

PASTOR RAY'S BIBLE SCHOOL 201

THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

(How To Apply The Prophetic View Of Scripture To The Book Of Genesis)

Session Two

“The Seed Plot Of The Bible”

I. The Bible As Revelation

A. God's Story

1. Having a “prophetic view” of scripture means we “see” the Bible as one complete “story”, with a beginning, middle and end.
2. Each verse, chapter and book of the Bible fits into the context of the story and should be interpreted as such.
3. The first Book of the Bible is Genesis, the “Book of Beginnings”, and makes it essential to understanding all the rest.

B. The “Seed Plot” Of The Bible

1. As with any story, book, or movie, we need the beginning to understand what follows. This makes the material in this course essential if we are to successfully grasp the fullest meaning of the story.
2. Every major truth and doctrine (teaching) in scripture is found in Genesis, though in “seed form”.*

*Just as the picture on a pack of seeds looks nothing like the seeds inside the package, we can be sure that the “**life**” in the full-grown plant could be found in the seeds, so with the truths contained in the Book of Genesis.

- a. There is not discontinuity or contradiction between the Old Testament and the New Testament...the New is just a fuller revelation of what is in the Old...

The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed; the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed!

3. Genesis is the beginning (or “Alpha”) of God's story so the Book of Revelation is the end (Omega) of God's story. And the entire story centers in Jesus Christ!

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, says the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Jesus Christ to the Apostle John in Revelation 1:8

II. An Introduction To The Great Doctrines Of Scripture

A. The Doctrine Of Revelation

1. The Bible begins with “in the beginning”, not “once upon a time”.

a. The Bible does not argue the case for whether God exists or not, it presupposes His preexistence and aseity (independent self-existence).

2. The foundation of scripture is the presupposition of authoritative revelation.

a. Since no human being was present in Creation, God must reveal to man what happened.*

3. In our 101 Course, we more fully discuss the two kinds of revelation. God’s general revelation to man can be seen by all in Creation itself. But the Bible is God’s special revelation.

4. General revelation is given to all men in the Creation itself; but special (saving) revelation is a gift of God as He unveils and discloses Himself to us through scripture and through His Son.

General (Universal) Revelation

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.

Psalm 19:1-4 New Living Translation

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Rom 1:18-21 KJV

Special Revelation

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 16:16-17 KJV

He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

Matt 13:11 KJV

Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Cor 2:11-15 NKJV

" My Father has entrusted everything to me. No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

Matt 11:27 NLT

5. The existence of God is made evident (in general revelation) to all men as they observe and study what God has created; but only God can give us (special) saving revelation of Himself through the Scriptures and by the Holy Spirit.

B. The Principle Of “First Mention”

1. The principle of “first mention” tells us that the first time any important doctrine, topic or subject is mentioned in the Bible will often carry foundational keys that will help us understand that same truth throughout scripture.

2. The “first mention” of God is in Genesis 1:1, and carries with important clues to the fundamental Person of God: He is pre-existent; He is sovereign; He is a Creator.

a. We should connect this “beginning” with the incarnation of God in Christ Jesus; how when God became man His occupation was not as farmer or shepherd, but as a carpenter’s son!

3. The “first mention” of God speaking is in Genesis 1:3: “And God said, let there be light”, which tells us that the first thing God does is to REVEAL! He brings “light” (revelation) to darkness; And so it is concerning the darkness of the human soul, the first operation of God upon the sinfulness of the human condition is to enlighten or illuminate!

4. Some important doctrines in scripture are not specifically mentioned, but are inherent in the text. One of the most important is the PROVIDENCE OF GOD.

a. “Providence” is a term derived from 2 Latin words:

Pro (forward or ahead) + Video (to see)

b. It means to “see ahead” or “foresee”.

c. The Providence of God means God's care for His creation, His preserving it in its existence. It means that God "foresees" the need of every living thing and "provides" it with what it needs.

d. God's providence is evident in the ORDER OF CREATION:

- First, He provides LIGHT. The plants, animals and humans He would create would require light in order to survive.
- The plant kingdom
- The animal kingdom
- The "kingdom" of man...In each progressive "day" of creation, God provides what the next level would need

e. There is nothing we need God has not wisely foreseen and provided. Not only our temporal needs, but our greatest need of all...a Savior!

All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Revelation 13:8 NKJV

f. This is one of the most precious and powerful doctrines of scripture, and we find our introduction to it in the very first chapter of the Bible.

5. We can train ourselves to be sensitive to the "first mention" of any important subject or doctrine of scripture and allow it to help us with the "prophetic view" of that subject in the rest of scripture.

