

First Things First

Genesis 1:1-25

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Believers are travelers on a journey through life (1 Peter 2:11a). Moses wrote Genesis for the sake of the Israelites who were wandering in the wilderness, looking for the promised land. Just like the Israelites, we too are wandering and searching for the promised land. Genesis is our travel guide that provides wisdom, perspectives, and truths for the travel.

As we go through the journey of life, we need to see that God is of first importance.

God is First Importance [3 things]

I. God is the Beginning

What Moses wrote in Genesis would have had a huge impact on the journey that Israel was taking. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, he cuts through the circumstances, needs, and heritage of the people, and leads them to behold God (v1a). The true beginning of the Israelite's journey is God. God is the Beginning, the Context, the True Starting Point, of every journey. The traumas and privileges in life must not eclipse the truth that our journey begins and revolves around God. The apostle Paul, who enjoyed privilege and suffered trauma, knew that his life revolved around God (1 Cor. 15:10a). With God at the beginning of our lives, we can join Paul in declaring that God's grace towards us will not be in vain!

II. God is the God of Order

One way God created was by bringing order. Out from the formless dark void and chaotic waters (v2) came order. Out of darkness came light; from waters came the sky, seas and land; from the void came plants, the sun, moon, stars, birds, sea creatures, land animals and Man. God's order can be seen in the way He progressively created day by day. God brings total order out of absolute chaos.

God works all things together, even the chaos, for our good (Ro. 8:28). God isn't just in the beginning of our journey but also in the midst of it. He brings order to the chaos in our lives.

III. God is the God of Words

God uses His word to:

1. Create (vv. 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, cf. Isa. 55:11)
2. Name (vv. 5, 10)
3. Judge (vv. 4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31a)
4. Bless (v22, Deut. 6:24)

God's use of His words is a display of His authority. The Israelites had seen God's authoritative word at work in their journey. Still, they struggled with it. God rules our journey by His word. Press on in reading and applying God's word! Struggle with your identity in God's word, and with the judgements in His word.

Just like the Israelites, we too struggle to take God at His word. There is no hope in ourselves. With man, it is impossible, but with God, all things are possible. Through His life, Jesus Christ demonstrated that God is the beginning, no matter the trauma, circumstance and privilege He faced. He brought order out of the chaos around Him; healing the sick, feeding the hungry, calming the storm and loving the foreigner. In humble obedience, he died on the cross to put into order our relationship with God so that the chaos in our lives can know peace. Jesus is the Word become flesh who rules our journey (John 14:6a). Cling to Him.