

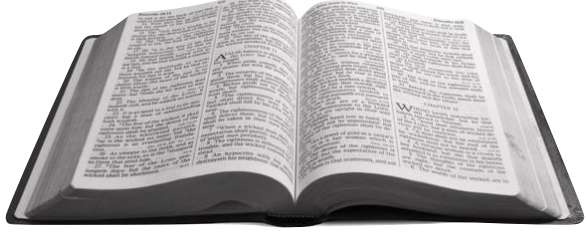
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THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Genesis 2
Lesson #6
Occasional or Normative
02/10/2019

How to read the Old Testament



1

The point of Genesis 1-2

It challenges the worldview claims of its time by revealing that -

- The Creator, God is over nature (creation) - **in contrast to origins via clash of cosmic forces (Babylonian) or self-generation (Egyptian).**
- Creation is intrinsically good - **in contrast to Ugaritic myths of nature (sea) as a cosmic enemy.**
- God does not battle against the cosmos - **in contrast to Ugaritic myths of nature (sea) as a cosmic enemy.**
- Nature is the temple of God - **in contrast to being the essence of, or conquered foe of God.**
- Man is to have dominion as an ambassador /steward of creation - **rather than worship it or abuse it.**

2

Observations on the Biblical creation accounts


1. We cannot be too **dogmatic** as to what kind of narrative we have in Gen. 1-2.
2. The Scripture acknowledges both **primary & secondary** means in creation.
3. Biblical revelation seems to be concerned with **more important issues** than physical cosmology.
4. Most scientific theories are best **critiqued by science** not Scripture.

3

Genesis 2

- Vs.1-3 **The Sabbath (7th day)** links ch.2 & ch.1
- Vs.1-3 **As God's image bearers** we are invited to share both His work and His rest.
- Vs.4-25 **Our basic responsibilities** are outlined for us in this chapter.

What does it mean to be authentically human?



4

Genesis 1

Habitat for Humanity

Creator
"in the image of God"
Gen. 1:27

Humanity
"from the dust of the ground"
Gen. 2:7

Creation

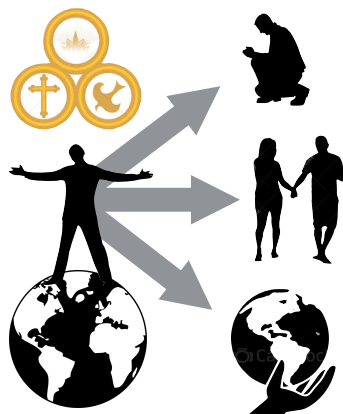
Genesis 2

Keeping House

Spiritual dimension

Social dimension

Stewardship dimension



5

Genesis 1

Genesis 2

The position of Man in the creation	The role of Man in his environment
Elohim - creator	YHWAH - covenanter
Hierarchical order	Relational bonds and their responsibilities
Correcting pagan views of reality and morality	

The purpose of Gen. 1 & 2 was theological and apologetical not scientific or historical.

6

Genesis 2

¹⁵ Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to **cultivate** it and **keep** it."

1. Adam's **stewardship of the creation**.

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be **alone**; I will make him a **helper suitable** for him.

2. Adam's **social relationship with Eve**.

¹⁶ The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷ but from **the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely **die**."

3. Adam's **spiritual link with the Creator**.

7

Genesis 2

¹⁵ Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to **cultivate** it and **keep** it."

1. Human stewardship of the planet - **cover, control, conserve, and consume**.

Genesis 1

²⁷ God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ God blessed them; and God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over** the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ Then God said, "Behold, **I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, . . .** ³¹ God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day."

8

How are we to discern what is **"occasional"** and what is **"for us today"**?

- Is it displaced by latter revelation?
- Is it theologically consistent?
- Has it endured over time?
- Does this make sense?
- Is it cross cultural?
- Is it emphasized?

"Mosaic Law"

"divorce"

"musical instruments in worship"

"social reform"

"alcohol"

"Sabbath worship"

"meat offered to idols"

"environmentalism"

"casting lots"

"polygamy"

"vegetarianism"

"sexual ethics"

"baptism"

"theocracy"

"holy kiss"

"speaking in tongues"

"patriarchal roles"

"homosexuality"



9

Adam's **"cultural"** mandate

Caretaking mandate	Commission mandate	Charismatic mandate	Character mandate
"care for the creation" Gen. 1-2	"build the bride of Christ" Eph. 4	"exercise spiritual gifts" Eph. 4	"become Christ like" Eph. 4
mentioned most clearly in Gen. 1-2	The emphasis of the rest of the Bible (especially the N.T.)		
The basis of the Puritan work ethic.	This is often associated with ministry as a way of life.		

