**Genesis: Back To The Beginning**

**First Things First**

**Genesis 1:1**

**Downloads**

**Daily Time With Truth**

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1:** Psalm 33:6 NLT

The Lord merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born.

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**Day 2:** John 1:1-3 NLT

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.

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**Day 3:** Colossians 1:16 NLT

## for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

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**Day 4:** Psalm 90:2 TPT

Long before you gave birth to the earth and before the mountains were born, you have been from everlasting to everlasting,the one and only true God.

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**Day 5:** Isaiah 40:28 NLT

Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding.

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Questions:

1. How does your heart tend to respond when you are required to submit to the authority of someone else?

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1. In what ways did you forget about the presence and plan of God this week, existing as if you were an autonomous and independent being?

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1. How does your heart tend to respond when someone criticizes or argues with your actions or views?

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1. In what ways did you compromise or minimize the truths of God’s Word this week, living with some form of relativism?

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1. How does your heart tend to respond when you can’t accomplish something on your own, or when someone else proposes a more successful way then yours?

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1. Reflect on how your day-to-day existence is dependent on both God and other people. How can admitting weakness be a strength?

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**Lie of Autonomy**: This seduces us into thinking that we’re independent creatures with the right to do whatever we want with the life that belongs to us.

**Lie of Relativity**: This means that in the catalog of ideas that human community constantly generates, there’s no such thing as absolute truth. “To each his own.”

**Lie of self-sufficiency**: Self-sufficiency rejects the assistance of others and relies solely on self for existence, prosperity and well-being.

**Digging Deeper:**

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Gen. 1:1) refers to the dateless past when God brought the universe into existence out of nothing (Ps. 33:6; Rom. 4:17; Heb. 1:3). Genesis 1:1-2 is the declaration that God created the universe; the detailed explanation of the six days of God’s creative work is given in the rest of the chapter.

Thirty-two times in this chapter, this creative God is called Elohim, a Hebrew word that emphasizes His majesty and power. (The covenant name “Jehovah” [“Lord”] appears for the first time in Gen. 2:4.) Elohim is a plural noun that is consistently used in connection with singular verbs and adjectives. (Hebrew tenses are singular, dual, or plural.) Some think that this plural form is what grammarians call the “plural of majesty,” or it might also be a hint that God exists in three persons. In Scripture, creation is attributed to the Father (Acts 4:24) and to the Son (John 1:1-3) and to the Holy Spirit (Ps. 104:30).

Elohim reveals His power by creating everything by merely speaking the word. Matter is not eternal; it began when God spoke everything into existence (Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16; Rev 4:11). Scripture doesn’t reveal why God chose to start His creative work with a chaotic mass that was dark, formless, and empty, but the Holy Spirit, brooding over the water, would bring order out of chaos and beauty and fullness out of emptiness. He can still do that today with the lives of all who will yield to Him.

 The nations that surrounded the people of Israel had ancient traditions that “explained the origins of the universe and humankind. These myths involved monsters that battled in deep oceans and gods who fought battles to bring the universe into being. But the simple account in Genesis presents us with one God who alone created all things and is still in control of His creation. Had the Jewish people paid close attention to what Moses wrote, they would never have worshipped the idols of their pagan neighbors. (**Be Basic (Genesis 1-11): Believing the Simple Truth of God’s Word by Warren W. Wiersbe)**

1. What can we learn about God from this first verse and this commentary about it? What stands out to you?

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1. God’s truth is so simple, profound, pure and even orderly. So, why as people do we find ourselves enticed away to follow ancient traditions and worship idols? What would you say are today’s idols and how are they similar to the ancient ones?

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