

Study Guide for September 7th, 2008. “In the Beginning . . . “ Gen. 1:1-2.

Over the next few months, the sermons will come from the opening chapters of Genesis. Our goal is to develop the foundations of a biblical worldview. There will be questions we cannot answer to our satisfaction, but by taking a careful look at the text, we should gain fresh perspective on God our creator, the world He made and our place in His plan.

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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.” (Gen 1:1-2)

Introduction: What evidence do you see of a person’s worldview affects his actions?

I. God: The eternally existing One.

A. What assumption about God is contained in the phrase, “In the beginning God . . .”?

B. Summarize what is said about God in the following verses. . .

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| 1) Ps. 90:2: | 2) Ps. 102:25-27: |
| 3) Is. 40:21-22: | 4) John 1:1-3: |

C. Which diagram represents the biblical worldview described by Gen. 1:1?

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| 1) | 2) GOD = | 3) MANY GODS | 4) GOD | 5) GOD |
| UNIVERSE | UNIVERSE | UNIVERSE | UNIVERSE | UNIVERSE |

D. Write out Heb. 11:6 and reflect on its significance to the fact of God’s existence.

II. Maker of all things visible and invisible.

A. A merism is a statement of opposites to indicate totality. What does the merism, **the heavens and the earth** represent in vs. 1?

B. How is the phrase **heaven and earth** used in the following passages?

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| 1) Deut. 3:24: | 2) Is. 65:17 | 3) Jer. 23:24: |
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C. What aspect of God’s creative work is highlighted in the following passages?

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| 1) Ps. 148:1-5: | 2) Acts 4:24: | 3) Col. 1:16: | 4) Rev. 10:6: |
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D. Write out Heb. 11:3 and reflect on its significance to the fact of God’s creation.

III. The Conditions prior to God’s work of creation.

A. According to vs. 2, what conditions existed prior to God’s word of creation?

B. How is God praised in Job26:12-13 & Ps. 74:12-17?

C. What lessons do you see from observing the Spirit hovering over this state?