- Hard work, vocation, and virtue are sacred callings.
- They are a form of worship and sign of our "election".
- Productivity and profit are byproducts of virtuous labor.

10

Some implications for us today

1. Is the Puritan Work Ethic a MAJOR or a minor "Biblical" teaching?
2. Is there a link between the cultural mandate and the U.S. system of gov.?
3. Is vocation a sacred calling?
4. What is the responsibility of the church with respect to civil reform?
5. Is environmental stewardship a MAJOR or minor issue for believers?

11

Some texts that relate to the issue

Luke 20:25

"And He said to them, "Then **render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's**, and to God the things that are God's."

Romans 13

"1 Let every person be in **subjection to the governing authorities**. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. 2 Therefore **he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God**; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves."

1 Peter 2

"13 **Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution**, whether to a king as the one in authority, 14 or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right."

12

Did Jesus called his disciples

**to be
salt and light**

**or bear
a sword
and shield?**



Matthew 5:13-16



13

2. Human gender roles and rights - intimacy, equality, complementary.

"18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be **alone**; I will make him a **helper suitable** for him. . . . 21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. 22 The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. 23 The man 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 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and **be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh**. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed."

Gender roles and rights are explosive issues in modern Western cultures.

14

Three different understandings



Egalitarian

Differences are blurred and resisted.



Authoritarian



Differences are exaggerated and forced.



Complementarian

Differences are respected and celebrated.



15

Possible family values from Genesis 2

"It is not good to be alone"

companionship

"not alone"

A family is a place where we sense we are **not alone**.

connectedness

"one flesh"

A family is a place where we are **understood**.

confidence

"not ashamed"

A family is a place where we are **affirmed**.

commitment

"leave & cleave"

A family is a place where we are **belonging**.

These values have too often been neglected, distorted, and / or abused.

16

The gender distinctives in Gen.2

Genesis 2:18

"Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be **alone**; I will make him a **helper suitable** for him."

"HEAD"

Authority to affirm as a rep. of the Creator, Christ

A picture of Christ in His sacrifice

"HELPER"

Called to submissive service as the great physician, Jesus

A picture of the church in her service

17

Some texts that relate to the issue

Galatians 3:28

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, **there is neither male nor female**; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

1 Corinthians 14

"³⁴ **Let the women keep silent in the churches**; for they are not permitted to speak, but let them **subject themselves**, just as the Law also says. ³⁵ And if they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is **improper for a woman to speak in church**. ³⁶ Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only? ³⁷ If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are **the Lord's commandment**. ³⁸ But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized."

18

1 Corinthians 11:3

"But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and **the man is the head of a woman**, and God is the head of Christ."

1 Timothy 2

"¹¹ **Let a woman quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness**. ¹² But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. ¹³ For it was **Adam who was first created, and then Eve**. ¹⁴ And it was not Adam who was deceived, but **the woman being quite deceived**, fell into transgression. ¹⁵ But women shall be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint."

19

Ephesians 5

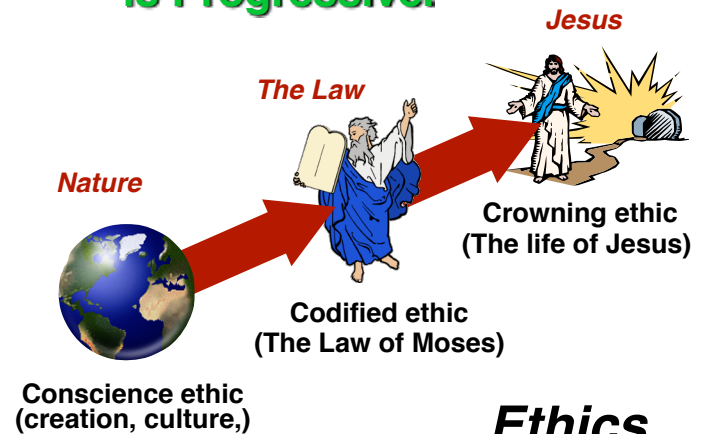
"²² Wives, **be subject** to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the **husband is the head of the wife**, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. ²⁴ But **as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything**."

1 Peter 3:1

"In the same way, you wives, **be submissive to your own husbands** so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives."

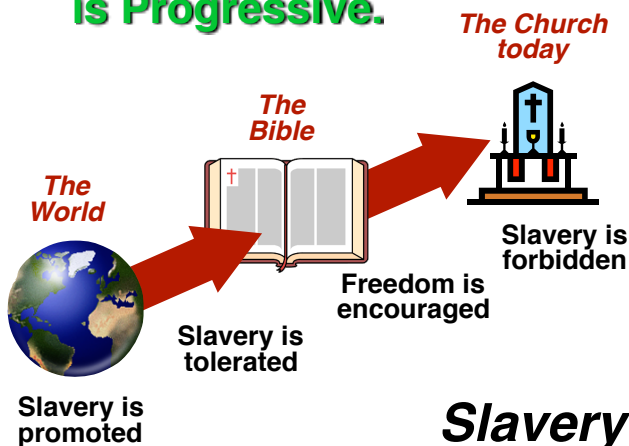
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Note that some revelation is Progressive.



