

The Lordship of Jesus Christ
Col 1:15-23
(Part 3)

I. Introduction:

A. We are studying the Lordship of Jesus Christ

1. Who He is
2. WHAT He has DONE
3. to BE the FULLY and ONLY SUFFICIENT WAY to be Reconciled to God for eternal Life!
 - a) He is Lord God
 - b) He is Lord of Creation (Last week)
 - c) He is Lord of the Church
 - d) He is Lord of Your Life

II. He is Lord of Creation

Col 1:15 ~~He is the image of the invisible God,~~ the firstborn of all creation. **16** For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. **17** He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

A. Taught the details of these verses last week

B. My CONCLUSION: Col 1:16-17 Can't be any clearer – BY CHRIST ALL THINGS were CREATED!

1. AND CREATED FOR HIM!
2. AND HE HOLDS THEM ALL TOGETHER!
3. Hence, HE is LORD of CREATION!
4. We don't have major problems TODAY with heresy in the church about the Deity of Christ RELATIVE to ANGELS, etc.
5. BUT we DO HAVE an WORLD BATTERING us WITH EVOLUTION
 - a) AND – it has gotten in the doors of the Church
6. MANY Christians DO NOT BELIEVE in CREATION

- a) Believe in EVOLUTION
 - b) Or Theistic evolution (God started and then let it go on its own).
7. As we see today – ONLY CREATION BY CHRIST is TRUE!
 8. He IS Lord of CREATION!
 9. AND – without the creation account as it OCCURRED – we'd have no salvation!
 - a) Rom 5 – Sin entered the world through ADAM
 - b) Real man created on the sixth day of creation!
 - c) No Adam – no sin, no savior as the Bible teaches
 10. SO – When you see a passage like ours today – REALIZE that ALL YOUR CHRISTIAN BELIEFS depends on CHRIST as CREATOR of ALL THINGS!

C. AS ALWAYS – teaching creation leads to a lot of EXCELLENT QUESTIONS and DISCUSSION – which it did this past week!

D. SO – I want to look at the creation account today – and show you the BASIC FACTS of CREATION.

E. I like to teach the Genesis account – over and over!

1. At least once a every two years!
2. SO – let's do it again!

III. Biblical Basics of the Creation of Man Introduction

A. The average and even above-average Christian has never studied Gen 1-3 in detail –certainly not like any passage of the NT.

B. Unfortunately, the average Christian doesn't even necessary believe the creation story is literally true!

C. Worse yet – the average Christian doesn't understand that without the literal Creation story there is no real salvation for any of us.

1. If Adam wasn't real, sin isn't real, need for a savior isn't real

2. Rom 5:12-21 A REAL ADAM brought sin into the world and a REAL CHRIST gave a free gift!
3. If Adam wasn't real – Rom 5:12-21 isn't real either because Christ would be no more real than Adam, right?

Ro 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— **13** for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. **14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. **15** But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. **16** The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift *arose* from many transgressions resulting in justification. **17** For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. **18** So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. **19** For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. **20** The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, **21** so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

D. On the other side of the coin – the world – where is the GREATEST secular attack against the word of God aimed today – the creation story.

1. Science is trying to show the Bible to be silly nonsense in the matters of scientific fact.
2. Man doesn't want to believe in sin and if sin comes as the part of some fairy tale written thousands of years ago by a small tribe in a desert...Who needs to believe that?
3. Science is trying to show that God doesn't even exist – that you don't need God to explain ANYTHING. Science can explain it all!

E. Ernst Mayr “towering figure in evolutionary biology” – Professor at Harvard, recipient of the National Medal of Science wrote in July 2000 Scientific American an article about Darwin and evolution. Listen to this quote:

“Darwinism REJECTS all supernatural phenomena and causations...evolution by natural selection explains the adaptedness and diversity of the world solely materialistically. It no longer requires God as creator or designer...creation, as described in the bible, ...was contradicted by almost any aspect of the natural world.”

F. There are ONLY TWO FACTS about EVOLUTION

1. It is NOT TRUE
2. IT is DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO THE CREATION STORY AT EVERY JOT AND TITTLE OF GENESIS
 - a) IOW – NOWHERE DOES EVOLUTION AGREE WITH THE CREATION ACCOUNT!
 - b) YOU COULDN'T ASK FOR A MORE PERFECT OPPOSITE!

