It All Starts Here: Genesis 1 03/9/2025 - Andy Deane

Genesis 1 sets the foundation for trusting God in all areas of life. Faith in the Creator builds faith for the rest of our life.

Hebrews 11:1-3, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible."

1. God Brings Order from Chaos

- Things started in disorder, but God brought order. Genesis 1:2, "...the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep..."
- God is a God of order, not disorder. 1 Corinthians 14:33, "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace..."
- God can use even chaos for our good. <u>Romans 8:28</u>, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him..."

2. When God Speaks, Good Things Happen

- The chaos improved when God's Word was obeyed. Genesis 1:3, "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."
- God's Word still speaks to us today. <u>Hebrews 4:12</u>, "For the word of God is alive and active..." James 1:22, "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."
- Challenge: What if we obeyed immediately and without resistance?
- <u>Isaiah 55:6</u>, Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.
- Hebrews 3:7-8, Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the wilderness

3. Light Will Always Overcome Darkness

- Jesus is the Light of the World. John 1:5, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
- We are called to shine His light to others.
- <u>Matthew 5:14-16</u>, "You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others..." Light and darkness cannot coexist.
 - <u>1 John 1:5-7</u>, "...God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."
- Revelation 3:15-16, 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.'
- Why do we sometimes dim the light? John 3:19, ".. Light has come.. but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil."
- God is gentle with those who are struggling. Isaiah 42:3, "...a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice."

4. Everything God Made Is Good—Including You

- God's creation reflects His goodness, and He delights in us.
 <u>Genesis 1:31</u>, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day."
- Worship is the proper response to creation.

 <u>Psalm 19:1</u>, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

5. The Creation Story Gives Us Hope Today

• If we trust God as Creator, why do we struggle to trust Him today?

<u>Isaiah 40:28-31</u>, "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Let's think through these ideas this week:

- Genesis 1 is more than a creation account—it's a call to trust God.
- What area of your life feels chaotic? God brings order.
- What decision are you hesitating to obey? God's Word brings life.
- How is your light shining? Darkness cannot overcome it.
- Do you know your worth? You are created by a good God.
- Do you trust God with today? The Creator is also your Sustainer.