

God's Plan for Man Begins
Gen1:1-31, 2:1-3
February 3, 2008

Intro: The beginning! How many of you came in expecting or wanting a lecture on the differences between Neo-Darwinian Evolution, Intelligent Design and Classical Creationism? ***What we will not do in this study:*** We will not have an academic point counterpoint debate on creation versus evolution. I do not think that the bulk of us will encounter a Neo-Darwinist who may lean toward intelligent design yet reject deistic-evolution as a theological concession he is unwilling to make. We can leave those arguments and the vocabulary to the academics, philosophers, and theologians.

Interrog: Have you ever wished you could go back in time with the knowledge you have now? If you could go back to the beginning of a day, a year, the first words of an argument, or even that big mistake, how would things be different? There is a show on called "the Journeyman" that covers this very idea. God's Word goes back to the beginning and tells us of God's plan. If we, through the looking glass of scripture, go back to the beginning we can learn valuable lessons and be inspired by who He is and why we are here. What is your purpose? Why are you here? Can going back and looking at the creation story tell you something about yourself that you never knew?

Genesis 1:1-31, 2:1-4

The Outline Bible covers Gen 1 this way: ...

I want us to see essentials that establish God as he should be seen, man for who he was meant to be and to understand the relation between the two.

Who is God? verses 1-31, 2:14

Pre-existent, creative, orderly, authoritative

Formless and void – nothing to something

Authoritative - "light be" not passive Active "said God, 'be light,' became light"

Good – 7 times He is good (verse list)

Orderly – creation builds with the order of an eternal architect, according to its kind something to something purposeful 2:15

Psalm 8:1-4

He is the creator and purpose giver of man and the universe. (repeat)

Who is man? Verse 26-28 (central theology of man)

The image of God, ruler of creation, servant of God, possessing conveyed authority, the pinnacle of God's creation loved of God

Gen 2:15

Psalm 8:5-9

Man is the image of God who has purpose and value only in relation to the God who created him. (repeat)

Does your life have purpose and meaning beyond your own pleasure? Are you living to make you happy, or are you living to please the one who created you and gave you purpose?