

# THE BIBLE IS

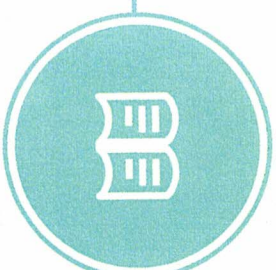
A COLLECTION



COMPOSED OF TWO TESTAMENTS

The most significant division in division between two Testaments collections of writing: The Old Testament and the New Testament.

A STORY



ABOUT JESUS

The focus and hero of the Bible in every part of the Bible point or points back to him.

GOD'S WORD



COMPLETE

God has spoken and given us the no reason to believe that he has. What he means to tell us he has.

TRUSTWORTHY





**Creation:** In 6 days, God creates the world and human beings in his image. Gen. 1-2

One day God will create a new heaven and a new earth. Rev. 21

Luke traces Jesus' genealogy all the way back to the first human, Adam. Luke 3:38

God rests on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. Gen. 2:2

The book of Hebrews speaks of a true Sabbath-rest of peace for those who trust in Jesus. Heb. 4:1-11

**Adamic Covenant:** God's promise to provide for his creation. Gen. 1:26-30; 2:15-17

At God's instruction, Noah builds an ark. Gen. 6

Noah, his family, and pairs of every kind of animal enter the ark. Gen. 7:1-5

**The Flood:** God sends a flood to cover the earth. Gen. 7:6-24

The flood waters recede. Noah, his family, and the animals exit the ark. Gen. 8:1-19

**The Fall:** Adam and Eve break God's command by eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Gen. 3:1-7

In the book of Revelation, the serpent who deceived Eve is identified as Satan. Rev. 12:9; 20:2

Paul explains that death and sin entered the world through one man. But death is not the final word: "As in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive." Rom. 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:22

God banishes Adam and Eve from the garden of Eden. Gen. 3:8-34

The book of Hebrews lists Noah as an example of faith for building the ark by trusting what God had told him. Heb. 11:7

As Noah and his family were saved from death in the flood, so we are saved by Jesus and his resurrection from the dead. 1 Peter 3:20-22

**Noahic Covenant:** Never again will God destroy the earth in a flood; rainbow is the sign of the covenant. Gen. 8:20-9:17

In his vision of God's heavenly throne room, John sees a magnificent rainbow. Rev. 4:3

Noah plants a vineyard and gets drunk. Gen. 9:18-29

Noah's descendants populate Gen. 10

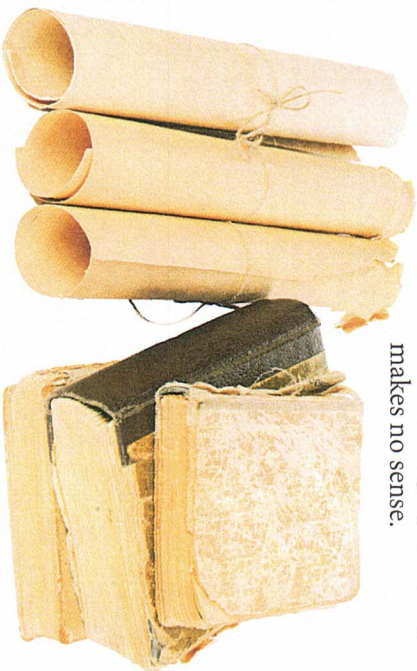
Noah and his son Shem are listed in the genealogy of Jesus. Luke 3:36





## Genesis

The Bible's book of Genesis tells us how God historically created everything. Accordingly, the Bible reveals what we could never know otherwise about our origins, such as where we came from, how we got here, and why God made us. In Genesis, we learn that the world was once absolutely perfect, the "very good" creation of an infinitely holy and most loving God. People today are descended from Adam and Eve, and have inherited a sin-nature from them. Apart from Genesis, the gospel message makes no sense.



