



Spiritual Creation

LESSONS FROM GENESIS 1

CLASS 3

Day 2

- Every year we read the Creation Story in Genesis 1
 - Our natural inclination is to look at the physical lessons from Genesis
 - But, that really isn't what God wants for us...
- Our goal in this class will be to look at the ***spiritual lessons*** from Genesis 1
 - It is these deeper, spiritual lessons that God really intends us to see
- This is a scripturally sound way to look at Genesis...
 - The Scriptures is full of examples of the First being Natural, and the Second being Spiritual
 - We are focusing on the Spiritual Creation in Genesis
- Yesterday we looked at:
 - Heaven Looking up to the promise of a new government and king
 - Earth Earthly, base, lowly... Who we were, not who we are becoming
 - Darkness Sin – God has separated Light and Darkness, we should also
 - Light The Gospel of hope that enters our lives and changes us

• FIRMAMENT

• Genesis 1:6-8

- 6) And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.
- 7) And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.
- 8) And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

Scriptural Meaning

- Strong's reference number: 7549

Hebrew: **raqiya`**

Derivation: Derived from 7554 - raqa`

Definition: An expanse, i.e. the visible arch of the sky

- Strong's reference number: 7554

Hebrew: **raqa`**

Definition: To pound the earth (as a sign of passion); by analogy to expand (by hammering); by implication to overlay (with thin sheets of metal)

- Same word as in:

- Exodus 39:3 (KJV)

- 3) And they did beat the gold into thin plates, and cut it into wires, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, with cunning work.

Natural Lessons

- ***“Let it divide the waters from the waters”***

- The verse is inherently confusing:

- What divides the waters from the waters? Dry Land! Not Firmament...

- This is referring to the waters on the Earth and the waters in the sky

- Before the flood there was a huge collection of water in the atmosphere

- The Earth was surrounded by a deep blanket of water that protected and shrouded the Earth (protecting men and animals from the harmful ultra-violet rays and allowing them to live longer)

- This aqueous layer existed until the Flood, when it came pouring down and filling the Earth with water (and therefore allowing Rainbows to be seen)
- Until that point, we had waters above and waters below
- The Firmament was between those waters
- We don't know how high the waters were in space, but the Firmament still exists after the waters were removed
 - Effectively the space between the clouds and "outer space"
 - It's large...
 - Verse 20 says it is the space that the birds fly in
 - Verse 14 says that it is the space where the Sun, Moon and Stars are...
- God dwells **above** the Firmament
- Exodus 24:10 (KJV)
 - 10) And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.
- Ezekiel 1:26 (KJV)
 - 26) And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it.
- Exodus' reference to the Firmament being "under God's feet" clues us in to the lesson...
 - The Firmament is kind of like God's floor
 - And **OUR** ceiling
 - The Firmament is a separation between God and Man
- Apollo 13 beside, when you look up you naturally understand that God is separated from us
 - God exists in a place where we cannot

Spiritual Lessons

- Spiritually, the Firmament holds the same kind of lesson for us...
- Revelation refers to this Firmament as a sea...
- Revelation 4:6 (NIV)
 - 6) Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.
- This sea is in the midst of the throne of God
 - It separates God (on his Holy throne) from us on Earth
- But, there will come a day when there will be no more sea...
- Revelation 21:1-3
 - 1) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was **no longer any sea**.
 - 2) I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.
 - 3) And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God."
- ***"Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God."***
- The Firmament is by it's nature, a symbol of Man being separated from God
 - The Hope of our salvation comes in this being removed
 - God removing the barrier between us, and dwelling among us
- What is the barrier between God and Man?
 - **Sin**
 - Sin separates us from God
- The hope of the removal of sin in our lives is our eternal hope
- There is another spiritual lesson in the Firmament...

- Psalm 19:1 (KJV)

- 1) The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

- The glory of God is revealed in the Firmament...

- Naturally, a starry night is a glorious and wonderful thing...
- Spiritually... What gives God glory?

- When we are immortalized, and changed from corruptible to incorruptible, look how we are described then:

- Daniel 12:2-3 (KJV)

- 2) And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.
- 3) And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

- We, as Immortalized Saints will shine as the Firmament

- We, will show forth the handiwork of God in our lives as we have been changed from wretched mortals to God-Like Immortal beings

- Then we can begin to understand the verse:

- Psalm 150:1 (KJV)

- 1) Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

- How else could we praise him “in the firmament”?

- No longer will be separated from God?

