

## Creation to new creation

### Home Study 2



#### Day 1

**Read John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:15-20 and 3:1-4.**

Who is the centre of creation?

#### Day 2

**Read Genesis 1**

What are the recurring phrases?

#### Day 3

**Read Genesis 2**

What kind of place was the Garden of Eden to live in?

#### Day 4

**Read Genesis 3**

What is the final result of their sin?

#### Day 5

**Read Romans 5**

What does Jesus give that Adam lost?

#### Day 6

**Read Deuteronomy 6**

What is their home going to be like?

What happens to the enemies of God and his people?

#### Day 7

**Read Revelation 21:1-9 and 22:1-5.**

How is the new creation like Eden?

What happens to those who don't believe?

## Creation to new creation

### Group Study 2



The Bible is a book with a clear beginning and end, both of which are very similar. It starts with creation – it ends with the destruction of the old and the beginning of a new one.

*Then I saw a new heavens and a new earth, for the first heavens and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea (Revelation 21:1, NIV).*

The whole of the Bible is working towards this great climax, which leaves us with many questions.

If Jesus is the great theme of the Bible, how does he fit into this? How does God create? What does he create for? What has ruined the old creation? How will he set about making the new creation?

- God creates
- God creates a home
- What went wrong? And the consequences...
- The glorious hope
- God creating a new creation

### God creates

*In the beginning God (Father, Son and Spirit) created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1, NIV).*

### How?

**Read Genesis 1:26.** The triune God creates.

**Read Revelation 4:11.** God the Father creates.

**Read Genesis 1:2.** God the Spirit creates.

**Read Genesis 1:3, John 1:1-3.** God the Son creates.

### Questions:

1. **Read Genesis 1:2.** What is the world like before the word of God?
  
2. **Read Genesis 1:2.** Before Christ is involved what is creation like?
  
3. **Read Jeremiah 4:22-23.** Before Christ what are we like?
  
4. **Read Ephesians 2:18.** How does the triune God always work?

The Father through the Son by the Spirit – it is important that we grasp this so that we know how he works in us today.

5. **Read Ephesians 3:9 and Revelation 4:11.** What does God create?
  
6. **Read Colossians 1:15-17.** Why does he create?

If God created the heavens and the earth – that is everything that is seen and unseen – then knowing God has implications for everything.

If God has made everything he is therefore interested in everything – including the hairs of my head – and therefore he has the answers to everything!

That must mean every problem in life has to be understood in the light and knowledge of God in the Bible.

## God creates a home

### *God creates man*

7. **Read Genesis 1:27.** How are men and women different from the rest of creation?

8. **Read Genesis 1:26 and 28-30.** What is man and woman's relationship to creation?

9. **Read Genesis 2:7.** How does he bring man to life?

Men and women are like nothing else in the creation. They are made by Jesus, for Jesus, to look like Jesus (Genesis 1:27). All of creation is to serve them in this purpose.

### *God creates a home*

A home with everything he could want, a place where he could know rest and blessing – a home where everything he needed could be found (See Genesis 2-3).

10. **Read Genesis 2:8-15.** Imagine you are an estate agent. List bullet points to advertise living in Eden.

11. **Read Genesis 2: 16-17.** There is one condition for enjoying everything they could ever desire. What is it?

God provides him with the best of company for making a home. He gives him a wife (Genesis 2:18-25) and Jesus walks with him in the cool of the day (Genesis 3:8). **They have everything they need to make a home of rest!**

## What went wrong?

### Further Questions:

12. **Read Genesis 3:1-8.**

What does Satan undermine (v.1)?

Why did they fall (v.6)?

How do they react to Jesus' voice (v.8)?

13. **Read Genesis 3:23-24.** What is the most terrifying judgement of all?

## And the consequences...

What follows the exile from the Garden of Eden makes pretty grim reading. Family troubles occur. Cain will only bring the works of his hands and not the blood sacrifice that God requires (See Genesis 3:21 and Hebrews 11:4). Jealous that God accepts his brother's faith, he kills him.

The world boasts of its evil before God and has to be judged for its rejection of Christ. Mankind tries to build a society that does not need God but it cannot solve any of the problems caused by the fall. God judges their foolish schemes by bringing divisions between nations, many different languages, and a wall of hostility between nations.

### Pause for thought

What saddens you most about this world?

## The glorious hope

**However before the exile from Eden there is great promise. From Eve will come a child who will destroy the works of the evil one and regain all that Adam lost – a second Adam.**

*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers: he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel (Genesis 3:15, NIV).*

After the fall, through the genealogies (See Genesis 5, 9:18-28 and 11:10-32) we are reminded that this Seed, Jesus, is coming in human flesh.

*...the son of Adam, the son of God (Luke 3:38, NIV).*

## He will destroy the consequences of the fall, creating a new humanity.

*For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (See I Corinthians 15:22, 1 Corinthians 15 and Romans 5:12-21).*

### What will it cost him to save us?

A theme is introduced – the cost - which will dominate time and the rest of eternity (Revelation 12:11). God's provision for covering them is **the shedding of blood** (Genesis 3:21). For without it there is no forgiveness of sins (Hebrews 9:22) and certain death, destruction and despair.

All the Christian has, Jesus has bought with his blood (Hebrews 9:12). It is our redemption (Ephesians 1:7), it is how we are made clean (Hebrews 13:12), it is how we can be reconciled with God and make sense of life (Colossians 1:20).

It is little wonder that everything God does in the Scriptures for the saving of his people starts with the shedding of blood. This is how serious the sin of the Garden of Eden was. Only the 'blood of God' (Acts 20:28) could destroy its effects.

**Who can be saved from all that Adam lost and know the power of the blood of Jesus?** What is astonishing is that not long after the fall we see people calling on the name of the Lord (Genesis 4:26b) and they are saved.

**Will man be able to walk with God again?** We see Enoch enjoying the privileges Adam lost as he walks with God.

**Is there any escape from death?** Enoch doesn't see death. Aren't the wages of sin death? But Enoch knew a way – the gift of God, eternal life through Jesus Christ his Lord.

Then God comes to Noah and established his covenant with him...

## What is this covenant that saves from the judgement of God?

This is the most important message of the Old Testament.

*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).*

Noah, Enoch and Seth put their trust in the life and suffering of Jesus.

## This new humanity will overcome Satan.

*The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you (Romans 16:20, NIV).*

## God creating a new creation

From now on we read of God building a new home for his people – a new Eden.

**Read Exodus 3:8 and Deuteronomy 8:7-9.** A home – the great promise of the Exodus redemption.

**Read Isaiah 51:3 and 65:17-19.** A home – the great hope of the exile.

**Read Matthew 5:3,5 and John 14:1-3.** A home – it's what Jesus preached the kingdom would be like.

**Read Revelation 21:1-5 and 22:3-4.** A home – the place where Jesus will take the Christian when he returns – a place where the curse is removed

## Pause for thought

What are you looking forward to most in the new heavens and new earth?

## Great quotes

*'He's been called home to be with the Lord'* Anon.

## Conclusion

**14. Read Genesis 12:1.** How does the chaos of the fall and Babel end in a new creation? Is it just for individuals like Noah and Abel or great hope for all mankind?

## Summary Questions:

**15. What did this study teach me about Jesus?**

**16. What did this study teach me about the Bible?**

**17. What did this study teach me about myself?**

## Jesus



*God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) create a home for man, but man rejects God's rule and good purposes and the consequences are awful! Throughout the rest of the Bible and time as we know it, God through Jesus is preparing a home of rest for those who believe in him.*