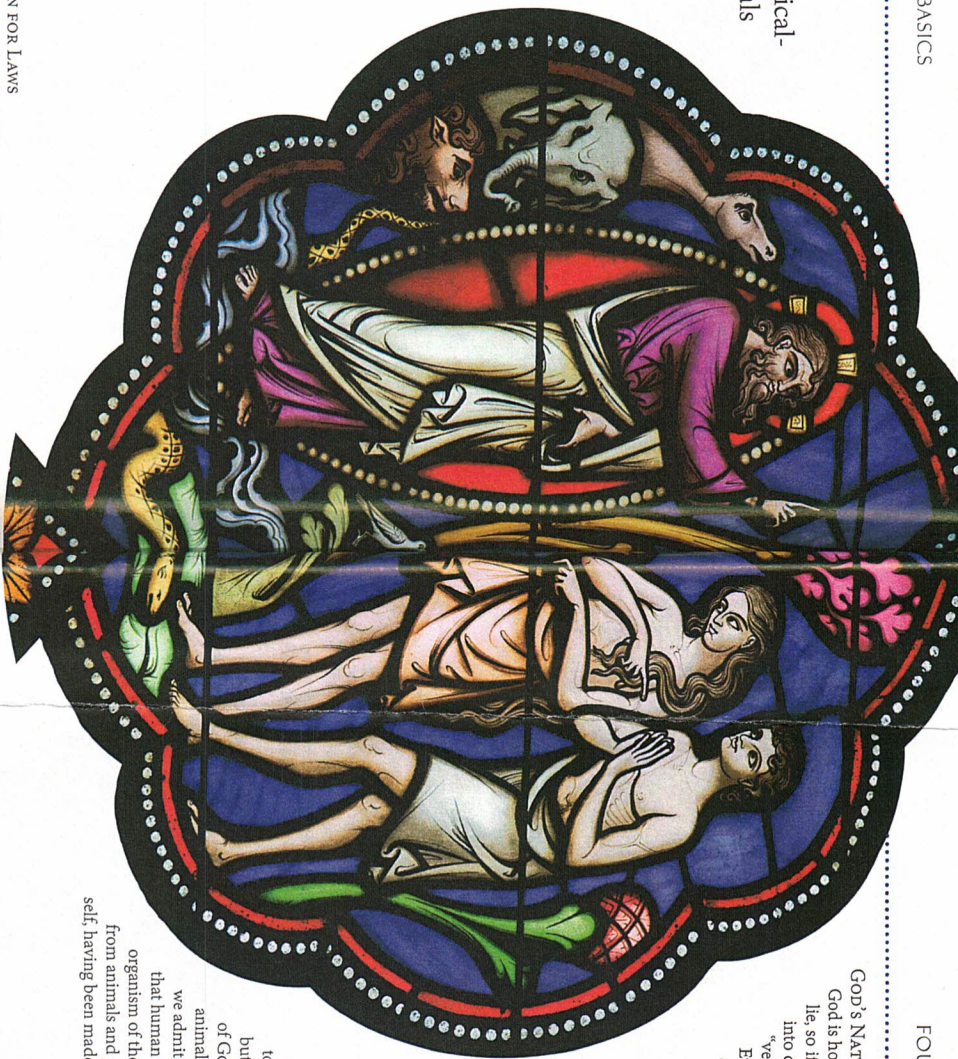
### GENESIS IS WRITTEN AS HISTORY

Some make the argument that Genesis is poetic, when in actuality it's written as narrative history. English poetry is defined by its verbal "hardware," with pronounced sounds and rhythms qualifying the text as poetry. Hebrew poetry, however, is defined by its "software," or its verbal information and meaning presented with parallelism of thought (not sound). In short, Hebrew poetry is defined by parallelism in meaning, whereas English poetry is defined by the format of verse and sound (rhyme, alliteration, assonance, and/or meter). The sentences in Genesis read like narrative history, not poetry.

### THE FOUNDATION FOR LAWS

Civil laws, moral laws, and so forth all have one thing in common—they put limitations on our behavior by threatening some sort of penalty for noncompliance. The first laws were given to human beings by God in Genesis, when He told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:16). The reason we have laws is because God made us in His image. He therefore has the right to set rules for our behavior. And since He gave us free will, He attached unpleasant penalties when laws are broken, and He promised blessings for obedience (e.g., Deuteronomy 28:1-14). We owe

God our very existence, and so we have a moral obligation to obey any laws He has set forth. Additionally, we have a very good reason to obey God—He will hold us accountable for our actions, and there will be a final judgment. Moreover, since we have a natural proclivity toward evil (inherited from our rebellious ancestor Adam), civil laws are also necessary to restrain evil in society. Laws make sense in light of the history given in Genesis.



### God's Nature

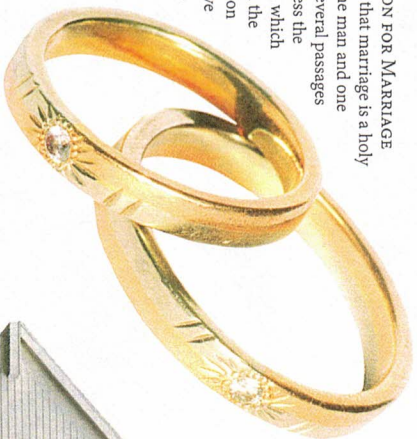
God is holy, so He must reveal He, so if what He said in Gen into question. His promise: "very good" creation in the did, then Christ's powerless, and His pro- state, the creation l well as the ingeni We observe this inner workings of composition of

### THE FOUNDATION OF

The Bible teaches that marriage is a holy union between one man and one woman for life. Several passages in Scripture address the topic of marriage, which God instituted on the sixth day of creation when He made Eve from Adam's side. Genesis 2:24 says that this historical event is the reason why we have marriage today: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." God provided the prototype marriage at the creation, and Jesus affirmed this in Matthew 19:4-6.

### THE FOUNDATION FOR MARRIAGE

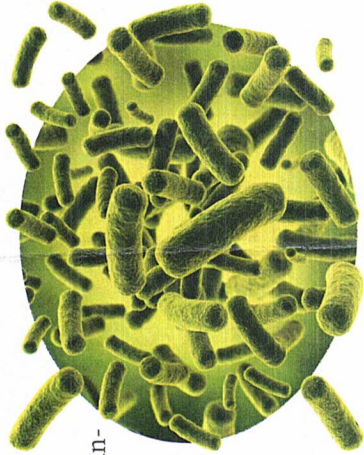
The Bible teaches that marriage is a holy union between one man and one woman for life. Several passages in Scripture address the topic of marriage, which God instituted on the sixth day of creation when He made Eve from Adam's side. Genesis 2:24 says that this historical event is the reason why we have marriage today: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." God provided the prototype marriage at the creation, and Jesus affirmed this in Matthew 19:4-6.





ll of Adam and Eve. We  
ged at the Curse. It is man-  
or sin and death in this  
t God's original creation  
it deteriorated, and  
changed to become  
predatory and parasitic

is the ground for your sake; In  
u shall eat of it All the days of  
life. Both thorns and thistles it  
l bring forth for you. And you  
ll eat the herb of the field. In  
t sweat of your face you shall  
t bread Till you return to the  
ound. For out of it you were  
ken; For dust you are, And to  
st you shall return. (Genesis  
7-19)



**BACTERIA AND VIRUSES**

Today there are increasing discoveries indicating that "bad" (pathogenic) bacteria, parasites, and viruses may have had a more neutral or even beneficial function prior to the Fall. For example, *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) bacteria can either be good or bad depending on the subspecies and where it is found in the body. In the colon, the bacteria make important B vitamins and vitamin K. If the colon is ruptured, however, *E. coli* escaping into the body cavity can have fatal consequences. Also, humans and animals have been created with

poisons called caspases built into cells. Caspases are part of the critical process of programmed cell death (apoptosis) and recycling.