- We will become the Firmament ourselves...

• WATER

• Genesis 1:2, 6-10

- 2) And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

- 6) And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.
- 7) And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.
- 8) And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.
- 9) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.
- 10) And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

Scriptural Understanding

- It's commonly thought that Verse 8 belongs AFTER Verses 9-10

- That Verses 9-10 all happened on the second day

- The pattern of Creation also suggests this:

Day 1 = Light and Darkness
Day 2 = Sea and Sky
Day 3 = A Fertile Earth

Day 4 = Lights of the Day and Night
Day 5 = The Creatures of Water and Air
Day 6 = The Creatures on the Land

Natural Lessons

- Water is everything to us

- It refreshes us
 - More than that, it sustains us

- Without it, we die

- We drink it, cook with it, clean with it, and water the plants that we eat with it...

- It is vital to our survival and our existence

Spiritual Lessons

- Let's first look at what Jesus said...

- John 4:10-14 (NIV)

- 10) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."
- 11) "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?"
- 12) Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"
- 13) Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,
- 14) but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

- Confusing Analogies...

- Water = Jesus = The Word = The Gospel = Hope = Salvation

- These things are often one and the same...

- Jesus / Word / Gospel / Hope / Salvation are all the same, and they are like water, in that they are vital to our survival and existence

- Without them we cannot live

- They affect every part of our life

- They feed us, they cleanse us, they cause us to grow

- Old Testament: Thirsting after Righteousness

- Psalm 42:1-2 (NIV)

- 1) As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.
- 2) My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?

- New Testament: Thirsting after Righteousness

- Matthew 5:6 (NIV)

- 6) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

- If we thirst after Righteousness

- If we want to be changed
- If we want to be someone better than we are now
- We have to accept this water of salvation
- John 3:5 (KJV)
 - 5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- John 7:37-38 (NIV)
 - 37) On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.
 - 38) Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."
- Jesus said that not only is he the source of this living water, but that it shall flow out of his belly...
 - Think about it...
- When Jesus died, there came forth water:
- John 19:34 (KJV)
 - 34) But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.
- Not water only...
- 1st John 5:5-6 (KJV)
 - 5) Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?
 - 6) This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.
- We partake of that Water... and hope to partake of the Water of Life
- Revelation 22:17
 - 17) The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

- **LAND**

- Genesis 1:9-10 (KJV)

- 9) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.
- 10) And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

Natural Lessons

- We think of “The Good Land”
 - It is the source of plants, vegetables and fruits
- By it’s nature, we also think of it as “dirty”
- Land has for us a natural lesson of survival and sustenance
- The good and wholesome nature of the land and those that work the land
- The breadbasket that brings us all of the food that we eat

Spiritual Lessons

- Not to jump ahead too far, but the seas are often referred to as the Gentile Nations
- Isaiah 17:12
 - 12) Woe to the multitude of many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!
- Now think about what happened on Day 2...
- *Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the **dry land** appear...*
- You can see the Gentiles being gathered together to the Land of Israel...
- Isaiah 2:2-3 (KJV)
 - 2) And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.
 - 3) And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

- The Land (the Land of Israel) becomes a source of survival and sustenance for all of the Gentile Nations that are drawn to it
- When the Kingdom comes, it comes to the Land of Israel, and brings hope to all alive
- It's this promise that is often associated with the Land
 - The Promised Land
- Remember the Glory
 - Remember the Land
- This is the land that Abraham looked forward to
- Hebrews 11:8-10 (NIV)
 - 8) By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.
 - 9) By faith he made his home in the **promised land** like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.
 - 10) For he was **looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.**
- That is the same Land that we are looking forward to
 - **A city whose architect and builder is God**

• SEAS

• Genesis 1:9-10 (KJV)

- 9) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.
- 10) And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

Natural Lessons

- What do the crowds do at a Baseball Stadium? **THE WAVE!**
 - 100,000 people all gathered together, standing up and raising their hands in unison
- What's it called when people are entering the Stadium? **STREAMING IN**
 - Thousands of people all pouring through a gate like a stream
- People are like water
 - Nations are like Seas
 - Large collections of Water gathered together
 - Constantly foaming, and heaving, and churning...
- Dying and being born...
 - Evaporating and raining down...

Spiritual Lessons

• Genesis 1:9-10 (KJV)

- 9) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.
 - 10) And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.
- The waters were gathered together – Separated – And called Seas
 - Abraham was separated from the rest of the people
 - Called out from the seas

- Genesis 12:1-3 (KJV)

- 1) Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:
- 2) And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:
- 3) And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

- This will happen again

- All nations are gathered together like the waters being drawn up in one place

- But, the “Israel” that is separated this time is not the nation it was before...

