



Genesis 1



Questions for our stories:

Why am I here?

What's broken?

How do we make it right?

Where is it all headed?



“This is the understanding of life...that each one of us has his/her own way of realizing our humanity, and that it is important to find and live out one’s own, as against surrendering to conformity



with a model imposed on us from outside, by society, or the previous generation, or religious or political authority.”

- **Charles Taylor**



The Story of God



Act 1: Creation

The Kingdom of God Begins



Genesis 1



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

Genesis 1:1



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heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1



“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Revelation 22:13



In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Genesis 1:1-2



And God said, “Let there be light,”
and there was light. And God saw
that the light was good. And God
separated the light from the
darkness. God called the light Day,
and the darkness he called Night.

Genesis 1:3-5



And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Genesis 1:3-5



And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so.

Genesis 1:24-25



And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:24-25



“How surprising it is that the laws of nature and the initial conditions of the universe should allow for the existence of beings who could observe it.



Life as we know it would be impossible if any one of several physical quantities had slightly different values.”

- **Steven Weinberg**



The heavens declare the glory of
God, and the sky above proclaims
his handiwork.

Psalm 19:1



Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock

Genesis 1:26-27



and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:26-27



Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Genesis 2:7



The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.

Genesis 2:20-22



So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

Genesis 2:20-22



Imago Dei – “the Image of God”



So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them.

Genesis 1:27-28



And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 1:27-28



Tselem – “Image”



Radah – “Rule or reign for the good of the one being ruled.”



“When God created the earth, he created human beings in his own image with the express mission of ruling over creation by caring for it—a task modeled on the kingship of God himself.”

Christopher Wright



“God ordained humanity to be the primary instrument by which his kingship will be realized on the earth.”

Richard Pratt



And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

Genesis 1:31-2:3



And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.

Genesis 1:31-2:3



So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

Genesis 1:31-2:3



Why are we here?



Why are we here?

We are here to join the creator
God on His mission in the world.



“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of
hosts; the whole earth is full of his
glory!”

Isaiah 6:3



“Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

Isaiah 43:6-7



For by Him all things were created,
in heaven and on earth, visible and
invisible, whether thrones or
dominions or rulers or authorities—
all things were created through him
and for him.

Colossians 1:16



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“The fundamental truth of human existence, the well from which all else flows, is that God created us, and therefore God owns us.”

- **Greg Gilbert**



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