**MORE BENEFICIAL BACTERIA**

Under different conditions, disease-causing bacteria in nature have had beneficial applications. The pathogenic bacteria called *Vibrio cholerae* can cause the small intestine infection cholera in people. The bacteria secrete a deadly toxin similar to one produced by *V. fischeri*, a curious light-emitting symbiotic bacterium found in the Hawaiian bobtail squid. The squid uses the luminescent properties of the bacteria to evade predators in the clear water where it feeds. Light from the bacteria, aided by a reflector, is radiated downward in a way that counters the moonlight, putting the squid in a "stealth mode." When the bacteria get hungry, they secrete the cholera-like toxin that doesn't sicken the squid, but informs it that the squid need food, which the squid then provides.



**SHARP TEETH AND CLAWS**  
At first glance, animals with sharp teeth and claws appear to be equipped only to eat other animals. However, it seems that sharp teeth and claws are perfectly suited for breaking through the tough skins of small insects, other bats consume insects, oth- er small animals, and blood. However, they can also eat flower nectar and fruit. Fruit bats consume only fruit, even though they have sharp teeth and claws like other bats. This shows the accuracy of God's Word that every created being was originally veg- etarian: "Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so" (Genesis 1:29).

er small animals, and blood. However, they can also eat flower nectar and fruit. Fruit bats consume only fruit, even though they have sharp teeth and claws like other bats. This shows the accuracy of God's Word that every created being was originally veg- etarian: "Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so" (Genesis 1:29).

**THE PANDA'S DIGESTIVE TRACT**  
Carnivores have short digestive tracts, but herbivores have long digestive tracts

so that they can break down the large amounts of fiber in their foods. Panda bears, like other bears, have short digestive tracts and yet live on primarily a vegetarian diet.

**PREDATOR/PREY RELATIONSHIPS**

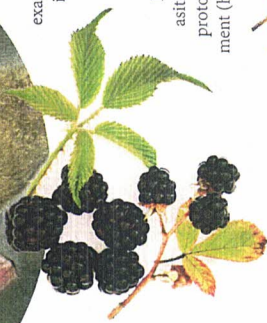
Since there was no death before Adam and Eve sinned, there were no predator/prey relationships in God's original perfect cre- ation. However, certain animal kinds that include predators also have varieties that can survive on mostly vegetarian diets, such as bears and bats. Domesticated animals such as dogs and cats can live on food mostly made of corn. The fact that the same types of animals can display both carnivore and herbivore behavior reflects a once "very good" creation that is now fallen.



**PARASITISM**

A parasite is a type of animal (or plant) that lives together in close, non-mu- tual association with a usu- ally larger organism called the host. The word "parasite" comes from a Greek word meaning a person who eats at another's table. For example, malaria parasites are single-cell organisms that live in the liver and red blood cells of a victim after the person is bitten by an infected mosquito. The tiny parasites eat the red pigment in the blood cells, reproduce, and are shielded from the person's immune system.

Before the Fall, parasites were evidently complete, non-par- asitic organisms. Many parasites today are little more than protoplasmic bags of reproductive structures with an attach- ment (hooks or suckers) on one end. They may have lost much of their genetic information as a result of the Curse. As fallen creatures, we see parasites as a reminder of how today's world is still "good-yet-groaning" as we await the ultimate redemption of creation promised in Romans 8:20-22.





## Origin of People Groups and Languages

All people descended recently from a single family. We understand that from Scripture and see it supported by the findings of scientific inquiry.

For instance, the book of Genesis states that “Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living” (Genesis 3:20). Mitochondria inside cells are inherited solely through the egg from the mother, allowing the identification of descendants from any female lineage. Variations in mitochondrial DNA between people have conclusively shown that all people have descended from one female, just as it is stated in Scripture. The instability of the mitochondrial genome and computer simulations modeling mutation load in humans indicate that the human mitochondrial genome is not that old, which fits within a biblical timeframe.

Y chromosomes are passed on to sons from their fathers. Just as mitochondrial DNA shows that every human descended from one female, Y chromosome analysis suggests that all men have descended from one man. Blood type studies, genetic mutation load, and various other studies also support the idea that humans have been around (complete and not evolved) for about the same amount of time as Scripture records.

### RACE

Since the dispersion at Babel, we have seen only variation within the created kind of people. That means there are no separate races (Acts 17:26). We are all people that vary in function and form. We also don’t have different colors. Melanin is the pigment that gives our skin its color. All humans have melanin (except for people with the condition known as albinism—the absence of melanin), but some people have more melanin than others. In short, we’re technically all the same color, but we just have different shades of that color.

*“He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth.” (Acts 17:26)*

### MIGRATION

After the Flood, God instructed Noah and the seven members of his family who survived aboard the Ark to “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth” (Genesis 9:1). Instead, their descendants assembled at Babel under the leadership of a defiant man named Nimrod. The disobedient populace united and revolted against God by building a tower. But God separated their single language into many, preventing their ability to communicate, as well as cooperate to continue their rebellion. This confusion caused them to disperse throughout the earth (Genesis 11:6), as He had commanded earlier, and into the people groups that we know today.