G. What do you have here? UNEQUIPPED CHRISTIANS FACING A FULL FRONTAL ASSAULT BY THE GREATEST MINDS OF SECULAR SOCIETY – Pounding away at the foundation, the door to the word of God!

1. At EVERY LEVEL – Elementary School to Graduate

School

2. Even in Christian schools – last year’s accreditation for the college and Seminary said like only 6 or so other institutions believed and taught a 6 day literal creation!
3. Even in the churches – where pastors are teaching Genesis as allegory
4. Everyone raised Roman Catholic (hundreds of millions) are being taught this! – ALLEGORY!

H. Churches are sending people out with a big hole in their armor and the enemy has got his best troops and best weapons pounding us through that hole!

I. THREE VIEWS of ORIGINS of LIFE

1. MATERIALISTIC EVOLUTION

- a) Began with Darwin – ALL living organism arose from one simple living cell.
- b) ASSUMES
 - (1) Matter is ETERNAL
 - (2) Spontaneous Generation – that first cell JUST HAPPENED! CHANCE!
- c) TIME =FORCE in EVOLUTION – “If you apply enough time to something, something will happen!”
- d) NO proof for ANYTHING in Materialistic Evolution
- e) TAKES MORE FAITH to believe than CREATIONISM!

2. THEISTIC EVOLUTION

- a) God STARTED and ORDERED the evolution process
- b) God may have created first life form.
- c) Key: God SET UP / STARTED evolutionary PROCESSES – God DID NOT DIRECTLY PRODUCE everything!
- d) = Christianity’s COMPROMISE with EVOLUTIONARY SCIENCE!
- e) NO biblical basis or scientific basis.

- f) AND – Guess what? God is out of the Process BEFORE the creation of Man!
 - (1) THEREFORE – No Adam, no fall
 - (2) No Rom 5:12-21
 - (3) No Biblical Salvation...

3. BIBLICAL CREATIONISM

- a) The Accounts of CREATION in the BIBLE are LITERAL and TRUE.
- b) KEYS:
 - (1) God SAID HE DID IT
 - (2) God's REVELATION of HIMSELF in SCRIPTURE SHOWS that
 - (a) He IS CAPABLE of DOING IT (POWER)
 - (b) He IS GREATER than ALL THAT is CREATED
 - (c) HE is ETERNAL
- 4. About 2 years ago Intelligent Design Hit the news (= Godless Theistic Evolution!)
 - a) Where does Intelligent Design FIT?
 - b) = EVOLUTIONARY theory BORROWING some concepts from Theistic Evolution
 - c) BUT DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE GOD
 - d) But – Theistic Evolutionists say – you're right, we just know that God is the intelligent designer!
 - e) = ACKNOWLEDGEMENT that EVOLUTIONARY THEORY TODAY FAILS
 - f) Where does it FAIL? At some of its CORE ASSUMPTIONS!
 - g) IF Intelligent Design stays around as a theory, it will become the FOURTH MAJOR view of ORIGINS of Life.
 - h) WHY are the EVOLUTIONISTS fighting this SO BRUTALLY?
 - i) A: It's the first STEP towards HAVING to acknowledge

the existence of God

j) = Acknowledging SIN and being a SINNER!

IV. TRUTHS about CREATION from Genesis

A. KEY: Grammar RULES!

1. As with ALL Biblical Interpretation: Grammar RULES
2. Interpret Scripture FROM ORIGINAL LANGUAGE
3. USE the RULES of that LANGUAGE
4. So, we'll do some of this today!

