

## Saugus Bible Reading

May 31-June 1, 2014

### Session1: Science and the Bible / Genesis 1:1-2:3

- **Lecture: Science and the Bible (45 minutes)**
  - **Bible Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:3 (90 minutes)**
- I. **The Forming of the Earth — The First Three Days [1:1-13]**
- A. **Day One: The Heavens and the Earth, Day and Night [1:1-5]**
1. **The Initial Act of Creation [1:1]**
    - a. Time: “In the beginning”
    - b. *Elohim*, the eternal “God”
    - c. Action: “created” from nothing [*bara*]
    - d. Space: “the heavens”
    - e. Matter (mass-energy): “the earth”
  2. **The State of the Earth at Its Creation [1:2]**
    - a. “The earth was unformed [*tohu*] and unfilled [*bohu*]”
    - b. “Darkness was over the face of the deep [*tehom*, cf. Gen. 7:11; Ex. 15:5].
    - c. “The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”
  3. **The Creation of Day and Night [1:3-5]**
    - a. Speaking: “‘Let there be light.’ And there was light” [1:3].
    - b. Evaluating: “God saw that the light was good” [1:4].
    - c. Separating: “God separated the light from the darkness” [1:4].
    - d. Naming: “God called light Day and darkness he called Night” [1:5].
    - e. Reviewing: “And there was evening and there was morning, the first day” [1:5].
    - f. (Lacking: Working, Blessing)
- B. **Day Two: The Forming of the Atmosphere and Seas [1:6-8]**
1. **The Creation of an Expanse (Heaven) to Separate the Waters**
    - a. Speaking: “‘Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters’” [1:6].
    - b. Working: “God made [*‘asah*] the expanse...” [1:7].
    - c. Separating: God “separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse” [1:7].
    - d. Naming: “God called the expanse Heaven(s)” [1:8].
    - e. Reviewing: “And there was evening and there was morning, the second day” [1:8].

f. (Lacking: Evaluating, Blessing)

### **C. Day Three: The Forming of the Land [1:9-13]**

#### **1. The Appearance of Dry Land Surrounded by Seas**

- a. Speaking: “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear” [1:9].
- b. Separating: the dry land from the seas
- c. Naming: “God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas” [1:10].
- d. Evaluating: “God saw that it was good” [1:10].
- e. (Lacking: Working, Blessing)

#### **2. The Sprouting of Vegetation and the Formation of Seeds and Fruit.**

- a. Speaking: “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed...” [1:11].
- b. Separating: “...each according to its kind...” [1:11].
- c. Evaluating: “God saw that it was good” [1:12].
- d. Reviewing: “And there was evening and there was morning, the third day” [1:13].
- e. (Lacking: Working, Naming, Blessing)

## **II. The Filling of the Earth — Days Four to Six [1:14-25]**

### **A. Day Four: The Filling of Day and Night [1:14-19]**

#### **1. The Creation of the Sun, Moon, and Stars**

- a. Speaking: “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens...to give light upon the earth” [1:14-15].
- b. Separating: “...to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years...” [1:14]; “...to separate the light from the darkness...” [1:18].
- c. Working: “God made [*’asah*] the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens...” [1:16-17].
- d. Evaluating: “God saw that it was good” [1:18].
- e. Reviewing: “And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day” [1:19].
- f. (Lacking: Naming, Blessing)

### **B. Day Five: The Filling of the Atmosphere and Seas [1:20-23]**

#### **1. The Creation of Marine Life and Birds:**

- a. Speaking: “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens” [1:20].

- b. Working: “God created [*bara*] the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind” [1:21].
- c. Separating: “...according to its/their kind...” [1:20].
- d. Evaluating: “God saw that it was good” [1:21].
- e. Blessing: ““Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth”” [1:22].
- f. Reviewing: “And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day” [1:23].
- g. (Lacking: Naming)

### C. Day Six: The Filling of the Land [1:24-25]

#### 1. The Creation of Wild Animals, Livestock, and Creeping Things

- a. Speaking: ““Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds”” [1:24].
- b. Working: “God made (*’asah*) the beasts of the earth...and the livestock...and everything that creeps on the ground...” [1:25].
- c. Separating: “...according to their kinds...” [1:24-25].
- d. Evaluating: “God saw that it was good” [1:25].
- e. (Lacking: Naming, Blessing)

#### 2. The Creation of Man in the Image and Likeness of God [1:26-30]

- a. Speaking: ““Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion...”” [1:26].
- b. Naming: “man” [*’adam*]
- c. Working: “So God created [*bara*] man in his own image, in the image of God he created him” [1:27].
- d. “male and female he created them.”
- e. Separating: “...male and female he created them” [1:27].
- f. Blessing [1:28-30]
  - i. ““Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion...”” [1:28].
  - ii. ““I have given you every plant yielding seed...and every tree with seed in its fruit...for food”” [1:29-30].
- g. Evaluating: “God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good” [1:31].
- h. Reviewing: “And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day” [1:31].

### III. The Creator’s Resting from His Work—Day 7 [2:1-3]

- A. Reviewing: Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them” [2:1]

- B. **Resting:** “on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done [*asah*]” [2:2].
  - C. **Blessing:** “God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done (*asah*) in creation [*bara*] [2:3]..
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## **Authority of Scripture**

### **BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE**

#### **Introduction (30 min.) – What’s at stake?**

*Scripture reading: 2 Peter 2:1-3*

A discussion regarding the relevance of this topic in our post-modern society. How did we get here through the flow of history? What form do the false-teachers take today?