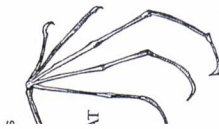


# tion

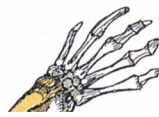
ld and untamed, and yet every-  
a specific order. Complicated systems  
spontaneously, and we never observe  
ident or without an intelligent  
amount of power or energy is  
complexity out of chaos, which  
must be designed by

ooks in the his-  
d record all  
pects of  
impse at  
demon-  
ity, pow-

"While the earth  
old and heat, Winter and summer,  
climate and length of daylight may  
ld, but our  
is never



radius



## DESIGN IN THE DETAILS

Perhaps nothing in the world is as versatile and useful a tool as the human hand. Its details constantly display real design. For example, fingerbone lengths follow the proportions of the Fibonacci number sequence—the sum of the smallest two segments of a finger equals the length of the third, and the sum of the second and third equals the length of the fourth bone (the one backing the palm). Your hand is a mobile golden spiral, perfectly balancing strength and dexterity. Hand muscles actually reside in the forearm, giving the palm space to hold an object or another person's hand. Extended fingers squeezed against one another show the offset knuckles meshing. If knuckles lined up, they'd rub uncomfortably and space fingers too far apart. Unlike ape hands, the lengths and strengths of human finger and thumb bones are just right for manipulating objects. Tightly clenched fingers don't displace one another.

Their balanced strengths help the hand keep a steady grip. And how do people type so fast? The brain plans finger movements three actions ahead of time. Hands are full of the kinds of details that we know always originate from an intelligent and purposeful source.



## DID YOU KNOW?

When you eat, you're essentially eating energy from the sun. Plants need sunlight to grow, and humans and animals eat plants to live. Even when we eat animals (usually herbivores), we're indirectly consuming the energy from the sun that was transferred through the plants they ate.

## PERFECT PROVISION

Energy is required for things to happen, but not all forms of energy are useful for every purpose. For instance, burning wood is a source of energy, but humans can't eat fire and keep living. Likewise, burning an apple won't do you much good if you want to heat your home. In Genesis 1:29, God said to Adam, "I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food." He made food specifically for humans and animals to consume. Not only that, He didn't make the earth yield just one type of food, but a variety. By designing the earth to provide food for humans, God made it possible for humans—even in our current corrupted state—to fulfill His blessing and command to "fill the earth and subdue [or take care of] it" (Genesis 1:28).

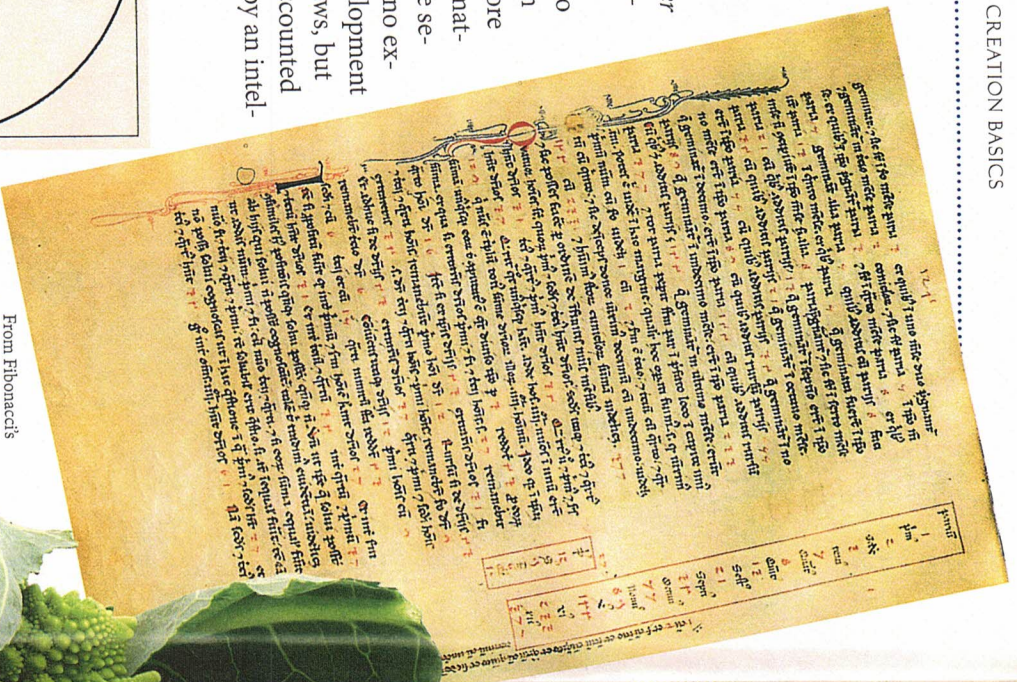


# Numbers in Nature

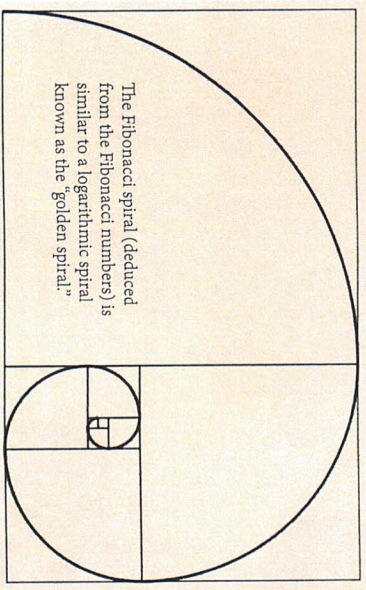
The field of mathematics is an interesting one, and it has taken intelligent humans to discover and understand how numbers work. One was a man named Leonardo of Pisa, also known as Fibonacci. In 1202, he published a book called *Liber*



*Abaci* in which he introduced the sequence named after him to Western European mathematics. Before him, Indian mathematicians described the same sequence. Evolution has no explanation for the development of mathematical laws, but they are easily accounted for in Scripture by an intelligent Creator.



From Fibonacci's *Liber Abaci* showing the Fibonacci sequence in the box to the right.



The Fibonacci spiral (deduced from the Fibonacci numbers) is similar to a logarithmic spiral known as the "golden spiral."

$F_n - F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$   
with seed values  
 $F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$   
Fibonacci Formula

- 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144 . . .

