

Standing on the Right Foundation

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth..." Genesis 1

Before feeling an overwhelming need to explain it — I encourage everyone to SIMPLY EMBRACE it by faith. How? By Believing and trusting it, as it is given. It's the foundation to everything we know, can know and enjoy in this life and the one to come. Every aspect of triumph and trouble can be traced back to the first 12 chapters of Genesis.

When we embrace it as it is unveiled, over man's word, ideas and opinions on life, then we'll thoroughly enjoy the Creator, more and more, and the revelation He's given us, as we explore it and explain what we see and celebrate.

Genesis 1:1 is a summary statement "in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." And then verse two begins to give the explanation of what He did when He did when He created this inhabited world.

Embracing the Foundation will position us to stand on the foundation given to us as our beginning.

"Let God be true, but every man a liar..." Romans 3:4

Man, as products of the fall (Genesis 3), is fundamentally flawed.

Come think with me on these truths. There's a certain QUALITY of life and QUEST in life that this world, in all its glory and grander, cannot give or teach.

Let me explain what I mean.

Nature, in all its grandeur, is LIMITED. It's LIMITED because it cannot explain WHO God is or the gospel of His redeeming grace... it can only declare that its Creator is greater, grander and more glorious than itself. Its limits are by design.

It takes people•telling people•about the Creator•His Christ and His Cross•and the beautiful things He's unveiled in His word•for them to ever have a chance•to know Him.

People can't know Him without people, like you and me, bringing them the truth about Him and His Son.

Just like creation has a point of origin and owner, so does the gospel of God's redeeming grace. Its origin runs deep, way beyond the birth and life of Jesus. Mark's gospel starts us off in the Older Testament, declaring the gospel was preached by Isaiah. He grabbed a word from several prophets and revealed that God had given us a message that His good news had been foretold of what was coming. And this goodness didn't start when John the Baptist launched out nor when Jesus was manifested before us. His good news has an owner and origin that exceeds our concept of time. And that's exactly what John does. His gospel goes beyond the limits of time and tells us that Jesus, who is the Word, that became flesh and walked this earth as a man... predates every created thing. Matter of fact — He — the Word — the Creator — created all things, that were created. Remember, nature can't explain this, it takes people telling people about Jesus if anyone will know anything about it. Creation cannot tell them so God revealed Himself to man for man.

The beauty of the firmament above has never been so selfish to try to steal the glory that belongs to its Maker. Man, on the other hand, has tried from the beginning, and continues to make every effort, to give nature the glory. But, as Psalm 19 teaches us, the heavens continue to remind us that our Creator is bigger and brighter and more purposeful and faithful than mankind could ever imagine. I love the message of Psalm 19. The servants of God recognize that they, along with the scriptures and skies, all speak. And when they speak they declare a unique word about the Lord. Therefore, they, like the skies and the scriptures long to speak with purpose and passion pleasing Him who gave them the revelation they declare. One (the skies) is a general revelation — they speak of His greatness and glory. One (the scriptures) is specific revelation — they speak of His goodness and guidance. One (the servants) is relational revelation — we speak of His graciousness and gentleness to rescue, redeem, restore, reprove, renew, refresh and replenish and reproduce His character in us again and again.

So the servant wants his words and ways to reflect Him who they get to reveal to the world. Glory be... There's a certain QUALITY of life that this world, in all its glory and grander, cannot give or teach... (2 Peter 1:3-15)

I love being in the wild, as much as anyone, but nature is LIMITED on what and how it reveals God. God has not chosen this natural world to personally reveal Himself to us... He chose to speak to us, and personally reveal Himself, and things about Himself, through the Word. As I said earlier, nature, in all its grandeur, is LIMITED. It's LIMITED because it cannot explain who God is or the gospel of His redeeming grace... it can only declare His glory. For it's the servants of God that stand in the gap with a divine calling to DESCRIBE His glory, DELIVER His gospel and DISPLAY His grace... before a world captivated with the splendor of creation, but a world that knows little to nothing of its Creator and Redeemer.

"Let God be true, but every man a liar..." Romans 3:4

Paul, in his letter to Rome, strips away the credibility of man. With each layer he removes we're finding the core of humanity is rotten. Man, apart from grace and the revelation of God and being exposed to the realization of who and what he is, is the opposite of perfect, sure, right, pure, clean, true and all together righteous (Psalm 19:7-11).

Paul, then chips away at the stone statue of humanity, exposing the layers of hardness and carving out a figure that is ugly, harsh and unable to change itself. The deeper he chisels the more we see how every ounce of man, without God and His redeeming grace, in Christ, is contaminated by the fall and the curse upon humanity.

So I encourage each of you to build upon the foundation of God's word, feast upon His revelation, put it to practice, apply it to all you hear, see and experience and bring it to the people you love and lead.

Wow... what a beautiful mission, we, the disciples of Jesus, have been graciously given.

#nestingwithjesus #genesis1 #genesis2 #genesis3 #psalm19 #romans3and4 #theflood
#standingonthefoundation #embracingthefoundation #asummarystatement #Hisexplanation
#matthew19and4thru6 #colossians1and16 #john1and1thru4 #john1and14 #jesusbelievedthebook
#maleandfemale #mark10and6thru9 #inthebeginning #Godsaid #lettherebe #light #afirmament
#waters #dryland #Hecalleditearth #thewatersHecalledseas #psalms #psalm24 #proverbs16and3
#proverbs16and4 #createdwithpurpose