B. TRUTH #1: There IS NO "GAP" (No Gap Theory)

Ge 1: 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

1. Ever have someone tell you that BETWEEN v.1 and v.2 are MILLIONS of YEARS? Wrong
2. Reasons why there is no gap
 - a) 1- Anadiplosis
 - b) 2- Waw Disjunctive Clause
3. Anadiplosis = "doubling back"
 - a) End one sentence with a word
 - b) Start next sentence (or near start) with same word
 - c) IOW – pick up the subject from previous subject to continue talking about it!
 - d) Look at the end of v.1
 - (1) 1:1 ENDS with "the earth"
 - (2) 1:2 Begins with "the earth"
 - e) Therefore, GRAMMAR says, v.2 is MERELY CONTINUING to DISCUSS "the earth" from V.1
 - f) NOT a new thought / separate thought
 - g) NO room for TIME!
4. Waw disjunctive clause

- a) MOST Hebrew sentences START with “And + verb” (And He said, And She walked...)
 - (1) “waw” = Hebrew word for “and”
- b) UNUSUAL when they don’t!
- c) 3 reasons why they break this pattern!
- d) One of those reasons (the main one) = TO GO INTO MORE DETAIL on WHAT as PREVIOUSLY SAID!
- e) SOOOO – Guess what we have at the BEGINNING of V.2?
 - (1) A waw disjunctive clause!
 - (2) V.2 IS MERELY the BEGINNING of MORE DETAIL about V.1!!!
 - (3) Tell us the details of “God created the heavens and earth!”

5. BL: No GAP THEORY

C. TRUTH #2: ONLY ONE CREATION ACCOUNT!

1. Ever have someone tell you that Genesis 2 is a DIFFERENT / SEPARATE Creation Account from Genesis 1?
2. Turn to the end of Gen 1...

Ge 1:31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. **1** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. **2** By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. **3** Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. **4** This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven. **5** Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

3. Guess what we have in v.4?
 - a) Another DISJUNCTIVE CLAUSE!
 - b) ALL Genesis 2 does is GIVE MORE DETAIL to the CREATION of MAN from Genesis 1
4. Grammar says NO separate account – just details of the first account!

D. TRUTH #3: DAYS are DAYS!

1. Word for “day” in Genesis 1 = NORMAL WORD for 24 hour days!
2. For example – 1:13
Ge 1:13 There was evening and there was morning, a third day.
3. When someone argues that there are exceptions
2 Pe 3:8 But do not let this one *fact* escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.
 - a) How do you answer?
 - b) Back to v.13! NOTICE:
4. FIRST – the days are NUMBERED “a third day”
5. SECOND – The days have morning and evening!
6. What do you see? NORMAL DAYS!
7. When is first use of “day” in creation account? V.5
Ge 1:5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.
 - a) What do you see there? A SOLAR DAY!
 - b) Evening, morning, ONE DAY!
8. You have over 700 uses of YOM as a literal day in the OT and these are too!

E. Truth #4: GOD'S CREATION OF MAN WAS PERSONAL: Let Us make vs. Let there be

1. Turn to Gen 1:26 and let's bring us to up this point of

creation.

2. By the time you get to v.26 creation is well into day 6
 - a) All of the universe – stars, planets, sun, moon, earth have been created
 - b) All plant life has been created
 - c) All animal life has been created with the land animals being created in the first part of Day 6.
 - d) Literally 5 – 24 hour days have passed...

3. Read starting with v.26

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ...31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

4. GOD WAS PERSONALLY INVOLVED: Let Us make vs. Let there be

5. CREATION HAD A PATTERN

- a) CREATION HAD A pattern
 - (1) V.26 Then God said / v.27 God created (God “did”)
 - (2) God speaks and creates – God speaks it into existence
 - (3) See previously in Gen 1:
 - V.14 Then God said “Let there be lights...”V.16 God made...
 - V.24 Then God said “Let the earth bring forth...V.25 God made the beasts...
- b) SO - God is continuing in the same pattern of creation used in Days 1-5 and early on Day 6
- c) ALL PREVIOUS CREATION- God said “Let there be”
 - (1) Known as “Fiat” creation = Latin for “Let there be”

