

## Theology 101: God Introduces Himself to Man

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen 1:1)*

- Normal Interpretation: Literally, Historically, Grammatically, Progressively, Synthetically
- Key Distinctions: (1) God will literally fulfill His Old Testament promises to Israel; (2) the Church ≠ Israel.
- God has given different sets of instructions for man to follow as time has progressed. Those different sets of instructions we call “dispensations.” We call ourselves “dispensionalists” because we see these in Scripture. Our framework of understanding is thus called “dispensionalism.”
- What Are the Different Sets of Rules We See in the Bible? (1) Innocence; (2) Conscience; (3) Human Government; (4) Promise; (5) Law; (6) Grace; (7) Kingdom.

### What Does Genesis 1 Suggest About God?

#### 1. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*The Bible does not seek to \_\_\_\_\_ God, but assumes God’s existence.*

- Ps 14:1a The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”
- Rom 1:18-20 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,<sup>19</sup> because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.<sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

#### 2. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*God was around \_\_\_\_\_ creation.*

- Job 38:4 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.

#### 3. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*God is clearly \_\_\_\_\_ than we are. He is beyond fully knowing.*

- Job 9:10 He does great things past finding out, Yes, wonders without number.
- Rom 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!

#### 4. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*God reveals \_\_\_\_\_ information about Himself, creation, and us.*

- Gen 1:28-30 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”<sup>29</sup> And God said, “See, I have given you every herb *that* yields seed which *is* on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.<sup>30</sup> “Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which *there is* life, *I have given* every green herb for food”; and it was so.

- *General Revelation: What Everyone Everywhere Sees & Knows*
  - Creation – God Shows He Is Mighty (smarter & stronger)
  - Conscience – God Shows He Is Moral (right & wrong)
- *Special Revelation: What You Can Only Know By Being Told*

#### 5. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*Not “god of” or “a god” but God.*

- Deut 4:35 “To you it was shown, that you might know that the LORD Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him.
- Is 40:18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?
- Is 45:18 For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: “I am the LORD, and there is no other.

#### 6. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

- Gen 1:1 In the beginning God (*Elohim*) created the heavens and the earth.
- Gen 1:26a Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;
- Gen 1:2b And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
- *Trinity – Tri (3) – Uni (1) – 3 in 1*

#### 7. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*He did not just exist, but created.*

- Is 42:5 Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it:

#### 8. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

*God had a plan, a process, a schedule, and the know-how to do what He planned.*

- Jer 32:17 ‘Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.

#### 9. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is \_\_\_\_\_

- Gen 1:3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

#### 10. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Attention

*Creation is not man-centered, but God-centered. It is the account not of man being created, but of God creating everything (including man).*

*35x Elohim is used 35x in the creation account (Genesis 1:1-2-3). This does not take into account all of the pronouns!*