

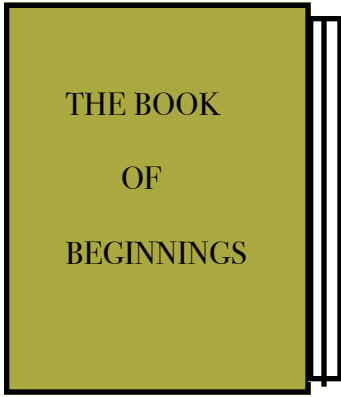


As the book of beginnings, Genesis sets the stage for the entire Bible. It reveals the person and nature of God, the value and dignity of human beings, the tragedy and consequences of sin, and the promise and assurance of salvation. As you read this tract it is encouraged that you follow along by reading and studying all the scriptures given

CREATION

Genesis records God's creation of the world and his desire to have a people set apart to worship Him. But God did not need to create the world; instead he chose to create it. Why? Because God is love, and love is best expressed toward something or someone else, so God created the world and people as an expression of love. He created the skies, seas, land, plants animals, fish, and birds.

But he created man and woman in his own image. Neither man nor woman is made more in the image of God than the other. From the beginning the Bible places both man and woman at the pinnacle of God's creation. Neither sex is exalted, and neither is depreciated. At times, others may treat us disrespectfully. But we can be certain of our dignity and worth because we have been created in the image of God. (Study Genesis chapters 1&2)

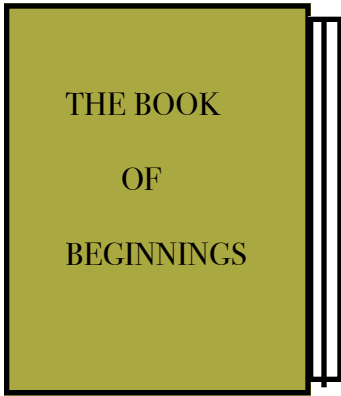


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FALL

Two trees, the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, provided an exercise in choice for Adam and Eve, with rewards for choosing to obey and sad consequences for choosing to disobey. When you are faced with choices always choose to obey God. Unlike Adam and Eve they wilfully disobeyed.

Even though God had given them everything except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Satan made them focus on what they couldn't have. And in that moment of small rebellion God's creation was crushed into pieces. Immediately man was separated from God by his desire to act own his own, but God already had a plan in the making so this separation wouldn't be permanent. But just who and what is that plan? (Study Genesis 3)

REDEMPTION

Because only God can create life, only God can redeem and save life. Our Creator visited the earth through His Son, Jesus, and had Himself pay the redemption price, saving us from the just consequence of our sins that other wise would have been eternal separation from the God who created us. And He would've never co-signed His loved ones to eternal separation, for that would defeat His purpose in creating us. The wonderful truth is that He "redeemeth thy life from destruction"(Psalm 103:4) if we simply trust Him to do so. (Study 1Corinthians 15:22; 2Corinthians 5:19&21; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14;John 1:29; and Revelation 13:8)

It's comforting to know that we have an "all-knowing" God. And because God has the power to know the thoughts and motives of every heart, he already had a plan in motion to overcome the effects of rebellion. The apostle Paul referred to the story of Adam's fall by comparing Adam to Christ (Rm.5: 12, 18). Christ is portrayed as a "second Adam" who by His atonement reverses the effects of the fall. And by no means should we continue in sin. God's forgiveness does not make sin less serious; His Son's death for sin shows us the seriousness of sin. Jesus paid his life so we could be forgiven, so no matter how sinful and separated you are from God, his salvation is available. (Study the Bible, God's Holy Word, why don't you start in the book of Genesis!)

CUT--HERE

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