**FIBONACCI SEQUENCE**  
The first two numbers in the Fibonacci sequence are 0 and 1. Each number after is the sum of the previous two numbers.



Snowflakes are another example of mathematical patterns in nature. The complex and supercooled cloud droplets that form snowflakes have a hexagonal lattice structure. The quality, much like the general algorithms. Why is this responsible for snowflake formation? It's because of God. But in a natural way, nature obeys math.





## Uniqueness

Humans are unlike any other part of our genetics and appearance are different apparent—but more important—reasons determine the nature of humans. It is in His image, a quality of creation. This is more complex than any other creature.

We are able to imagine and create (art, buildings, languages, and ponder other creatures). We were created to be treasured creatures, which is why He died to give us His value that God separates us from other creatures, and why we wouldn't we have any gratitude to Him?

*Like man in Our image, according to the dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:26-28)*

### LITTLE "CREATORS"

We observe animals building structures such as homes and dams, similar to how humans build things. However, animals do so by reacting to the instincts God built into them. Humans, on the other hand, are the only creatures that can make things out of their imaginations. We also are the only creatures that produce work purely for intellectual and aesthetic purposes. This book in your hand is an example of that.

### HIS IMAGE

Human bodies are made of the same "earth" material as the animals (Genesis 2:7, 19) and the planet itself (Genesis 1:10). Furthermore, we share the created "soul" (Hebrew *nefesh*) and "spirit" (Hebrew *ruach*, same as "breath") with the animals. However, we alone bear the created "image of God" (Genesis 1:27). That is why when Christ came, He came as a human.



### MADE FOR WORSHIP

Humans are the only creatures that worship something. The vast majority of humans identify with some sort of religion, showing our innate longing to be connected to our Creator and heavenly Father. Genesis 3:8 states that God was "walking in the garden [of which He put Adam and Eve in charge] in the cool of the day," showing that He regularly "hung out" with His created humans. Adam and Eve's rebellion broke that connection with God, and the human struggles with idolatry throughout history were poor attempts to fill our need to reconnect with our Creator. Thankfully, God did what we could not do for ourselves and implemented His redemption plan by coming, dying, and rising again in the form of Jesus Christ to re-establish that connection. Does that not make Him worth our worship?



### STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION

When God created the first humans (Adam and Eve), He blessed and commissioned them to care for the earth He created. God never ordered them (and by extension us) to abuse His creation, especially for greedy purposes. Responsible stewardship consists of 1) responsible environmental management, including consideration for the preservation of the ecosystem and provision for basic human needs; 2) not engaging in reproductive technologies that intentionally destroy human life or create human life for experimentation; and 3) the application of biotechnology to provide relief from human suffering, while not encouraging human genetic or cybernetic enhancement that provides "superhuman" qualities.





THE BIBLE IS CLEAR:

# ADAM WAS A HISTORICAL PERSON.

“AND THE LORD GOD FORMED MAN OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND, AND BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE; AND MAN BECAME A LIVING BEING.” —GENESIS 2:7

1 GENESIS 1-3 IS WRITTEN AS LITERAL HISTORY.

2 ADAM'S ACTIVITIES REQUIRE A PHYSICAL BODY.



3 ADAM IS THE FIRST MAN IN CHRIST'S UNBROKEN GENEALOGY.

4 THE REST OF THE BIBLE REFERENCES ADAM AS A LITERAL PERSON.

5 THE GOSPEL DEPENDS ON A LITERAL ADAM.

## 1 GENESIS 1-3 IS WRITTEN AS LITERAL HISTORY.

This portion of the Hebrew Bible is written in the same style as other historical narratives, without the parallelism, figurative language, and word play of Hebrew poetry.

Also, all of Genesis is one seamless history: there is no break in literary style between Genesis 1-11 and Genesis 12-50 (and virtually all Hebrew scholars accept the latter as historical narrative). Chapter 11 ends with Abraham and chapter 12 continues with Abraham.

Furthermore, the Hebrew word *toledot*, translated “these are the generations” or “this is the account,” appears eleven times throughout the book of Genesis and unifies the book as a whole—as one historical narrative.

Moreover, Genesis 1-11 is filled with references to real times (e.g., evening, morning, day, night, years, each patriarch's age at death, dates in the narrative of the Flood), and real places, including the Garden of Eden, the name of Cain's first city, the Tower of Babel, and the mountains of Ararat. Lastly, this section lacks any verbal cues that would precede a parable, dream, vision, or other fictional story.

## 2 ADAM'S ACTIVITIES REQUIRE A PHYSICAL BODY.

The things that happen to Adam require a living, active being. He named the animals, tended the garden, slept, ate, and sewed leaves together. Since “all the days” of Adam were 930 years (Genesis 5:5), all the events in the life of this historical person, from his creation and marriage to his death, must have occurred during this specific range of literal days.

## 3 ADAM IS THE FIRST MAN IN CHRIST'S UNBROKEN GENEALOGY.

The genealogy of Christ recorded in Luke 3:23-38 traces Christ's human lineage to Adam and includes other familiar figures such as Abraham and David. If Adam were a metaphor or a representative figure, how could Christ descend from him and still be fully human? Furthermore, Luke records God as Adam's father, further confirming God's special and supernatural creation of Adam.

## 4 THE REST OF THE BIBLE REFERENCES ADAM AS A LITERAL PERSON.

Other Old and New Testament passages refer to Adam as a real person, not a metaphor. Job 31:33 likens the covering for Job's sin to Adam's act of covering his sin in the garden. The comparison makes no sense and is invalid if Adam and his sin were not literally historical.

Later, Jesus quotes different portions of Genesis 1-11 as straightforward, literal history. He affirmed that Adam and Eve were the first two people made “at the beginning of creation” (Mark 10:6), Abel was the first to be murdered (Luke 11:50-51), and the Flood destroyed the earth in Noah's day (Matthew 24:37-39).

