience, either against God or man, there are CONSEQUENCES. Therefore, we must avoid them.

THE FLOOD – GENESIS 6:1–22

As men were increasing on the face of the earth, so did their disobedience, wickedness and rebellion against one another and God. Because of this, God decided to destroy the whole world with flood.

God found a man by the name NOAH who was righteous, blameless in his generation and He (God) decided to use him. Noah walked with God.

God told Him to make an Ark of Gopher wood. God told him to go into the Ark with his family and every other living creatures- male and female. – Gen. 6:19.

When the flood started, Noah, his wife, three sons and their wives were the only people that escaped the flood because of their obedience to God's instruction.

The flood was God's punishment for the wickedness and cruelty of mankind.

THE TOWER OF BABEL – GENESIS 11:1–9

Immediately after the flood, the population on the earth increased until there were many people in the world.

The people on earth with one language, gathered together to build a house that will reach to heaven to make a name for themselves. They said *"Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."* – Gen 11:4.

God was not happy with their decision and so HE confused the people by confounding their language (giving them different languages) so the building could not continue.

CONSEQUENCES OF DISOBEDIENCE

THE MEANING OF CONSEQUENCE

The term Consequence is whatever follows any act or series of actions.

It can be referred to the result of an action wrongly carried out.

It can also be the price paid for a wrong or negative action.

CONSEQUENCES OF ADAM AND EVE'S DISOBEDIENCE (GEN. 3:14-19)

God punished the serpent, Adam and Eve for their disobedience in the following ways:

A. The Serpent

God cursed the serpent above all the cattle and wild animals and said that:

- I. It would crawl on its belly and eat dust all its days.
- II. It would be an enemy of the woman and her children.

B. The Woman (Eve)

God said that she would:

- I. Bear her children in great pains.
- II. Be under her husband.

C. **The Man (Adam)**

God cursed the ground because of him and said that:

- I. He would toil and labour in the ground to feed.
- II. The ground shall produce thorns and thistles for him.
- III. He will bread (feed) from the sweat of his face till his death.

THE EFFECTS OF THE SIN OF ADAM AND EVE ON MANKIND

These effects include the following:

1. Suffering.
2. Broken relationship with God (Genesis 3:22-24)
3. The burden of curse as contained in Genesis 3:14-19.
4. It brought about evil as seen in the life of Cain.
5. Decrease in good health.

DISOBEDIENCE TO NATIONAL LAW

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL LAW?

National law refers to the rules and regulations of a country, established to guide the behaviours of citizens of that country.

PURPOSE OF THE NATIONAL LAW

National laws are made for the following reasons:

1. For peaceful coexistence among citizens.
2. To ensure order in the country.
3. To achieve progress in the country.

AREAS OF DISOBEDIENCE TO THE NATIONAL LAWS

These areas include:

1. Vandalisation (destroying) of public property such as electricity poles / cables, oil pipelines, etc.
2. Illegal acquisition of land and constructions.
3. Breaking of traffic rules.
4. Practice of social vices such as *examination malpractices, bribery and corruption, human and drug trafficking, falsification of document, armed robbery, kidnapping, breaking of traffic rules, dumping of refuse in illegal places*, etc.

CONSEQUENCES OF DISOBEYING THE NATIONAL LAWS

These include:

1. Imprisonment (going to jail).
2. Payment of fines.
3. Death penalty.

LEARNERS DISOBEDIENCE AND CONSEQUENCES

REASONS FOR STUDENTS' DISOBEDIENCE AND AREAS OF DISOBEDIENCE

Learners disobey as a result of the following

1. Peer influence,
2. Pride,
3. Lack of commitment to studies,
4. Lack of discipline
5. Absence of the Fear of God

Learners also involve in the following offences

1. Acts of indiscipline.
2. Fighting
3. Joining secret cults
4. Stealing
5. Lying
6. Fornication
7. Examination Malpractices

CONSEQUENCES OF STUDENTS' DISOBEDIENCE

1. Suspension or expulsion from school.

2. Flogging or serving punishment on the assembly ground.
3. Failure.
4. Imprisonment.
5. Poor performance in their academics.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

What Is Repentance?

Repentance means the act of feeling sorry for one's wrongdoing or sin and the determination not to go back to such sins again.

KING DAVID'S REPENTANCE **2 Samuel 12:7-23; Psalm 51:1-19**

Who is King David?

1. David is the son of Jesse
2. He killed Goliath
3. He is popularly known as "*a man after God's own heart*".
4. He was a warrior who fought many wars and conquered nations.
5. He committed adultery with Bathsheba and also killed Uriah her husband out of jealousy and envy. (2 Samuel 11:1-27)

KING DAVID CALLED TO REPENTANCE

After the sin committed by David, God sent a prophet by name Nathan to him to confront him of his sins as well as pronounce on him the punishment. King David had committed the sin of adultery with Bathsheba and killed Uriah as well as despised God.

