

IN THE BEGINNING... GOD

Proclamation Life Groups; Genesis 1:1-2:3; Week of Sunday, January 15, 2017; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: By the power of His word, God created the entire universe out of nothing, bringing life out of death, with purpose and meaning; which points us forward to the reality that God also brings spiritual life out of death through His Word, the Lord Jesus Christ, and offers eternal rest in Him.

I. OVERVIEW OF CREATION – Read Genesis 1:1-2:3

- A. What stands out to you about the creation narrative as you read it?

- B. What do you think it means that “*God created the heavens and the earth*”?

- C. What details are we given in (v.2) that anticipate the rest of the creation narrative? Also, what connections do you make between (v.2) and the rest of creation (vv.3-31)?

- D. What specifics about the order of creation highlight God being very purposely?

II. DETAILS OF CREATION – Read Genesis 1:3-2:3 Again

- A. In what ways do God’s creative commands during the first three days add form to the earth?

- B. How do God’s creative commands in next three days fill the empty earth (vv.14-31)?

- C. In what ways are man and woman unique in God’s creation? What do you think it means to be made in the image of God? How does (v.26) help us understand what it means?

- D. What special commands and provisions does God give man and woman in creation (v.28)?

- E. What is the significance that God rested on the seventh day (Ex. 20:8-11; Heb. 4:1-13)?

III. PURPOSE OF CREATION – Read Highlighted Passages for Application

- A. How does Colossians 1:15-17 and John 1:1-4 help us understand Christ’s role in creation?

- B. How does God speaking life out of death point us to salvation in Jesus (2 Cor. 4:3-6)?

- C. The creation account reveals that God brings order, beauty and harmony out of chaos. In what areas do you need to trust God to produce these qualities in your life?