Ezekiel 14:4 refers to Noah, Daniel, and Job together as being righteous men. Paul also refers to the order and manner in which Eve was made from Adam's side (1 Timothy 2:13; Ephesians 5:30-32; 1 Corinthians 11:8-12).

## 5 THE GOSPEL DEPENDS ON A LITERAL ADAM.

The Apostle Paul explains that the sin of the “one man,” Adam, brought sin and death upon the whole human race (Romans 5:12-19). Because of the historical first Adam's rebellious act, the whole human race was corrupted; but because of the obedience and sacrificial death of the historical Last Adam, Jesus Christ, people can be saved (1 Corinthians 15:45). The two Adams are inseparably linked in the doctrines of sin and salvation. Both the first and the last Adam had to be real, literal, historical men, if we are to have any hope of salvation.







# Jesus *and* Genesis

Many Christians have been taught that it is not important to understand Genesis 1–11 as accurately describing real history. But how did Jesus Christ view these chapters?

Jesus called Abel a righteous man and talked about him as being the first person to be murdered. *Matthew 23:35*

While discussing marriage and divorce, Jesus quoted from Genesis 1 and 2, affirming that Adam and Eve were real people created at the beginning. *Mark 10:6–7*

Jesus taught people that Noah entered the Ark and was spared from the Flood that killed everyone outside the Ark. *Luke 17:27*

Jesus treated these chapters as being historically accurate, describing real people and events. Since He is the Creator and existed when these people were alive and these events occurred, we should trust what He said.





# Jesus *is* *the* Creator

Jesus, the Word, was with  
God in the beginning

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God...All things were made through Him, and  
without Him nothing was made that was made.

*John 1:1, 3*

Jesus created all things

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven  
and that are on earth, visible and invisible...

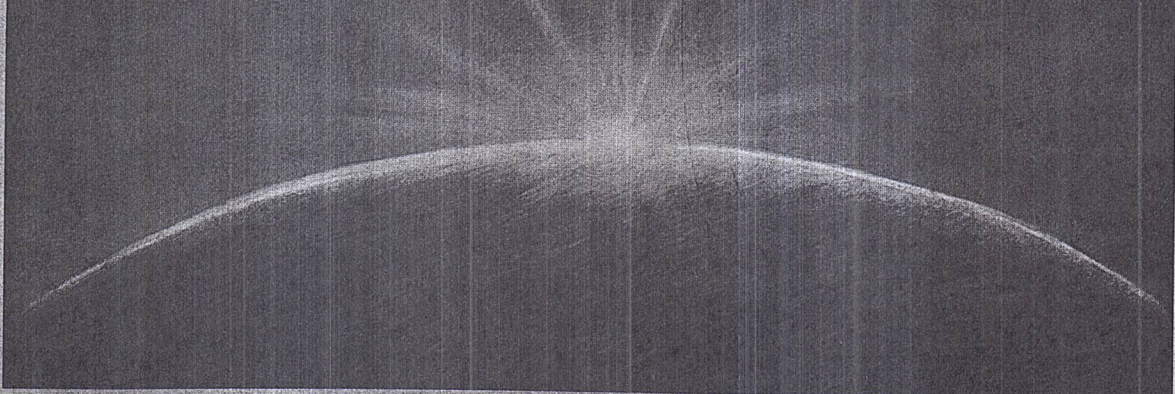
All things were created through Him and for Him.  
And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

*Colossians 1:16-17*

Jesus made the world

God has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,  
whom He has appointed heir of all things,  
through whom also He made everything.

*Hebrews 1:2*





# ADAM NAMES THE ANIMALS

The Lord God brought certain animals to Adam, and he gave names to all cattle, and to the bird of the air, and to every beast of the field

—Genesis 2:19–20

## HOW MANY WERE THERE?

Adam named only “birds,” “cattle,” and “beasts of the field”—probably only animals closely associated with man and not “beasts of the earth” or “creeping things.” If the created kinds correspond to modern families, as many creation biologists believe, then Adam named fewer than two hundred animals. Naming all these animals would require only a few hours, at most.

## WHAT DID THEY LOOK LIKE?

Creation biologists believe that God put the potential for a lot of variety within each created kind. With so much variety to choose from, we don't know exactly what the original representatives looked like. Some of the possibilities are displayed in this scene.

## WHAT DID DINOSAURS EAT?

God said, “To every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for food.” —Genesis 1:30

Before man's Fall, animals were vegetarians. In a “very good” creation, no animal would die, so there were no carnivores. All the beasts of the earth, not just the “beasts of the field” that God brought to Adam to name, ate only plants.

## THE TREE OF LIFE

The Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden. —Genesis 2:9

In the garden God provided everything needed and desired for abundant life.



## GOD FORMS EVE FROM ADAM'S SIDE

The Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make a helper fit for him" ...And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

—Genesis 2:18, 22

### MALE AND FEMALE

Have you not read, that he who made them at the beginning made them male and female? —Jesus Christ

Eve (like Adam) was specially fashioned by God and did not come from an animal. Eve was not made from dust but from the side of Adam. God made male and female fit for different roles from the beginning.

### ONE FLESH

For this cause a man shall leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they two shall be one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let not man separate. —Jesus Christ

#### DOCTRINE OF MARRIAGE

The special creation of Adam and Eve is the foundation for marriage: one man and one woman. The fact that they were one flesh is the basis for the oneness of marriage.

## VERY GOOD

The Bible declares that after the Lord created Adam and Eve on the sixth day, He looked at everything He had made and it was "very good." There was no disease, suffering, bloodshed, or death in God's "very good" creation.

(Genesis 1:26-31)



# GOD'S WORD

The Lord God commanded the man saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it, for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die."