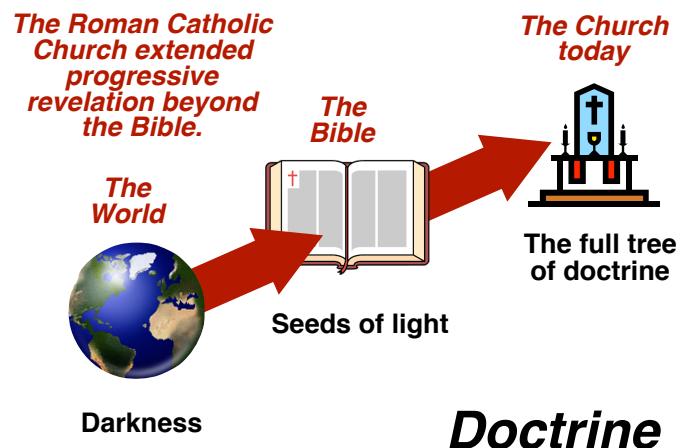
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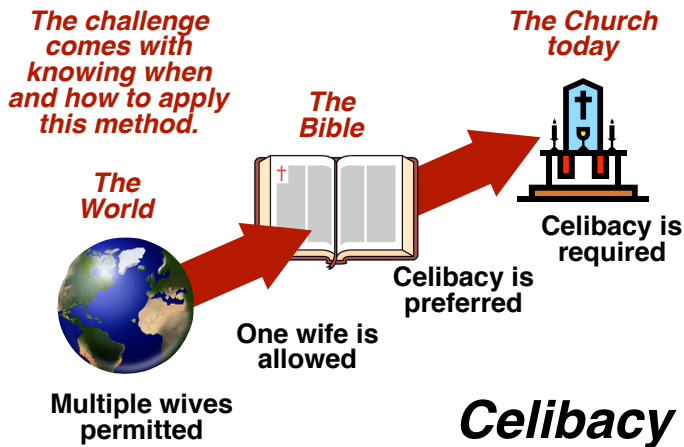
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Note the implications.



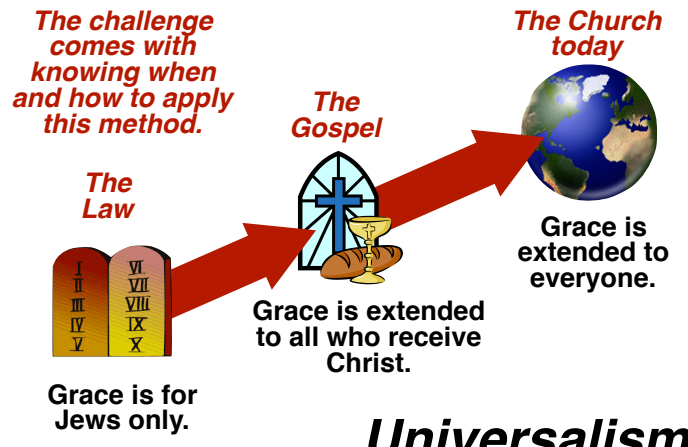
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Note the implications.



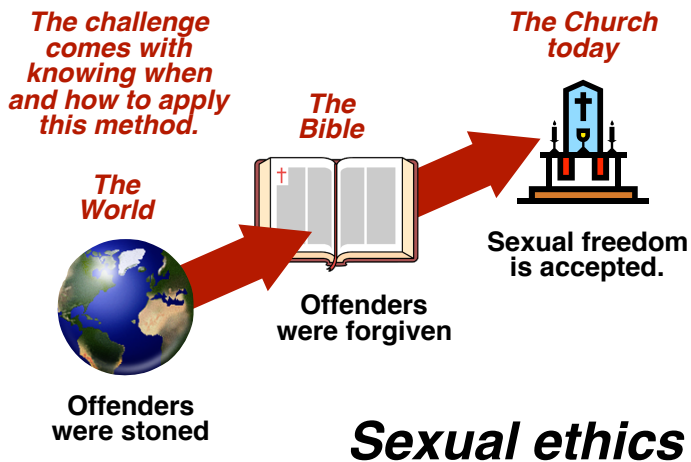
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Note the implications.



