

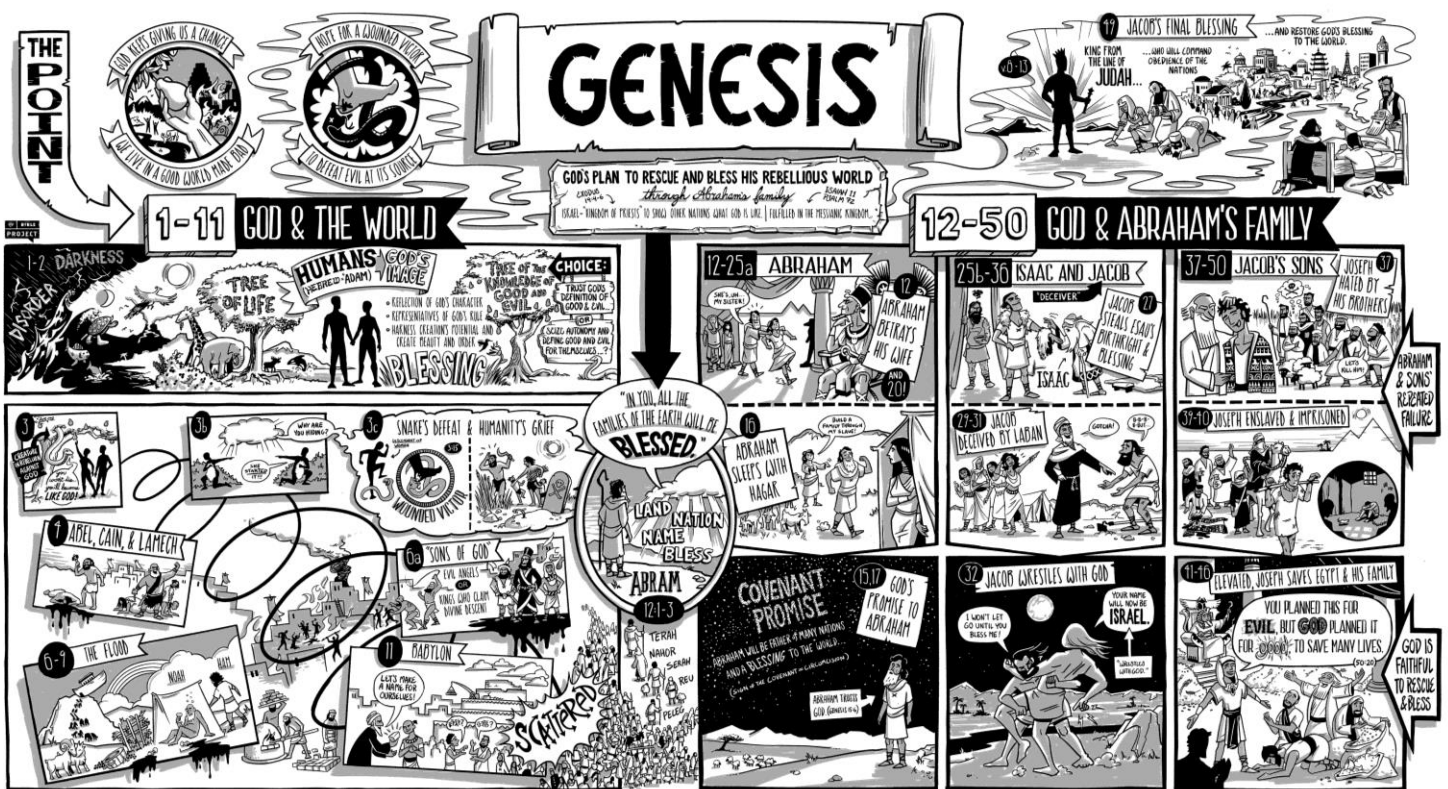
# FINDING MY STORY IN CREATION

Creation 2023 #1, Genesis 2:4-7

January 22, 2023

*When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens . . . .  
the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground  
and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,  
and the man became a living being.*

Genesis 2:4-7



## Answering the biggest questions

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.*

*<sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.*

Genesis 1

1. God creates with a plan, giving life purpose and value
2. God created order out of chaos, making it possible for me to know his creation

## The first *lō tōv*

<sup>15</sup> *The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”*

<sup>18</sup> *The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”*  
Genesis 2

1. A job to work at is not *lō tōv*
2. A commandment to obey is not *lō tōv*
3. The human was designed from the beginning to be in community

## God’s solution

<sup>19</sup> *Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.*

*But for Adam no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man’s ribs and closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.*

<sup>23</sup> *The man said,*

*“This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.”*

<sup>24</sup> *For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.*

<sup>25</sup> *The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.*

Genesis 2

1. God’s solution is to provide the *adam* with a rescuer
2. God’s solution is to provide the *adam* with one “like opposite” (with thanks to Tim Keller)
3. For the second time, the God who speaks creation into existence gets his hands dirty
4. When he sees *ishah, ish* “at last” (even though we are still on Day 6!) understands who he is – a creation reality that has been corrupted by the fall recorded in Genesis 3

## Living into blessing and goodness

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

<sup>28</sup> *God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”*

<sup>29</sup> *Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.”* <sup>30</sup> *And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.*

<sup>31</sup> *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.*

<sup>2</sup> *By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work.* <sup>3</sup> *And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

Genesis 1-2

- 1) God’s blessing follows the goodness of his creation order

*When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.* <sup>2</sup> *He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them “man.”*

Genesis 5

- 2) Torah begins with the same God who speaks words to reveal his heart (see John 1:1-5)

*And God spoke all these words:*

<sup>2</sup> *“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.*

<sup>3</sup> *“You shall have no other gods before me.*

<sup>4</sup> *“You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

Exodus 20

- 3) The humility of the gospel: If living in paradise required a rescuer, how much more does living in the curse require me to turn to Jesus (thanks again to Tim Keller)

<sup>8</sup> *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Romans 5

## Resources for the Genesis

Be sure to check the [Bible Project's poster](#) on Genesis.

[Bible.org](#) has some wonderful sermons on Genesis, especially those by Deffinbaugh and Stedman.

Maclaren has a helpful commentary at on many of these passages at

[https://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/onsite/bible\\_book/genesis\\_maclaren.html](https://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/onsite/bible_book/genesis_maclaren.html)

Many of Spurgeon's sermons on Genesis are collected at <https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/scripture-index/genesis/>

Very Poythress has some very interesting thoughts on reading Genesis at [www.frame-poythress.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2013ChristianInterpretationsOfGenesis1.pdf](http://www.frame-poythress.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2013ChristianInterpretationsOfGenesis1.pdf) and

<http://faculty.wts.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/PoythressVernCorrelationsWithProvidenceInGenesis2.pdf>

Tim Keller has a wonderful sermon on the “male and female” dynamic, attached below, at

<https://www.monergism.com/first-wedding-day-%E2%80%93-genesis-218-25>