

Building on Biblical Foundations

“THE LORD YOUR GOD IS . . .”

Foundations in Genesis – A Summary of the Character of God

JANUARY through AUGUST 202

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Way back in January we began our journey through the book of Genesis. Why?

- To discover who the Lord is,
- To gain understanding of ourselves
- To better understand the world we live in
- To help us navigate this life today

I decided to summarize where we have been over these past 8 months and encapsulate what we have learned about the nature and character of God. Next week we will begin the book of Exodus. We will follow the Jews as they are transformed from slaves to a holy nation – hint, hint this is a foreshadowing of what the Lord does in each of us when we come to Christ. We are delivered out of bondage and into freedom. We are no longer slaves, but children of God/

1. HE IS SUPREME: Genesis 1:1

1. Beginning with . . .Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning. . .”
2. This is the beginning of the story of man’s redemption.
3. God – the Supreme Being – in the plural (that is as the Trinity) was there in the beginning. Elohim.

2. HE IS THE WORD:

4. We cannot separate the word of God from God for scripture teaches us that:
5. “In the Beginning was the word (Jesus), and the word was with God and the word was God. He (Jesus) was with God in the beginning. Through him (Jesus) all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.” *John 1:1-3*
6. To build our lives on the foundation (rock) of Jesus is the same as to build our lives on the foundation of the Word.
7. JESUS = The WORD
8. Which word? Every word of scripture – 1 Timothy 3:16

3. HE IS CREATOR OF ALL: Genesis 1:1-19

God spoke and with his Words he created something from nothing. With his words matter was formed and principles to sustain matter. With his words order replaced chaos and governing principles were established. From nothing comes not just life, but every resource for sustaining life.

4. HE IS RESTORER: Revelation 21:1-5

We talked about unity of the scriptures, about how everything in the Word of God supports itself. Let's take a quick peek at the new heaven and new earth that God will create when he restores all things:

Revelation 21:1 "Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth,"[a] for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.

2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband."

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

4 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death'[b] or mourning or crying or pain, *for the old order of things has passed away.*"

5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

5. HE IS JEHOVAH / HE IS YWVH: The proper name for God /

The Lord God the personal name of God – occurring over 6800 times in the Bible.

YWVH expresses the mercy and condescension of Almighty God.

When I judge the creatures I am Elohim, and when I have mercy with My world, I am named YHWH." (Exodus Rabbah 3:6).

While *Elohim* is the Name given for God as the Creator of the universe (Gen 1:1), Which implies strength, power, and justice;

Jehovah expresses the idea of God's closeness to humans. It is the personal name of God and his most frequent designation, occurring over 6,800 times in scripture

6. HE IS THE GOD OF CHOICES: Genesis 2:9 The two trees in the Garden

7. HE IS THE BREATH OF LIFE – breathing His breath of Life into humanity

FEBRUARY: Genesis 2:18- 3:19 – Creation of Eve, the Fall

9. HE IS THE GOD OF RELATIONSHIP – providing a companion for Adam

10. HE IS THE GOD OF REDEMPTION – He provides a way back

11. THE GOD OF WORSHIPPED – Abel worshipped him Cain did not.

12. HE IS THE GOD OF JUSTICE AND MERCY. Cain must pay for his crime, Yet the Lord is merciful to him.

13. HE MAKES EACH TO REPRODUCE AFTER ITS OWN KIND.

14. HE IS ALL KNOWING – Adam, Cain we cannot hide from him

15. HE IS FORGIVING – when we reach out to him in humility, he restores us

MARCH: The DAYS of NOAH

16. HE IS HOLY – when the inhabitants of the earth increased in wickedness until there was only one man found worthy – the Lord destroyed the entirety, cleansing the earth of its corruption.

17. THE LORD GIVES WARNING OF CALAMITY AND JUDGEMENT –

18. THE LORD IS PATIENT – he gave the wicked 120 years to repent before the flood came

19. THE LORD PREPARES US – as he prepared Noah, he also prepares his followers today.

Matthew 24:37-39

³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;

³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

20. HE IS A COVENANT KEEPING GOD – He established his covenant – solemn promise with Noah – and his family.

21. HE IS OUR SHELTER IN THE STORM – Psalm 91

APRIL:

22. HE IS A RIGHEOUS JUDGE: Ninevah,

23. YET HE RELENTS OF DISASTER – desiring that none should perish

24. HE IS THE LORD WHO SCATTERS – As the people built the tower of Babel to be like God and reach up to heaven, the sin of pride causes the Lord to strike down their efforts and scatter the people

25. The GOD OF ABRAHAM – Faithful

26. HE WORKS ALL THINGS TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD AND FOR HIS PURPOSES

MAY:

28. HE IS THE GOD WHO PROVIDES – Genesis 14:14-24, Abraham refuses compensation from the King of Sodom

27. HE IS THE LORD THAT PURIFIES. Sodom and Gomorrah are destroyed by fire due to their wickedness.

JUNE:

29. HE IS THE Giver OF OUR IDENTITY – Abraham and Sarah receive new names

30. HE IS A PROMISE KEEPER – Sarah bears a son

31. HE IS A GOOD FATHER – he created the concept of family to illustrate his love for humanity – the way we love our children

32. HE DEMANDS OBEDIENCE – Abraham’s obedience to sacrifice Isaac – spared with a ram

JULY

33. HE IS THE GOD OF GENERATIONS – Isaac and Rebecca

34. HE IS SOVEREIGN

HIS PLAN NEVER FAILS - HE IS NOT RELIANT ON HUMANITY’S CONDITION –

His plans surpass our intentions, our effort and our success or failure.

35. HE IS THE GOD WHO CALLS YOU BY NAME – Jacob wrestled with God and received a new name – Israel

AUGUST:

36. THE LORD Pre Ordains - – The Story of Joseph

From Genesis 1-1 through to the end of Chapter 50, we see that there is a plan. This is not all haphazard as it feels. The Lord is working in and through the people – all of us – to accomplish his purpose. And what is that purpose? To restore unto Himself fallen creation. To make a people for himself holy and set apart. To reveal his majesty through his creation to all the universe and to lavish upon his children his boundless, eternal love.

This is a love story of epic proportions. We know the end from the beginning and it is a really good ending. There is a reunion, love that was once lost is regained, the bad guys are thrown into the fiery lake and all is made new once again - only this time incorruptible.

Next week we will follow the Jews as they break away from slavery to become God’s chosen people.

The journey continues.