Prophet Nathan told him that

1. God will take his wives and give to his neighbour;
2. his secret shall be exposed before all Israel and also,
3. the son whom Bathsheba shall birth, shall die.

David never argued with the LORD but admitted he had sinned and repented and he was forgiven.

ZACCHAEUS' REPENTANCE

LUKE 19:1-9

Who is Zacchaeus?

1. Zacchaeus is a short man who lived in Jericho
2. He was a rich tax collector. Aside from that,
3. he is regarded as a fraudulent and wicked man who cheats and defrauds people.
4. He is termed a sinner because of this act.

ZACCHAEUS' REPENTANCE

Being a man that was rejected by the society because of his wicked acts, he sought to see Jesus when he heard Jesus was in town. Being a short man and seeing the crowd he decided to climb on a Sycamore tree.

When Jesus saw him, he went to his house and there, dined with him. The people were not happy with Jesus' action because they consider Zacchaeus to be a sinner. Zacchaeus showed his repentance by promising to the poor half of his possessions, and the people he had cheated, he will repay.

Jesus was happy with and said to him *"today, salvation has come to this house, since he is also a son of Abraham. For the son of man came to seek and to save the lost."*

REPENTANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF NINEVEH **(Jonah 3:1-10)**

Who is JONAH?

1. Jonah was the son of Amittai, of Gath-hepher in Zebulun.
2. He was a prophet and servant of God. The 'Reluctant Missionary' sent to a foreign field.
3. He is regarded as a disobedient and wicked prophet who wants others to be destroyed.

REPENTANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF NINEVEH

Jonah was sent by God to go to the city of Nineveh to inform and preach to them to repent because He(God) was about to destroy the city because of their wickedness which had come to Him.

Nineveh is the capital of Assyria. It is an exceedingly great city, three days' journey.

Jonah, however, ran away to Tarshish by boat. “*And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.*” (Jonah 1:17). While in the belly of the fish, Jonah prayed to the LORD as a sign of repentance. The LORD made the fish to vomit him upon the dry land at the shore of Nineveh.

Afterwards, he went straight to deliver the message that except they repent in forty days’ time, Nineveh would be destroyed. The people believed God and proclaimed a fast. The King came down from his throne and also joined the fasting with sackcloth. The animals and the beast were not left out.

When God saw that the people of Nineveh had sincerely repented from their evil ways, God changed His mind from destroying the city with its people.

JOHN THE BAPTIST CALLS FOR REPENTANCE

(Luke 3:1-14; Matthew 1:1-12)

Who is JOHN THE BAPTIST?

1. He is the child of Zachariah the priest and Elizabeth.
2. He is the forerunner of Jesus Christ.
3. He lived in the wilderness eating only locust and wild honey.

BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE

Baptism of repentance is the immersion of an individual in water as a sign that the person has truly and genuinely repented from his/her bad and past behaviours to a new and good one. It is an indication that such a person is no longer living the old way of life and he is now a changed person.

JOHN THE BAPTIST CALLS FOR REPENTANCE

John the Baptist as the forerunner of Jesus Christ, went to the region about of Jordan, preaching a **baptism of repentance** for the forgiveness of sins.

Many people came to hear him and to be baptised by him. He warned them that it was only repentance that would deliver them from the wrath to come and not their sonship of Abraham.

He told them to bear fruits that befit repentance. He further told them that every tree that did not bear good fruit would be cut down and burnt.

In addition, he told the tax collectors not to collect more tax from people than they are told; to the soldiers they are not to rob anyone by violence or false accusation and they should

be contented with their wages. And many came to him to be baptised with the baptism of repentance.

CONSEQUENCES OF LACK OF REPENTANCE

(2 Samuel 3:18; 4:10-21)

CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO UNREPENTANCE

God always forgives those who repent of their sins. On the other hand, failure to repent has very serious consequences. A very good example is the story of Eli and his sons, Hophni and Phinehas.

As a result of their unrepentant attitude:

1. The Israelites were defeated by the Philistines during the war.
2. The Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant.
3. Eli and his two sons died.
4. Eli's daughter-in-law had forced labour and died immediately after giving birth.
5. The house of Eli was punished forever by losing the priesthood – the priesthood was transferred to Samuel.

CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMES COMMITTED IN NIGERIA

There are many crimes people commit in Nigeria daily, unless the perpetrators repent. Some of the consequences are listed as follows:

1. Imprisonment
2. Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) –such as HIV/AIDS (Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency)
3. Untimely death
4. Sexual assault
5. Loss of career prospects
6. Eternal damnation

MORAL LESSONS FROM THE TOPIC CALL TO REPENTANCE

These lessons include:

1. We need to learn to accept our fault and repent just as David.
2. We need to repay people that we have unlawfully cheated and robbed as did Zacchaeus.
3. Repentance is very important in order to escape the consequences of our sins.

4. Genuine and true repentance entails turning away from old and bad behaviours.
5. There are serious consequences if we choose not to repent like it happened to Eli and his Sons.
6. Our unrepentant act can affect a lot of persons - our family, friends and the society.