

“The Book of Genesis, The Foundations of Our Faith Revealed, Theme by Theme, Genesis, It’s Inspiration: According to Our Lord Jesus, Part II”

- ***Today, “Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part II”***
- ***Then, next time, “Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part iii, and then onwards to the following Sundays, Lord willing,***
- ***“Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Paul”, and,***
- ***Finally, Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Luke, and the Apostles”***

Review — Introduction to the Book of Genesis, The Foundations of Our Faith Revealed, Theme by Theme: Today, the First Theme, “Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part I”.

- ***As we saw last time, most of Christ’s references are not to Genesis but are to Exodus and Deuteronomy, but there are some to Genesis. And, of course, there are those to Moses meaning the first five books of Moses, the Torah, such as:***

Matt. 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. [A clear reference to Ex. 16]

- ***But our subject and the scripture before us in this study is not the other four books of the Pentateuch, of the Torah, also of Moses, but of the first book, Genesis.***

To begin with today, by way of review, I will remind you of our Lord’s teaching regarding marriage and family and his great creative work in making the first man, Adam, of the dust of the earth, and then Eve, his counterpart, out of Adam’s side. We focused on the order in the creation and also on the purpose the Lord had in creating the first human couple. This teaching was in response to the question regarding divorce asked by the pharisees who “tempted” him by asking a question designed to trap him (if that were possible): “Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?” - Matt. 19:3. But his answer is to refer back to the first book of the revealed word of God, the book of Genesis. He begins by going to chapter 1 and then goes to chapter 2, founding his response to their tempting question by reminding them of his founding creation of the first man and his wife and the order is his creation made clear there at that time and recorded in Genesis. He says this regarding that statement in Genesis:

Matt. 19:4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,

- *He then draws the conclusion, again based on the Genesis account and the revealed and inspired words we find there:*

Matt. 19:5-6

5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

- *The words “at the beginning” also have a clear meaning I believe. This was early in the order of creation, not billions of years after a so-called Big Bang as so many scientists, so-called, but not so in truth, proclaim, so that they have “enough” time for pure randomness to somehow generate not only order of some kind but the divine order that we see in the sky and on earth and most specifically, in mankind. For that order and that purpose is written all over those first two chapters of Genesis, “The Beginning” of the revelation of God to man.*
- *So Adam was created first, then Eve out of his side when he confirmed that there was no “counterpart” or “help meet” in all that had already been made by the hand of God. That it was very significant in the mind and purpose of Almighty God to create Adam first and then Eve is primarily explained in detail by Paul in his letters. But it is more than clear even here in Genesis 1 & 2 that, as the Lord himself testified (and he knew it best as he was himself the Creator of Adam and Eve), that the order of authority imposed on the creation in general (so that it could and would “declare the glory of God”) would also be seen in the creation of mankind: For “he which made them at the beginning made them male and female” and for the purpose described as well. Our verses make clear the purpose of God in this:, for it was the establishment of marriage and family as indicated there. For example, you will remember the words in chapter 1 that make this purpose of God in that original creation of mankind:*

Gen. 1:27-28

27 God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

- *Chapter 2 of Genesis continues the revelation with the specific focus of Adam's help meet or counterpart being created out of Adam's side with the emphasis on Eve and the divine order in their creation and its implications for marriage. So the order imposed by God on the husband with God-given responsibilities for his wife in the divine order and also on the wife with her God-given responsibilities in relation to her husband is clear. So the great enemy satan must destroy this order and all other orders within his area of liberty and the pharisee's view of marriage shows exactly that fundamental disregard of the divine plan as made so very clear in Genesis.*
- *Marriage is to be exalted, honored, and defended, for it was given by God for our benefit and his glory. Our Lord Jesus testified to that so clearly. Adam and Eve were real and historical persons is what Christ was declaring to the Pharisees (and to all that will hear the word of the Lord)! And not all, they were in the very center of the plan of God "from the beginning" (and even before, as Paul has also written).*

So did our Lord Jesus believe that the Genesis account was historical and true? Amen, he surely did. Now, going forward with our study today, we see the Lord employing exactly the same form of argument near the end of his earthly ministry as the pharisees and scribes hold him in judgment when the true and final judgment will be on them as he testifies so boldly. Let's look at that testimony today.

Our Outline Today: Genesis and It's Inspiration: According to Our Lord —

- **God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel & Its Leaders — Who Can Doubt It?**
 - **God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel & Its Leaders — The Lord's Teaching**
 - **God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel & Its Leaders — Its Genesis Confirmation**

- *Next time, God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Mankind – Who Can Deny It?*

I. God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel & Its Leaders – The Lord's Teaching:

[READ] Matt. 23:33-36 [see parallel in Lk. 23:34-39]

33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

34 Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and *some* of them ye shall kill and crucify; and *some* of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute *them* from city to city:

35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

36 Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.

[READ] Matt. 23:37-39

37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!

38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed *is* he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

- *Our Lord names Abel here, as the first prophet. That is a direct reference to chapter 4 of Genesis. The Lord's purpose here in referring back to the Genesis account is the same, isn't it, as when he reminded the pharisees of the creation of Adam and Eve in chapters 1 & 2. It was then as it is here, the Lord accrediting the Genesis account as true and valid and authoritative as it is the word of the living God. For the pharisees accepted the Genesis account as well. Their problem was that they added to the scripture with their own interpretations and would not take the word of God literally and historically. But if the Lord did not consider the Genesis account to be true and historical, then his reference back to it would have no value as the teach there of the coming judgment would itself then also have no literal meaning and his warnings of the coming judgment on the Jews and their leaders would have no purpose at all.*

But of course he did present those early chapters of Genesis as true

and authority and so the prophecy here of the coming judgments must also be taken literally and will some day be proven by history itself. For that is the nature of prophecy — the future revealed from the past, with divine perfection!

