Genesis

The Story of God And Humanity



Let's Start With The "Before."

What was happening before God spoke the universe into existence?

God Is Eternal

- He has neither beginning nor ending.
- He is totally self-sufficient and needs nothing more.
 - God needs neither the material universe nor the human race, and yet He created both.

"God has a <u>voluntary relation</u> to everything He has made, but He has no <u>necessary relation</u> to anything outside of Himself." A. W. Tozer

The Concept Of The Eternal Overwhelms The Human Mind

- As creatures of time and space, beginning and ending, it's impossible to contain the concept of the eternal.
- Contemplating the nature and character of the triune God who always was, always is, and always will be, and who never changes, is a task that overwhelms us.
- The human mind craves a beginning and ending, what we call "closure."
 - Assignment: ("Kitchen cabinet door")

Moses Wrote...

"In the beginning God" (Genesis 1:1a)

"Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God" (Psalm 90:2 NIV).

Many Scriptures Affirm His Eternal Nature

- "The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Deuteronomy 33:27 (NIV)
- Habakkuk said He's "from everlasting" (Habakkuk 1:12).
- Paul called Him "the everlasting God" (Romans 16:26).
- Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. 1 Timothy 1:17 (NIV)

Ephesians 1:3-14 (NIV)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he [the Father] chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will--to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

In him we have redemption through his [Christ] blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be *for the praise of his glory*.

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

The Eternal Trinitarian Plan of Salvation

Ephesians 1:3–14

- We are chosen by the Father (vv. 3–6)
- We are purchased by the Son (vv. 7–12)
- We are sealed by the Spirit (vv. 13–14)
- All of this is to the praise of God's glory (vv. 6, 12, 14)
 - All this was "before the creation of the world"

If You can't get your mind around that...

- Don't be discouraged; for centuries, godly scholars have pondered these thoughts without consensus.
- A theology professor once said...

"Try To Explain These Things And You May Lose Your Mind;

But Try To Explain Them Away, And You Will Lose Your Soul."

Moses Said It Best

"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law"

(Deuteronomy 29:29 NKJV).

The most important thing is not knowing what God knows but doing what God says.

We are Not an Afterthought!
Christ was Not an Afterthought!
The Church is Not an Afterthought!
Eternity is Not an Afterthought!

GOD HAS NO AFTERTHOUGHTS!

Genesis 1-11 "The Bible Project"

https://bibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/