#### **Session 1 (60 min.)**

*Scripture reading: 2 Peter 1:13-2:3 (2 Peter 3:1-2)*

##### ***The nature of Inspiration***

1. God or men – who wrote the Bible?

*(2 Peter 1:20-21)*

2. How do we know that eye-witness testimony of the New Testament is actually true?

*(2 Peter 1:16-18)*

3. What about different books that, as some claim, should be added to the Bible?

4. Has the original ‘Divine Inspiration’ been lost in all of the copies and translations?

##### ***The necessity of Interpretation***

6. How many different interpretations (of the meaning) can there be for the Scriptures?

*(2 Peter 1:20)*

7. How is the reality of Divine Inspiration so important to our methods of interpreting Scripture?

8. What is the proper approach to Bible study that will ensure a right interpretation of the Text?

9. How do the Old and New Testaments relate to each other? Does this have any effect on how we properly interpret the Old Testament?

*(2 Peter 1:19)*

*Break (20 min.)*

#### **Session 2 (40 min.)**

*Scripture reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-17*

##### ***The challenge of Application***

1. the context of 2 Timothy 3 – survival in last days and hard times

*(2 Timothy 3:1)*

2. the Godward side of Scripture – the standard of absolute Truth

*(2 Timothy 3:1a)*

3. the ‘manward’ side of Scripture – it is profitable to the reader

*(2 Timothy 3:1b)*

a. for teaching

b. for reproof

c. for correction

d. for training in righteousness

2. How do we allow the Word of God to have its full effect in our own lives and the lives of others around us?

*(2 Timothy 3:17)*

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## Saugus Bible Studies 2014

### Christianity is Christ!

#### ***Introduction (30 min)***

- “Codes, Caves, and Counterfeit Gospels” – Exploring and refuting ancient and modern attacks upon the person and work of Christ.

#### ***Session 1 (50 min)***

##### I. The Virgin Birth of Christ

A. *Prophesied* (Isaiah 7:14)

B. *Fulfilled* (Matt.1:18-25)

C. *Supernatural* (Lk.1:34-35)

D. *Necessary*

1. Because Man’s Nature is Sinful
2. Because Christ Already Existed

##### II. The Deity of Christ

A. *Direct Statements About Jesus* (Jn.1:1-2,18; 20:28; Acts 20:28; Rom.9:5; Titus 2:13; Heb.1:8; 2 Pet.1:1; 1 Jn.5:20)

B. *Divine Attributes of Jesus*

1. Eternality (Jn.1:1; 8:58; 17:5)
2. Omniscience (Jn.2:24-25; 16:30; 21:17)

3. Omnipotence (Heb.1:3; Col.1:17)
  4. Omnipresence (Matt.28:20)
- C. *Divine Works of Jesus*
1. Creation (Jn.1:3; Col.1:16)
  2. Miracles (Raising the dead, giving sight to blind, calming storm, etc.)
  3. Salvation (compare Isa.43:11 with Matt.1:21; Mk.2:7-10; Acts 4:12)
  4. Judgment (compare Ecc.12:14 with Jn.5:22-30; Acts 17:31; 2 Cor.5:10)
- D. *Divine Titles of Jesus* (Son of Man, Son of God, Lord-Kyrios, Messiah-Christos, etc.)

<b><i>Break (20 min)</i></b>
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### ***Session 2 (50 min)***

#### III. The Atonement of Christ

- A. *Justification* (Rom.3:24; 4:25)
- B. *Substitution* (Rom.5:8; 1 Cor.15:3; 1 Tim.2:6; 1 Pet.2:24; 3:18)
- C. *Propitiation* (Rom.3:25; 1 Jn.2:2; 4:10)
- D. *Reconciliation* (Rom.5:10-11; 2 Cor.5:18-21; Eph.2:16; Col.1:20)

#### IV. The Resurrection of Christ

- A. *The Evidence of the Cross* – Christ Really Died (Jn.19:34-35)
- B. *The Evidence of the Church*
  1. A New Movement Immediately Began
  2. A New Day Immediately Recognized (“The first day of the week”)
  3. A New Baptism Immediately Practiced (Signifying death, burial and resurrection)
  4. A New Memorial Immediately Followed (The Lord’s Supper) – Not honoring a dead founder!
- C. *The Evidence of Witnesses*
  1. So Many Appearances (Matt.28:9; Lk.24; Jn.20:16,19; 21:1ff.; Acts 1:4-11)
  2. So Many Witnesses (1 Cor.15:3-8)
    - a. Members of the Inner Circle (the 12, the Mary’s)

- b. Members of the Community (500)
- c. Member of His Family (James)
- d. Member of the Opposition (Saul)

*D. The Evidence of the Tomb*

- 1. The Guards (Matt.27:62-66)
- 2. The Garments (Jn.20:6-7)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Does the Bible teach the “perpetual virginity” of Mary? What about the “immaculate conception” (i.e., that Mary remained sinless throughout her life)?
- 2. Some translations have “young woman” in Isaiah 7:14. Is this correct and does it matter?
- 3. What are the practical implications of Jesus’ deity?
- 4. What does “hypostatic union” mean? What is meant by “kenosis”?
- 5. What is “penal substitutionary atonement” and how can it be defended against the accusation that it is unjust?
- 6. Can we scripturally preach that Christ died for all and bore the sins of all sinners on the cross? If yes, does this imply universalism (i.e. that all will be saved)?
- 7. Was the resurrection of Christ a bodily or a spiritual resurrection? Does it matter?
- 8. Is our gospel preaching consistent with how Paul defined the gospel in 1 Cor.15:1ff.?