

The Drama of Scripture: Creation (Part 1)

The Bible is not just a hodgepodge of unconnected moral tidbits and theological truths; rather it is the revelation of a grand story . . . God's story! It is a story that explains the history of the universe, its present state, and its future. This story is revealed in the drama of Scripture played out in four acts: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Over the next eight weeks we are going to consider in greater depth each of these four acts. We hope that this series will do three basic things for all of us: (1) Provide a grid for reading and understanding Scripture; (2) Increase our confidence in the triune God; and, (3) Help us each find our place in the biblical story.

Ice Breaker: What is your favorite kind of movie genre (drama, comedy, love, action/adventure, etc.)? Why?

1. On the front end of this series, what are your initial thoughts about how it might be helpful to have a better grasp on the drama of Scripture?

Read Genesis 1:1-2:3

1. Assume you have never heard anything about Christianity or the God of the Bible. You literally know nothing about any of this! What does this passage reveal to you about God?
2. What do you learn about creation?
3. What do you learn about mankind's place in creation?

Steve said:

By saying that "God created the heavens and earth," Moses is saying that God created **everything**. The expression, "the heavens and earth" is repeated at the end of the creation account (in 2:1), confirming that everything described in between has been created by God. And so, Genesis 1:1 declares that "in the beginning" (at the beginning of time as we understand it) God created everything. Moses is establishing that everything and everyone **must** answer to God. As the Creator of everything and everyone, there is nothing beyond His power or outside of His jurisdiction.

4. What do you think it means that each of us must answer to the Creator?

Referring to Gen. 1:26, Steve said:

This verse is among the most studied and written about in the entire Bible. And rightly so: this verse establishes the fundamental identity of humanity. These verses establish our relationship to God and our relationship with the rest of creation. The emphasis in these verses is upon the intimate connection between God and man.

5. What is the fundamental identity of humanity? What is our relationship to God and to the rest of creation (vv. 26-28)?

6. In act one of the drama of Scripture, God is revealed to be the Creator of heaven and earth. He is our Creator! What are some of the implications of this for us?

7. What is your main take away from today's study?