—Genesis 2:16-17

## WORK

The Lord God put the man into the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

—Genesis 2:15

### DOCTRINE OF WORK

In God's original design, Adam and Eve served their Creator without the burdens we have experienced since the Fall.

## REST

And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. On the seventh day God ended his work, and he rested. And God blessed the seventh day.

—Genesis 1:31-2:3

Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."

—Mark 2:27







Photo by Debbie Werner AVC  
Florissant Fossil Quarry

According to God's Word, thorns arose as a result of Adam's sin — just thousands, not millions, of years ago. Since thorns are a result of the curse and we have discovered them in rock layers below those containing dinosaur fossils, then these creatures must have lived after Adam sinned.

# CONSEQUENCES

*Adam's rebellion brought physical death into this world. The moment he disobeyed, Adam also became separated from the God who gives life to all things. This separation, called spiritual death, passed on to all of Adam's descendants.*

*Because of man's rebellion against his Creator, God pronounced the following judgments.*

## MAN

*"In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you shall return." — GENESIS 3:19*

## WOMAN

*"I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in sorrow you shall bring forth children; and your desire shall be to your husband, and he shall rule over you." — GENESIS 3:16*

# THE CURSE

## GROUND

*"Cursed" is the ground for your sake; in sorrow you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the herb of the field." — GENESIS 3:17-18*

## SERPENT

*"You are **cursed** above every beast of the field; you shall go upon your belly, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life." — GENESIS 3:14*





# COVERINGS

*Although Adam and Eve deserved to die for their rebellion, God disclosed part of his permanent solution to man's sin problem. **GENESIS 3:15** reveals that a descendant of Eve would one day defeat the serpent. Scripture later explains that this seed of the woman would also pay for our sins in full and destroy their deadly consequences.*

## TEMPORARY COVERINGS

Recognizing their nakedness, Adam and Eve made coverings of fig leaves for themselves and tried to hide from God (**GENESIS 3:7-8**). But these garments were insufficient. Since "the wages of sin is death" (**ROMANS 6:23**), blood needed to be shed to cover or atone for their sin, because "the life of the flesh is in the blood" (**LEVITICUS 17:11**).

In His mercy, God made garments of skin to cover Adam and his wife (**GENESIS 3:21**). The animals God killed to provide skins to cover Adam and Eve became the first of many sacrifices to cover sin. For centuries, animals would be sacrificed for sin, but because humans are not related to animals, these sacrifices could only temporarily cover sin.

## PERMANENT ATONEMENT

To permanently remove our sins, a perfect, sinless man would need to be sacrificed in our place (**HEBREWS 10:4, 11-14**).

Jesus Christ is the "last Adam" (**1 CORINTHIANS 15:45**), the seed

of the woman, and the "Lamb of God" who died on the cross to take away the sin of the world (**JOHN 1:29**). Three days later, he demonstrated his power over sin and death by rising from the grave.



# VENOM

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No venom

"And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper's den" (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Isaiah 11:8).

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

Though nothing harmed animals before Adam's sin, venom harms animals in the present. We do not know exactly how venoms first entered the world. Possibilities include:

- ↳ *Changed use of chemicals* (chemicals that once had non-harmful functions at the creation changed to venoms after the Curse).
- ↳ *Revealed information* (the potential to make venoms was built into the original creation, but not revealed until after the Curse).

# DEATH

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No death

According to the Bible, animals and humans have "life" (Hebrew *nephesh*), but plants do not. So humans and animals were created to eat plants, and in the original world before sin, humans and animals would never die.

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

Death was introduced after Adam's sin.

- ↳ Death of humans is a judgment on man's rebellion.
- ↳ Death is our "enemy," according to the Apostle Paul, which invaded God's "very good" creation (1 Corinthians 15:26).

# DISEASE

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No disease

"There shall be no more pain" (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Revelation 21:4).

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

Disease entered the creation after Adam's sin:

- ↳ genetic mistakes (mutations)
- ↳ excessive cell reproduction rates (cancer)
- ↳ taking more than giving (parasitism)



# CARNIVORES

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No carnivores

God said, "To every beast of the earth I have given every green herb for food" (Genesis 1:30).

Though all animals ate plants before Adam's sin, some are carnivores in this present fallen world. We do not know how meat eating first entered the world. Possibilities include:

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

- *Changed diet* (the diet of some animals merely changed)
- *Revealed information* (the potential for meat eating was placed into the original

creation, but not revealed until after the Curse).

By removing the weakest and diseased, carnivores help keep the fallen world functioning despite sin.

# RED TOOTH AND CLAW

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No struggle for survival

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain" (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Isaiah 11:9)

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

After Adam's sin, animals must overproduce to replace the dead and diseased. As a result:

- Animals struggle for limited resources ("nature red in tooth and claw").
- The weakest animals die off (natural selection).

These processes help keep the fallen world functioning despite sin.

# SCAVENGERS

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No scavengers of animals

Before Adam's sin, scavengers were designed to clean the world of excess plant material and return chemicals to the nutrient cycles.

Once death entered the world, scavengers were necessary to scavenge bodies of animals to keep the world clean and return chemicals to the nutrient cycles. We do not know exactly how scavenging of flesh was introduced into the world. Possibilities include:

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

- *Changed diet* (diets merely changed, as animals that scavenged plants at the creation began scavenging animal flesh).
- *Revealed information* (the potential to scavenge meat was placed into the original creation, but not revealed until after the Curse).
- *Fallen creation* (God gave some organisms the ability to scavenge flesh at the time of the Curse).



# COSMIC AGING

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No aging in the universe

In the original creation before Adam's sin, humans would never die. This suggests that the creation was originally made to last forever.

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

The universe began aging.

"The earth and the heavens... shall perish. Yes, all of them... shall wax old" (Psalm 102:25-26).