- *For completeness, we should also realize that there are other prophets that speak of the coming judgment as the Lord did here, for example, Zechariah in these memorable verses from chapter 12 of his prophetic book:*

[READ] Zech. 12:8-10

8 In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David *shall* be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them.

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

- *Let's look at chapter 4 of Genesis which the Lord has referenced to see what is written there and how it confirms the Lord's warnings:*

II. God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel & Its Leaders — The Genesis Confirmation:

[READ] Gen. 4:1-4

1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.

4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

[READ] Gen. 4:5-10

5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where *is* Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: *Am I* my brother's keeper?

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

○ ***The Lord's teaching:***

- ***“In process of time” lit. “At the end of the time”, as if the time for sacrifice and offerings had been previously set and that time had come. But Cain’s offering, no matter how great it was, and I suspect it was great indeed, was not accepted. Cain knew it and it seems also knew that Abel’s was accepted. I believe based on many other scriptures that speak of the Lord’s acceptance of offering of animals that those offerings were accepted by fire from heaven. If so, it would have been clear that the one was accepted by the Lord and the other was not. We also see here that Cain’s “countenance was fallen”. The Lord took note of that and he spoke directly to Cain about the necessity to offer an animal sacrifice as Abel had done (verse 7: “if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.”) So that aspect of the redemptive plan of Almighty God was it seems part of the revelation Abel had been given.***
- ***Chapter 4 then adds that Cain spoke with his brother, apparently because Abel was known to be the prophet of God. But what he told Cain (about God’s requirement) led immediately to his murdering of his brother. So, rather than spilling the blood of a favorite animal, he shed the blood of his own brother. This must have been a satanic work indeed in his heart. But that work goes on, the Lord explains in the passage before us today, for Abel’s murder to Zachariah, and then onwards as now before them is the Lord himself soon to be offered and then looking forward, others who would yet come.***

Cain killed Abel after speaking with him. We can easily guess what that conversation might have been like, can't we? "Abel, why did God accept your sacrifice but did not receive mine, as beautiful as it was as the great work of my hands? You sacrificed our favorite animals but I brought from my gardens and fields the very best that I had. I cannot understand why my offerings were not accepted and yours were. Abel's response might have been very simple as found in the letter to the Hebrews referring back also to Moses and the Law:

Heb. 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

- ***Finally, for there is more here to take note of, in verse 10: "And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground." So Abel's blood crieth out for judgment, as it were, even from the ground. And that judgment would come, the Lord warns these pharisees.***
- ***Our conclusions:***
 - ***Christ looked at these pharisees and scribes arrayed as they were against him and, knowing their history from the beginning perfectly, he saw their rebellion as the culmination of the 4,000 year history of mankind beginning with the first generation born to Adam and Eve. He saw how the seed of rebellion and the word of the Lord that had been continued in Adam's first offspring, as demonstrated in Cain killing his brother Abel. He had sent Abel as his first prophet, as the first to stand boldly with the revelation from God to man of his redemptive plan and his principles of living and worship. But Cain murdered his brother, effectively silencing the very voice of God on earth at that time regarding the redemptive plan. This was satanic control as the Lord identified it in John 8:44 "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him."***

Where was Adam during all of this, one might ask. But there are no answers given to that question, in scripture. Then, he had sent generation upon generation of prophets to his chosen people all the way until that point so close to our Lord's own sacrificial death on Calvary's cross. It was the

religious leaders that had continued corrupting the minds and hearts of each generation and persecuting and killing so very many prophets he had sent, as written here, even from Abel to Zachariah.

- *But the heart of the teaching here by the Lord that day was regarding judgment upon his own people with their satanic leaders right in the central focus. The words are still ringing in the ears of some I am sure, but most of the Jewish leaders are willingly ignorant of them, sadly. After all that has come upon that nation, how blinded by satan they must be not to hear his words. How blind! But there will be an elect nation the Lord will raise up during the Great Tribulation that will hear the word of the Lord, finally! Praise God. Apart from that, his condemnation rings true, “upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.” “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*
- *So, lest we see the trees but miss the forest, the reference back to Genesis was at the very heart of one of the Lord’s final warnings for the pharisees.*

So, did the Lord believe that the Genesis account of Abel’s martyrdom was critical and important to take literally as sacred history? He did. Judgment would come on the Jews and their leaders in the Lord’s appointed time. They may still cry out “crucify him” and it might be accomplished by satan’s influence at “the fullness of God’s timing”, but is the Lord God who is in ultimate control. If the Genesis account cannot be taken as the revealed word of God to be interpreted as sacred history and teaching, then his warnings here cannot be taken literally either. That is the bottom line.

- *Today: Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Our Lord — God’s Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel & Its Leaders — Who Can Doubt It? Next time, and we need to save it for then, don’t we: “Genesis and It’s Inspiration: According to Our Lord — God’s Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon All Mankind — Who Can Deny It?”*

Final Word of Application:

- ***What about our current day? What about his word of truth. Is it being honored as it should be? What about the Genesis account, chapters 1 through 4. What are the seminaries of the land teaching and what are the pastors and teachers teaching? Oh, would they take to heart what we have learned here today? If only!***

But let us who do cleave to it today and evermore. Amen.