
SERMON NOTES April 14, 2024

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**Genesis 1
God Created
Pastor Mike**

I. The truth about the _____

a. In the beginning _____

God is _____ and _____

b. God is the _____ of everything

3 common objections

c. God is also the _____ of everything

II. God's _____ in his creation

a. The _____ of God in creation

b. God's _____ of his creation

III. God's word brings _____ from _____

a. The _____ and _____ of the world

b. God's word brought _____ and _____

c. The world's _____ to chaos

d. The Word _____ what _____

Closing Question;

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. The Bible begins with the declaration, "*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*"
 - a. What do you understand it to mean when the Bible teaches that God was in the beginning, before the heavens and the earth, and that God is eternal and self-existent?
 - b. We all struggle with understanding the idea that God is eternal, existing before time and outside of time and space. How should our inability to understand this impact our believing it?
 - c. Why it is so important to believe that God is the creator, and the designer of all things that exist? How would not believing this impact our view of the Bible, our view of the world, and our view of ourselves?

2. In his message Pastor Mike showed how Genesis 1 and the story of creation introduces the idea of the trinity, and the relationship that God the father, son, and spirit had before creation. Why is this important to see to see creation in the context of relationship?

3. In Genesis 1, after each act of his creation, we're told, "*And God saw that it was good,*" and then in verse 31, at the end of creation we're told, "*And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.*"
 - a. What does it mean when God declared his creation good? What is the difference between seeing this as a statement of approval of the quality of His work, and a statement of enjoyment of His creation?
 - b. What does God's enjoyment of creation teach us about how we should view creation?
 - c. If God has declared his creation to be good, and that he delights in his creation, does that mean that God also declares you to be good, and that he delights in you? Can you believe in the goodness of God's creation and deny that this applies to you?
 - d. If a person really believed that God, their maker, loves them, delights in them, enjoys them, and says that they are good, what impact would that have on their self-image, and their life?

4. In Genesis 1:31 teaches that at the end of creation, "*And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.*" In the perfect world, before sin, it was very good. But what impact did sin and the fall have on the goodness of God's creation?

5. Genesis 1:2 teaches that, "*The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep.*" The world was defined by darkness and chaos. But then God spoke, and through his word, he brings light and order into the world.
 - a. Read John 1:1-5 and compare it to Genesis 1. What are some of the similarities you see in these two passages? What is the purpose in these similarities? What is the connection between God's speaking in Genesis 1 and the word of God in John 1?
 - b. In his message, Pastor Mike said that this is teaching that the word of God brings order and light and peace to our world, but when we choose sin, and his word departs from our lives, our lives and our world reverts back into chaos. Do you agree with this? Why or why not?
 - c. How did Jesus come to do a work of restoring creation? To what degree is your life defined by chaos and darkness, or by the order, light, and peace of the word?