- (2) “[Let there be](#)”= IMPERSONAL form of Heb verb
- (a) God is not AS intimately / personally involved.
 - (b) Used 7X (v.3,6,9,11,14,20,24) – EVERY PREVIOUS act of Creation was “[Let there be...](#)”
 - (c) There’s a “reason to this rhyme” – we will see – God has no personal relationship with all of the rest of Creation – only with man.
- d) GOD’S PLAN FOR MAN: there is a DIFFERENCE BETWEEN Day 1-6a and DAY 6b (part 2)!
6. BUT - CREATION OF MAN REVEALED PERSONAL, PLURAL PERSONHOOD OF GOD: Let US MAKE
- a) US – God introduces Himself and does so in the plural!
 - (1) God speaking to Himself when He says “[Let US make](#)”
 - (2) Can we claim Trinity here? NO – not without rest of Scripture!
 - (3) However, God is showing a RELATIONAL and PERSONAL aspect of Himself – HE IS PLURAL and yet ONE (all previous references + v.27)
 - (4) God is intimately involved in this step of Creation!
 - (5) God’s language is signally us that something special is about to happen.
 - (a) God has everything else in place – universe, stars, plants, animals, - Let there be, Let there be, let there be...
 - (b) and now He personally steps up and says “Let US make man”
 - (6) BY saying [Let US MAKE](#) – He is letting us know that
 - (a) HE IS COMMUNICATING with OTHERS
 - (b) He is IN COMMUNION with OTHERs in this creation

- (c) From the testimony of Scripture know that the whole Trinity was involved in the creative act.
 - (d) Did they just do it on a whim? Impulsive act?
 - (e) NO – BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD GOD PLANNED ALL OF THE REDEMPTIVE HISTORY OF MANKIND
- b) MAKE MAN – action / deed
- (1) > speaking
 - (2) DIFFERENT than all other inanimate creation
Genesis 2:7 Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.
- c) “MAN” = Literally “adam” –not used as a Proper name
- (1) speaks of mankind as the end of v.27 shows us “male and female He created them”
 - (2) It is related to the Hebrew word for “earth” - since man’s body is formed out of the dust of the earth (2:7)
7. MAN WAS CREATED AS A PERSON FOR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP
- a) God Created man In the image of God (V.26,27)
- V.26: in Our image, according to Our likeness;
V.27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him
- (1) In Our image = according to Our likeness (synonyms for emphasis)
 - (2) Notice there is no “and” between them – the are what we call “appositional” – set back-to-back saying the same thing.
 - (3) Emphasis: 4X in 2 verses!...created in the image of God.
8. What is the image of God?
- a) I like Hamilton’s quote “It is clear that v.26 and 27 are

not interested in defining what is the image of God in man!" Moses doesn't tell us here!

- b) Found 4X in OT – 2X here.
 - c) Word for image means “to chop off, hew, cut, to carve;”
 - d) Man is a
 - (1) “chip off of God”
 - (2) carved / shaped like God
 - (3) Created on the divine pattern
 - (4) God is the original – man is somehow a copy
 - (5) When you look at man, the copy, you should know something about the original, God.
 - (6) Beyond biology and life itself
 - (a) we share those with animals
 - (b) Because we live in the same biological environment
9. Image of God can be summed up by a few distinctives that separate us from the rest of creation
- a) Every human being is ETERNAL
 - b) No other earthly creature is eternal
 - [Ec 3:11](#) He has also set eternity in their heart,...
 - [Ec 3:21](#) Who knows that the breath of man ascends upward and the breath of the beast descends downward to the earth?
 - (1) Man goes on to eternity / Animals go to death – no eternity
 - c) Will science ever be able to discover a place in the anatomy of a human being that is eternal?? NO!
 - d) In addition to ETERNAL, the image of God means...
10. We are persons made for RELATIONSHIP
- a) We live on the basis of relationships...relationships. We understand fellowship. We understand love.
 - b) The mystery of the origin of personhood is that the one

God exists as three persons in one being, or substance, or essence or reality.

- (1) BUT the one being of God involves personhood.
- (2) He made us as persons and that is He made us for relationship – WITH HIM
- (3) PART OF THE REDEMPTIVE PLAN
- (4) WE ARE TO BE A LOVE GIFT FROM THE FATHER TO THE SON – FOR RELATIONSHIP.

