"The Book of Genesis, The Foundations of Our Faith Revealed, Theme by Theme:

Genesis and Its Inspiration — According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part I"

Introduction to the Book of Genesis, The Foundations of Our Faith Revealed, Theme by Theme: Today, the First Theme, "Genesis and Its Inspiration: According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part I".

- Next time, "Genesis and Its Inspiration: According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part II"
- Then, "Genesis and Its Inspiration: According to Paul"
- Finally, Genesis and Its Inspiration: According to Luke, and the Apostles"

There are many today that masquerade as Bible-believing Christians and teachers and preachers that give credit to the Bible as God's Word. But fewer and fewer consider much of the Bible as true and authentic and as the revealed Word of God, given without error to those the Lord God called to serve him and to faithfully present his word as truth.

But we, as Bible believing saints of God, we are not surprised, are we, when we read the words of our Lord Jesus on the Road to Emmaus, after his glorious resurrection? For we read of it here in Luke 24:

Lk. 24:25-27

25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

Here the Living Word (Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Resurrected from the Dead) and the Written Word (the Scriptures) go together hand in hand. Are we surprised when Christ gave his view so clearly in these declarations made to the disciples on the road to Emmaus after his resurrection? No indeed, we are not.

Then, are we surprised that the apostle to the Gentiles, Paul, wrote these words just before his execution by Nero in Rome? Again, we are not.

2 Tim. 3:16-17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Or are we surprised when Peter, in his second letter's introduction in chapter 1, wrote these words? No, we are not surprised.

2 Pet. 1:16-21

16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

- As prophecy was written by men as they "were moved by the Holy Ghost", surely the Torah's five books including Genesis were as well "the words of the Lord God". The PROPHECIES found there concerning the Seed of the Woman, those regarding the inheritance to come for God's believing children and regarding the Twelve Tribes and his chosen nation Israel were at the heart of what Peter was referring to in the verses we just read.
- These are only the beginning of the testimony of God through the scriptures regarding itself and in particular, of the Torah and its first book historically, Genesis. But there is so much more if we would only look for it (and we shall begin to do just that today and in the coming weeks, Lord willing)!
- We are not surprised when we read of the Lord's own testimony regarding scripture, or when we see that Paul as well recognized God's mark on every word and letter. Nor are we surprised to learn that Peter and John and other scripture writers all confirmed the same in their own very personal ways, that it was the mark of God and of our precious Savior that was on every page, in every line, and within that line on every letter written.

When we read God's word we know we are reading what God has delivered to his people and by that word the Living Lord with its unique powers has transformed our very lives and our eternities as well. This is in accord with

what stands written by the apostle Paul in many places including in Romans 1 and Hebrews 4:

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Heb. 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

• This reminds me also of Romans 3:

Rom. 3:21-23

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

<u>Our Outline:</u> "Genesis and Its Inspiration, According to Our Lord Jesus Christ, Part I":

- Christ Himself is Revealed Throughout the Word of the Living God
- God's Order and Purpose in the Creation of Mankind Stands Clearly Revealed — Honor, Bow and Worship!

Part II:

- God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel Who Can Doubt It?
- God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Mankind Who Can Deny It?

Genesis and It's Inspiration, According to Our Lord Jesus Christ:

- I. Christ Himself is Revealed Throughout the Word of the Living God:
 - To start somewhere (and where to start is a challenge, for the Living Word is found on every page as the apostle John wrote near the end of the Revelation.

[READ] Rev. 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren

that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

- And if that is true, and it is, then doesn't it also follow that the Written Word itself is in its entirety inspired or "breathed out" by Almighty God?
- So there are prophetic statements that point forward to our Lord Jesus in many places in Genesis. Even more so, as the apostle John was recalling there, if we are counting the foreshadowings and types of the divine plan of redemption through our Lord Jesus in his death, burial, resurrection, and ascension to the right hand of God the Father, it is undeniably true as John wrote there.
- But we must focus specifically today on our Lord's actual references to the words of Genesis itself. 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]

Genesis and It's Inspiration, According to Our Lord Jesus Christ:

II. God's Order and Purpose in the Creation of Mankind Stands Clearly
Revealed — Honor, Bow and Worship!

[READ] Matt. 19:2-6

- 2 And great multitudes followed him; and he healed them there.
- 3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?
- 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,
- 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 subject here is divorce and specifically the Pharisees with their reinterpretation of the requirements of Moses Law in that regard.

What is revealed here in Christ's teaching goes back to Genesis

chapters 1 & 2 and reasserts on that foundation of truth that there is Order AND Purpose and Intent clearly revealed there. In the passage Christ referred to in Genesis both the Divine Order in the creation and in the Purpose of God from the beginning in creating mankind for his honor and glory stand revealed forever — so he strongly implies that all mankind must honor, bow and worship the creator and his foremost creation, Adam and Eve.

The words "at the beginning" also have a clear meaning I believe. This was <u>early in the order of creation</u>, 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 hav 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:

[READ] Gen. 1:26-28

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; <u>male and female created he them</u>.

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.

- God's intent was to create ultimately "a great cloud of witnesses", likened in several places to the sand of the seashore or the stars of heaven, even elect members of Christ's heavenly body. There is so much here, isn't there? Stand by and worship!
- 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. So very much is revealed and so very much more is hinted at in these verses. Remember Paul's comment about it which we will look at next time:

Eph. 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

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:

"For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." The "one flesh" needs no further explanation by us today. Our verses make clear the purpose of God in this:, for it was the establishment of marriage and family as indicated there:

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 this detailed explanation.

[READ] Gen. 2:19-25 (Matt. 19:5 & Mk. 10:7-8)

19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought *them* unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

. . .

Gen. 5:2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

- It should be so clear to all who have Genesis open before them (and so very many do not, it is heartbreaking to admit) the the order imposed by God of husband with the God-given responsibilities over his wife in the divine order and the wife with her God-given responsibilities in relation to her husband, how the great enemy satan must destroy this order and all other orders within his area of liberty. And so he has with the Biblical fundamentals of marriage and family.
- 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).

Heb. 2:10. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Conlcusions & Application:

- Did our Lord Jesus believe the Genesis account was true. Amen and amen. We must as well, if we would avoid much spiritual disorder in our lives and in those around us. Amen and amen.
- "Genesis and Its Inspiration, According to Our Lord Jesus Christ":
 - Christ Himself is Revealed Throughout the Word of the Living God
 - God's Order and Purpose in the Creation of Mankind Stands Clearly Revealed — Honor, Bow and Worship!

Next time:

- "Genesis and Its Inspiration, According to Our Lord Jesus Christ":
 - God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Israel Who Can Doubt It?
 - . . . (Then next time)
 - God's Revelation of His Holy & Righteous Judgment Upon Mankind
 Who Can Deny It?