(Meditating on subjects such as the first mention of God's love for man (Deuteronomy), worship, God's "law", etc. will be richly rewarding to you)

B. The Principle Of Frequent Mention (Or Repetition)

1. The principle of "frequent mention" or "repetition" refers us to the fact that the more any particular doctrine, topic or subject is mentioned in scripture, the more important it is. Anytime a word, phrase, or verse is repeated, it's done for emphasis, and often calls for special attention.

2. When we read the words, "**And God said**" repeated TEN TIME in Genesis 1, the very first chapter of the Bible, it ought to scream to us that "this is IMPORTANT"! (See verses 3,6,9,11,14,20,24,26,28,29) We can meditate on this and glean the following:

- The fact this is repeated TEN TIMES connects us with the "ten words" of God known as the 10 Commandments. 10 becomes the number of "ordinal perfection" in

scripture, the standard by which God judges man. The Word of God is thusly the Law of God. The Word of God cannot be broken (it breaks us if we disobey). The “Law-Word” of God is the very substance of Creation. The world is established upon it and all things operate under the authority of it.

- Later we learn that the WORD OF GOD and the SON OF GOD are one and the same! Thus, the presence and participation of the Son of God is evident in the first Book of the Bible. The first “mention” of an act of Creation is God *speaking*...which means everything was created by the Word of God, later more fully revealed as the 2nd Person of the Godhead, Jesus Christ!

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.
Hebrews 11:3 KJV

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God...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.”
John 1:1,14 KJV

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.
Colossians 1:16-17 KJV

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.
Revelation 4:11 KJV

3. One of the most important doctrines in scripture is the “seed” principle. The term “seed” is mentioned *SIX TIMES in Genesis 1*.

a. The number “6” is the number of days God worked in creating all things, so it means that the “seed” principle is built into all of God’s creation.

b. “6” also is the “number” of man, since man was created in the SIXTH day. God’s perfect number is “7”, the number of fulness and completion. Man is always a “6” compared to God, made in the image and likeness of God but NOT God! When man (6) tries to imitate the Triune God (3), we get man trying to be God, or “666”, which is the “number of the Beast” in the Book of Revelation. (13:17-18)

c. God sustains and perpetuates His creation through the “seed” principle, which is the principle of reproduction. God set the “seed” of living things “within itself” for the purpose of generational transfer. (All human beings come from “seed”, the term “sperma” in Greek!)

And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth

grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:11-12 KJV

d. The “seed” principle is a LAW, one of FOUR LAWS decreed by God that will NEVER END!

“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”

Genesis 8:22 KJV

4. TEN TIMES in Genesis 1 we are told that the seed reproduces “after its kind”! It means that whatever God made can only reproduce what it already is. Fruits, vegetables, animals and human beings all have the “seed within itself” to reproduce “after its kind”.

a. If this is true, the teachings of Charles Darwin cannot be true. Monkeys cannot produce men, only more monkeys.*

*Some use that argument that you can mate a horse and a mule and get a donkey. Which is true. But donkeys cannot reproduce!

b. Immediately in the first chapter of the Bible, we are faced with the fact that the doctrines of Creationism and Evolution are mutually exclusive. They cannot both be true. Deal with it.

c. The two doctrines are fundamentally at odds, since EVOLUTION is based on “chance” or constant change, a natural selection process that has no “end”. There is no intentional creation so there is NO PURPOSE or goal toward which creation is moving. CREATIONISM involves a Creator who intentionally creates all things with a definite end in mind; that all things are moving toward a particular goal or climax; and that the Creator’s purpose in Creation will be unalterably fulfilled!

5. We are told SEVEN TIMES in Genesis 1 that what God made is “GOOD”.

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Genesis 1:4

And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:10

And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:12

And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:17-18

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:21

And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:25

And God saw *everything* that he had made, and, behold, it *was very good*. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 1:31

a. “7” is God’s number of completion or perfection. When Genesis 1 tells us *7 times* that what God made, (everything), was “very good”, the frequency of mention is for emphasis.

b. God is the Originator of all things, and He made nothing evil, sinful or defective in any way. And this naturally brings us to some of the greatest questions of life.

IF GOD IS GOOD, AND EVERYTHING HE MADE IS GOOD, HOW CAN THERE BE SO MUCH IN LIFE THAT IS BAD? WHY DOES GOD ALLOW EVIL? WHY DID HE GREAT THE DEVIL?

We’ll see what the Word of God says about all this in our next class, “The Origin Of Evil”.