- c) So we are created in the image of God, personhood, relationship and understanding of right and wrong and morality which is critical to all our relationships, particularly our relationship to God.
11. Creates a “gulf” “chasm” “difference” between man and animals that CANNOT be bridged.
- a) No animal COULD EVER become a man
 - b) Not only because they were created separately, uniquely, “as-is”
 - c) BUT ALSO, no animal was / will ever be made IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. –
 - d) NEVER be ETERNAL.
 - e) NEVER have a PERSONAL INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP with God.
 - f) Evolution will have to ALWAYS lie because no animal can “acquire” the image of God!
 - g) Evolution – is it monkey becoming a man OR is it really Man making a monkey out of himself?! (best T-Shirt ever!)
12. Does Scripture support this account?
- a) Old Testament Does!
 - [Is 45:12](#) “It is I...says God...who created man
 - [Job 33:4](#) “The Spirit of God has made me”
 - [Deut 4:32](#) –day that God created man on earth
 - b) Jesus Does! – Matthew 19:3-5

“Is it lawful *for a man* to divorce his wife for any reason at all?” And [Jesus] answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, and said, ‘FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH?’

- c) Paul Does! –argues women’s role in church from creation
 - 1 Tim 2:13-14 - For it was Adam who was first created, *and* then Eve. And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.
- d) FITS THE WHOLE PLAN OF REDEMPTION!
 - (1) John 17:24 24 “Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.
 - (2) WE WERE MADE TO FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD!

13. TRANSITION: WE HAVE JUST SEEN:

- a) God’s creation of man WAS PERSONAL
- b) God was PERSONALLY INVOLVED in the CREATION OF MAN!
- c) MAN was created AS AN ETERNAL PERSON FOR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP!
- d) Do you know what evolution teaches? NOT PURPOSE- BUT CHANCE and RANDOMNESS
 - (1) Man, through survival of the fittest
 - (2) Has climbed the highest out of the primordial soup!
 - (3) EVOLUTION MAKES CREATION IMPERSONAL!
 - (4) DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED to the true CREATION ACCOUNT!

F. Truth #5: GOD’S CREATION OF MAN was PERMANENT (it was so)

1. V.30 and it was so. (4 times:V.9,11,15,24 before)
 - a) =“it was fixed, it was permanent = way it stayed!”
2. At beginning, God: “Let there be light”
 - a) BUT no “it was so”
 - b) This was light not attached to stellar bodies – not permanent light
 - c) BUT v.15 after moon, sun, stars – it was so
3. God created the earth – mass of elements in water
 - a) BUT no “it was so...”
 - b) WASN'T it's PERMANENT shape/form
 - c) BUT v.9 God separated the waters and there was dry land – the way it was to permanently be – “it was so” (v.9)
4. God created the animals – v.24 It was so... just the way they are today – within their own kind.
 - a) HUGE DIFFERENCE between
 - b) God's intermediate steps of creation AND
 - c) Evolutionary intermediate steps!
5. Closely related to the permanence of creation...

G. Truth #6: GOD'S CREATION OF MAN was PERFECT (good, very good)

v. 31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.

1. V.4 light was good
2. V.10, dry land and sea was good
3. V.12 plants good
4. V.18 stellar bodies
5. V.21 creatures of the sea and air
6. V.,25 land animals
7. V. 31 man=very good
8. NO deformity,mutation,imperfection,inferiority, death
9. I.e. no natural selection / survival of the fittest (were no unfit) / No death!

10. IT ENDED PERFECT:

[V.31](#) ... And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

11. OF COURSE – At this point you have to teach Genesis 2 and especially Genesis 3 – the FALL because all is NOT “very good” today BUT will be at the end of time with the new heavens and earth

V. Conclusion.

A. SIX Truths about the Creation**B. Every one of them the truth of God about His creation****C. Every one of them diametrically opposed by evolution and even by theistic evolution!****D. God made man an ETERNAL PERSON for PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP**

1. Evolution is by chance with no supernatural existence
2. Evolution says man is nothing more than the highest form to yet come out of the primordial soup.
3. Certainly man is not made special and different from the rest of creation

E. God made it permanent and perfect – did it right the first time with no plan to evolve.

1. Evolution – no such thing.
 - a) Survival of the fittest.
 - b) Experimentation and design.
 - c) Intermediate life forms.

F. At every point – every jot/ tittle evolution opposes creation!**G. How did Creation Occur?**

1. Exactly as Genesis describes it!
2. It is the detail behind Col 1:16-17!