# COSMIC PAIN

*T*he whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now (Romans 8:22).

With Adam's sin, death and suffering entered the creation for the first time. Disease and natural catastrophes also began at this time. The creation is no longer perfect, as God originally designed it, because in Adam we committed high treason against the God of creation.

# CONFLICT

## BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

### No conflict

"The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them" (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Isaiah 11:6).

## AFTER ADAM'S SIN

With the entrance of sin, conflict entered the world:

- animals against animals
- animals against humans
- humans against humans



# Exhibit: Corruption

## POISONS

### BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

#### No poisons

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Isaiah 65:25).

Once animals began overproducing to replace the dead and diseased, they would eat too many plants. So God protected some plants with poisons and other defenses. We do not know exactly how poisons first entered the world. Possibilities include:

### AFTER ADAM'S SIN

➤ *Changed use of chemicals* (chemicals that once had non-harmful functions at the creation were changed to poisons after the Curse).

➤ *Hidden information* (the potential to make poisons was built into the original creation but not revealed until after the Curse).

## WEEDS

### BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

#### No weeds

God created a perfect balance in the beginning, as plants produced exactly the amount of food needed by the animals of the earth.

Once animals began overproducing to replace the dead and diseased, they would eat too many plants. So God introduced overproduction of plants to replace the plants that would be lost.

### AFTER ADAM'S SIN

As a result:

- Plants struggle against other plants for survival.
- Plants grow where they are not wanted (weeds).

## BURDENSOME WORK

### BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

#### No burdensome work

"They shall not labor in vain" (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Isaiah 65:23).

God cursed the ground because of Adam's sin, so that he had to make bread "by the sweat of his face" (Genesis 3:19). Weeds and disease required more work to harvest crops—to pull weeds, to fight disease, to provide nutrients

### AFTER ADAM'S SIN

## SUFFERING

### BEFORE ADAM'S SIN

#### No suffering

"God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be neither sorrow nor crying" (promise of a future time, similar to Eden, Revelation 21:4)

When disease, death, conflict, and sin entered the world, then

- the pain of childbirth increased
- physical suffering began
- emotional suffering began



# CAIN MURDERS ABEL

*Eve conceived and bore Cain. She again bore his brother Abel. In the process of time, Cain brought of the fruit of the ground and offering to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord had respect to Abel and to his offering, but not to Cain and to his offering. And Cain was very angry. . . . And Cain rose up against Abel his brother and slew him. —Genesis 4:1-5, 8*

## WHERE DID CAIN GET HIS WIFE?

*Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch (Genesis 4:16-17).*

The Bible teaches that Adam was “the first man” and that Eve was the “mother of all living” (1 Corinthians 15:45; Genesis 3:20). All humans are descendants of these two people.

Genesis 5:4 teaches that Adam and Eve had sons and daughters. So, originally, brothers had to marry sisters.

Before jumping to conclusions, realize that

1. All humans are related. So whenever someone gets married, they marry their relative.
2. One of the most honored men of the Bible, Abraham, was married to his half sister. It wasn't until much later that God instructed the Israelites not to marry close relatives—a principle we follow today.

3. When close relatives marry today, there is an increased likelihood of deformities in the offspring because of the mutations (mistakes) that have accumulated in the human race since Adam's sin. The closer the relatives, the more likelihood such people will have similar mistakes. If these mutations are inherited in offspring from both parents, then there is an increased probability of major physiological problems.

4. The farther back in history one goes (back towards the Fall of Adam), the less of a problem mutations in the human population would be. At the time of Adam and Eve's children, there would have been very few mutations in the human genome—thus close relatives could marry, and provided it was one man for one woman (the biblical doctrine of marriage),

there was nothing wrong with close relatives marrying in early biblical history.

5. In present usage, the word *incest* includes both the marriage of close relatives and any sexual activity between close relatives who are not married. Sexual activity outside of the bounds of marriage, whether between near relatives or not, has been wrong from the beginning. Marriage between close relatives, however, was not a problem in early biblical history.
6. Since God is the One who defined marriage in the first place, God's Word is the only standard for defining proper marriage. People who do not accept the Bible as their absolute authority have no basis for condemning someone like Cain marrying his sister.



# Exhibit: Corruption

## ABEL'S WALK OF FAITH

### PLEASED GOD

"By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain" (Hebrews 11:4a).

### RIGHTEOUS

"Abel obtained witness that he was righteous" (Hebrews 11:4b).

### DWELLS WITH GOD

"Therefore, God has prepared for [Abel] a city" (Hebrews 11:16).

### REJECTED GOD

"Cain slew his brother because his own works were evil and his brother's righteous" (1 John 3:12).

Cain had a rebellious heart against God when he offered a sacrifice of the fruit of the ground.

### UNRIGHTEOUS

"And the Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? If you do well, shall you not be accepted?'" (Genesis 4:6-7).

But in response to Cain's sin, God offered a solution—

## WAY OF CAIN

to repent and "do well." Cain further sinned by rejecting the solution.

### JUDGMENT

"The Lord said to Cain, 'You are cursed.' And Cain said to the Lord, 'My punishment is greater than I can bear.' And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord" (Genesis 4:11, 13, 16).

The way of Cain, rebellion against God, leads to separation from God, both now and forever.

# Methuselah

The oldest man on record is Methuselah, died just before Noah's Flood, at the ripe old age of 969 years. During Methuselah's lifetime, he saw how mankind had forgotten all about God. People had chosen to live their own way and the "wickedness of man was great in the earth, and every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). God told Methuselah's grandson, Noah, that He was going to send a global Flood to destroy the earth. God instructed Noah to build a huge ship—an Ark—to save representatives of every land-dwelling, air-breathing animal, his family, and Noah from the coming global judgment.