

Full Scope of Scripture: The Foundation - Part 3a

Gen.1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

- At the very beginning of the book of beginnings, Genesis, we read of God's creation of the heavens and the earth
- These few short words at the beginning of God's word say so much-
- The word translated 'God' here is the Hebrew word '**Elohiym**' which tells us that God is more than one person.
- This is a plural noun and, in complete keeping with related Scripture, would include all three members of the Godhead — God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit: The three in one – **The Trinity**. (e.g., cf. **John 1:1-3, 14; John 4:24; 1John5:7**). This should not surprise us as all the three parts of the Trinity cannot be separated; all three parts of the trinity were involved in this, creative event and we should know that they are always working together in harmony.
 - ***John 4: 24*** "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."
 - ***Deut. 6:4*** "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!"
 - ***Gal. 3:20*** "Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one."
 - ***1John 5:7*** "For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one."
- What did God create? The heavens and the earth and we can see that the Word who was God and was with God was very instrumental as all things were made through Him.
 - ***John 1:1*** "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.....**14** "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth".
- Apostle Paul gives us more information of what God created in the heavens and earth:
 - ***Col.1:16*** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.
 - We can see that both in the heavens and the earth, we have visible and invisible places of ruler ship (thrones, kingdoms rulers and authorities- NLT)).
 - When we talk of the heavens, we are talking of that invisible realm connected with the earth from which ruler ship of the earth takes place. Please read ***Dan 4:17. 26*** and you will realize that the heavens do rule. As much as we see the visible rulers here on earth, ruler ship over the earth emanate from the heavens.
 - In Daniel's day, King Nebuchadnezzar had refused to recognize this fact. And in doing so, God brought about a horrific state upon the king. He became as a wild animal, living outside and having lost his human mind, so to speak, and remained in that condition for 7 periods of time. Once the king recognized the fact that the Most High rules, and that rulership takes place from the heavens, he was restored. And he offered praises to the Living God.
 - This fact is true today — the heavens do rule! And the fact will be true in the Age to come. It is the heavens that rule. Even as rulership takes place on the earth over the earth, there is an unseen (to our human eyes) hierarchy of rulership that takes place from the heavens over the earth. And a good in depth

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study of the Book of Daniel would reveal that there is angelic activity that takes place in the heavens that surround our earth. The angelic activity is real and powerful! We need to grasp that.

- Let us note that Satan and his fallen angels rule over the earth from the heavens above even now (I know this will probably be hard to believe, but it is the scriptural truth). Please read the below scriptures and think through them.
 - **John 14:30** *I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in me (Jesus is speaking)*
What does Jesus call Satan? _____
 - **2 Corinthians 4:4** *whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them*
 - **Ephesians 6:12** *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*
 - **Ephesians 2** "...the prince of the power of the air..."
 - **1 John 5:18** *We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. **19** We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.*
 - *We know (for a fact) that we are of God, and the whole world [around us] lies in the power of the evil one.*
 - **Matthew 4:8** *Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. **9** And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." **10** Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"*
 - **John 18:36** *"Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."*
 - Satan and his angels have ruled over the earth from the beginning and will continue to do so until the time of the Kingdom.
 - It is from this domain that rulership will take place over the earth in the Coming Age. Jesus will rule from the heavenly City (that city which has foundations whose architect and builder is God)! Imagine a city which God designed and built! All for us brethren, as joint heirs with Christ only if we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together with him.
 - This is yet future; in the coming age –
Revelation 11:15 *Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" **16** And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God,*
- ☐ Now, we know also that the heavens and the earth of Genesis 1:1 were created in a perfect condition, in complete harmony. **Deuteronomy 32:4** *He is the Rock, His work is perfect;...*
- How then would we explain (**Genesis 1:2** *And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep*)?
 - By comparing scripture with scripture we can know that it was not originally created that way.

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Isaiah 45:18 *For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, [same Hebrew word translated 'void' in Genesis 1:2] Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the LORD, and there is no other.*

- And if it were not created in 'vain'/'void' in the beginning, then it obviously became that way at some subsequent point. What happened?
 - God is a God of order and precision and this one segment of His universe is brought into being with purpose and would be administered by those specifically created for that purpose.
 - Comparing Scripture with Scripture, through the writings of Ezekiel and Isaiah, the originally created ruler over this earth, Lucifer, led a rebellion against God, his Creator. And in this rebellion, his sanctuaries became desecrated, which brought about the need for a restoration of these same sanctuaries.
 - **Ezek.28:12...** *"You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created. 14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. 15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.*
 - **Isaiah 14:12** *"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'*
 - And as a result of these actions - **Ezek 28:18a** *"You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities. By the iniquity of your trading;*
Sanctuaries –(the heavens and the earth)
 - Because of sin, God's creation had become ruined and was now engulfed in darkness in a place of death.
Gen 1:2 *The earth was (Became) without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.*
 - But God has purpose for His creation and will not leave this part of His universe in a corrupted condition. His solution as we know is to restore His ruined creation over a period of 6 days followed by a 7th day, a day of rest.
- This is what happened;
 - The creation fell into ruin (**Gen. 1:2a**) at the rebellion of Lucifer.
 - God restored the ruin over a six-day period (**Gen. 1:2b-31**)
 - Then God rested from His work of restoration on the seventh day (**Gen. 2:1-3**).
 - And based upon this previous perfect restoration, we can know that God will again take six days to restore a subsequent ruin (i.e., fallen man, along with the restored creation which had come under a curse through the fall of man).

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- He will follow this restoration with a seventh day of rest (*Heb. 4:9*). Only this time, as Peter so succinctly stated within a context of the “Promise of His coming” each day will be 1,000 years in length (*II Peter 3*). And so these first 34 verses in Scripture are extremely instructive to us as to the timing of the future day of rest. As we have seen and will continue to see in further study, the Sabbath Rest, which is yet for the people of God, is a 1,000-year period, which follows a 6,000-year period.
- We will be looking at those 7 Days in detail God willing! Let us remain diligent!

Questions:

1. Beginning with Genesis 1:1 – What can we learn about God from this verse and which scriptures did we look at connected to it?
2. Beginning with John 4:24 – What else did we learn about God?
3. Taking these few things we have learned concerning God, what do they teach us concerning the Word of God?
4. What did God create in the beginning and what scriptures did we look at?
5. How do you understand Gen. 1:2a?
6. Read Col 1:15-20. How do we understand vs. 20?
7. Who do we wrestle against according to Ephes. 6:12? What other scriptures did we look at in connection with this?
8. What did God need to do to restore the ruined creation?
9. What verses in 2 Pet.3 that gives us a commentary on Gen.1:2a?
10. What are your thoughts on this lesson?