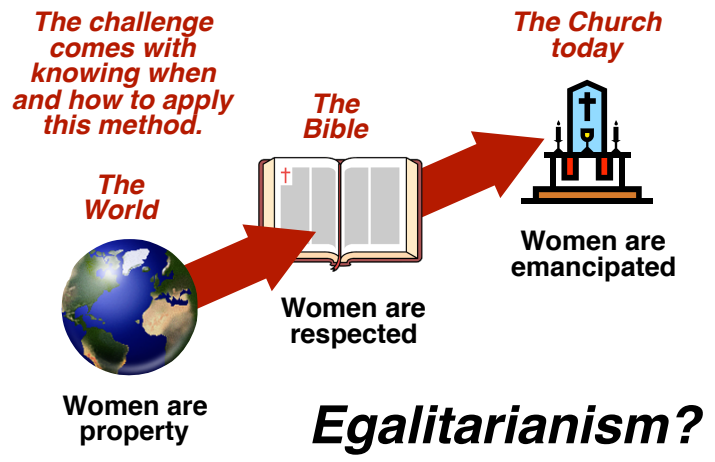
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Note the implications.



26

Note the implications.



27

Galatians 3

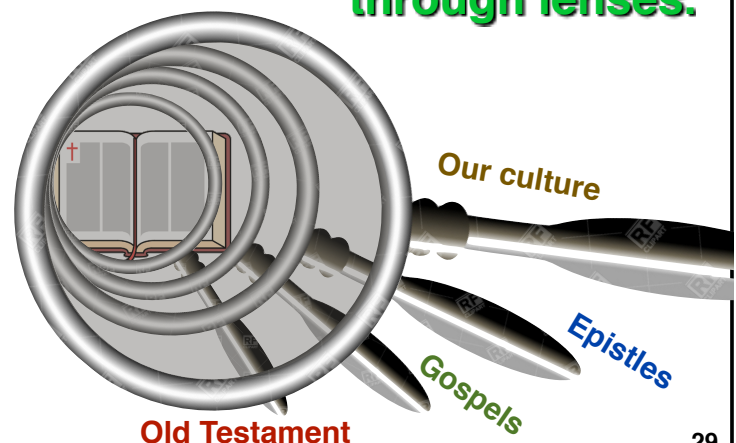
“28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, **there is neither male nor female**; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.”

*The context of this passage is “**spiritual family identity**” not “ministry roles.”*

A parallel passage teaches gender roles - Col. 3:11 “a renewal in which there is no distinction between Jew and Greek . . .”, vs.18 “Wives be subject to your husbands.”

28

We interpret the Scriptures through lenses.



29

We interpret the Scriptures through lenses.



30

Take your baptism seriously.



The Enlightenment
made it all about "Me."

Freedom from arbitrary
human authority

Democracy

Achieved roles



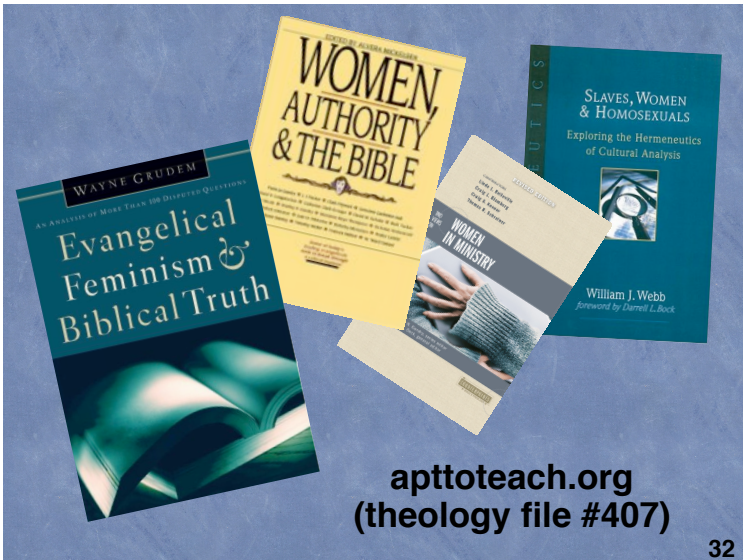
My baptism
made it all about Him.

Bondslaves of Christ

Theocracy

Ascribed roles

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The relationship between Genesis 1, 2, and 3

Creation

Genesis 1

Genesis 2

Genesis 2

Genesis 3

The Fall

33

Genesis 2

"¹⁵ Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to **cultivate** it and **keep** it."

1. Adam's **stewardship of the creation**.

"¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be **alone**; I will make him a **helper suitable** for him."

2. Adam's **sexual relationship with Eve**.

Next week

"¹⁶ The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷ but from **the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely **die**."

3. Adam's **spiritual link with the Creator**.

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