

Foundations: BEGINNING – GOD - CREATED

Vine & Branch Community Church

Genesis 1:1-5

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EVERYTHING we know as reality rests on **three words** in the first sentence of the Bible: **Beginning – GOD – Created**.

Once a person, community or civilization **untethers** from this reality; All knowledge, all morality, all identity, all law, all order, all purpose, all sanity, all salvation, and all HOPE is completely and utterly forfeited.

Philippian lens: Our love will abound more and more with knowledge of this foundation: **Beginning – GOD – Created!** In these three words we find both our **Purpose** and **Parameters (Direction & Boundaries)**.

IN God's existence is THE FOUNDATION for all of life and living!

- IN Genesis 1 we see is that nothing, until God God brought all **MATTER** into existence.
- This matter was = **without form and void, and darkness**
- God's "Breath" or "Life" or "Spirit" was over the face of the deep. He was giving everything life, but it was without form, void/empty, and darkness!
- The point = there was a beginning to all things, and God preceded it. **God's eternal presence is the foundational assumption; GOD is the purpose and culmination. He is both the source and authority of everything.** God HIMSELF is the point!

This **knowledge** believed in faith **eliminates all other possibilities of origin and purpose**.

- When we **hold onto this this TRUTH**, = FOUNDATION, We have KNOWLEDGE
- This Knowledge provides us with all discernment."
- This "knowledge and all discernment" gives our **love the field into which to run free and abound more and more**.

The created matter was without form, empty, and dark. Then for the first time in verse three we hear the VOICE of GOD. "LET THERE BE LIGHT!" This starts a pattern of filling and ordering. First, he orders, then he fills:

Day	ORDERING	Day	FILLING
1	Light – Dark	4	Sun, Moon, Stars, Planets
2	Sky (firmament) – Water	5	Birds and sea creatures
3	Land & Plants – Water Oceans	6	Animals and Man
BREAK in pattern: 1:31-2:1 God completes his work "And there was evening and morning the sixth day"			
7	Day set apart (no end): Goal of all of creation = GOD RESTS and ENJOYS his Creation God's sanctuary where he rules his universe along with his creation = Forever		

Significant 7's: 7 days, 7 announcements of good/very good, 7 Hebrew words in the opening verse, 2 x's 7 Hebrew words in verse 2, 3 x's 7 Hebrew words in day 7 = the 7th day is the Climax of Creation!

Genesis is designed to show us that God's purpose is to SHARE his creation with his images so they can rule it and rest with HIM forever!" (<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/genesis-1/>)

Acts 17:28 *The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel [verify by contact]*

their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for “In him we live and move and have our being”;

“You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” – Augustine of Hippo