- Romans 9:4-8

- 4) the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises.
- 5) Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.
- 6) It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.
- 7) Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.”
- 8) In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.

- The gathering of the waters points to the gathering together of the nations, and the separation of the people of Israel

- Spiritual Israel

• EVENING

• Genesis 1:8

- 8) And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

Natural Lessons

- In Hebrew Tradition, a day is a 24 Hour period beginning and ending with an sunset

- The “Day” starts at Sunset on the first night, and lasts until Sunset on the second

- It all begins with a Sunset...

• Exodus 12:5-6 (KJV)

- 5) Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:
- 6) And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

• Luke 23:44-45 (KJV)

- 44) And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.
- 45) And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

- It was noon, but the sun set when Jesus was crucified
- Naturally, Evening is different than Night, **AND** different than Darkness
- When Evening falls we know that the day is over...
- ***The important lesson is to remember that Morning is coming...***

Spiritual Lessons

- When we see Evening fall we should think of the sacrifice on our behalf
 - The crucifixion of our Lord that caused the sun to set
- But, more importantly, it draws our thoughts to the coming morning
 - The day is completed, but we look forward to the coming day

- You can't have the morning, without having the evening first
 - You can't have the resurrection without having the crucifixion first
- WE can't rise to an new incorruptible life
 - Without going through the "evening" of our lives
- 1st Corinthians 15:42-44 (NIV)
 - 42) So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable;
 - 43) it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;
 - 44) it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.
- Evening isn't simply darkness and sadness
 - Evening is also the promise of a new day
- As a little child, what one day of the year were you anxious to go to bed?
 - Christmas Eve!
- Tomorrow held promise of great gifts and wonderful presents
 - Evening held a different emotion when the coming morning was great
- This part of our life can be dark
 - As you get even older, you come to the Eve of your life
- But, the promise of Resurrection is close

- **MORNING**

- Genesis 1:8 (KJV)

8) And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

Natural Lessons

- Have you ever been camping?
 - Worse yet, have you ever slept outside on the cold, hard ground?
 - Have you ever had the worst night humanly possible?
 - What one single thing do you look forward to more than anything else?
- Morning!
- When that sun rises up, it not only warms your body, but it warms your soul
 - The Night is over
- The time ruled by Darkness, ruled by Evil, has come to an end
- A power stronger and more powerful than the Darkness rises up, and sheds light and healing warmth upon everything

Spiritual Lessons

- Morning is all about Hope
 - It's all about the rising of the Son, not the Sun
- Evening was about the setting of the Son
 - About sacrifice, crucifixion, and end of the day
- Nighttime was about Darkness and Sin ruling over the earth
- Morning brings the Return of the Son
 - Morning brings the light of knowledge
 - The Light that searches out and judges those around us
 - Morning brings warmth, protection, and security
- Morning brings Hope!

- Malachi 4:1-2 (NIV)

- 1) “Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the LORD Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them.
- 2) But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.

- He have faith in the hope of this coming promise

- Every new morning revives that hope and faith in us...

- Lamentations 3:22-23 (KJV)

- 22) It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.
- 23) They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

- Mornings are meant to turn our thoughts to the rising of God's Son

- To the coming Kingdom period when Christ brings peace and safety to the Earth

- But, it also signifies the beginning of the Judgment period

- Zephaniah 3:5 (KJV)

- 5) The just LORD is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.

- The Rising Son will bring Judgment to Light

- He will not fail

- Many people see the rising Sun each morning, but still continue in their wickedness

- ***“The unjust knoweth no shame”***

- We should see the Morning as a reminder that we will be held accountable for our actions

- As an aside...

- What do Abraham, Abimelech, Jacob, Laban, Moses, Joshua, Eli, Samuel, David, Jehoshaphat, Job, Daniel and Paul **ALL** have in common?

- Every one of them ***“Rose up early in the Morning”***
- These were men of faith
 - These were men who looked for the salvation to come
 - They looked to the Morning
- Remember when Jesus was raised?
- Luke 24:1-3 (NIV)
 - 1) Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.
 - 2) And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.
 - 3) And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.
- Not only were the Faithful anxious to be about what they thought was their final act of service to their Lord
- But, God was also anxious to get His son out of the grave, and have him join Him in Heaven