

BEGINNING

Hidden Treasure

January 14, 2018

Introduction: How does one define what truth is as it is in the mind of God? Even amongst my dearest brothers and sisters in Christ, whom I love and respect, the differences of interpretation are vast. From former Bible professors to trusted friends and peers, each believe they possess a truth as it is in the mind of God. So, whose version do I trust? Whose voice do I listen? There is a voice that has spoken and his words have been carefully and accurately written down and all mankind will be held responsible to the one who is, who was and who is to come. To whom are you listening?

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 45:18-23

In the beginning, God... (Genesis 1:1).

I. To Whom Are We Listening?

- A. The treasure chest...
- B. Puzzle pieces

II. ONE God

⁵ *"I am the Lord, and **there is no other, besides me there is no God**; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶ that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that **there is none besides me**; I am the Lord, and **there is no other**" (Isaiah 45:5–6).*

III. Before

*"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, **who was and is and is to come!**" (Revelation 4:8b).*

⁹ *remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, ¹⁰ **declaring the end from the beginning** and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, '**My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose**' (Isaiah 46:9–10).*

³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ **even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, **according to the purpose of his will** (Ephesians 1:3–5).*

*The Lord of hosts has sworn: "**As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand**" (Isaiah 14:24).*

*And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you **before the world existed** (John 17:5).*

*All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world** (Revelation 13:8 NKJV).*

Principle: God is sovereign before time, in time and beyond time.

IV. In the Beginning...

A. God said... (Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 28).
*And **God said**, "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3).*

***And God said**, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters" (Genesis 1:6).*

***And God said**, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear" (Genesis 1:9).*

***And God said**, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth" (Genesis 1:11).*

***And God said**, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night..." (Genesis 1:14).*

***And God said**, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens" (Genesis 1:20).*

***And God said**, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds" (Genesis 1:24).*

²⁶ ***Then God said**, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.²⁸ And God blessed them. **And God said** to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth" (Genesis 1:26–28).*

Principle: God spoke creation into existence.

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and **by the breath of his mouth** all their host (Psalm 33:6).

B. There was... (Genesis 1:3, 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31).

And God said, "Let there be light," and **there was** light (Genesis 1:3).

God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And **there was** evening and there was morning, the first day (Genesis 1:5).

And God called the expanse Heaven. And **there was** evening and **there was** morning, the second day (Genesis 1:8).

And **there was** evening and **there was** morning, the third day (Genesis 1:13).

And **there was** evening and **there was** morning, the fourth day (Genesis 1:19).

And **there was** evening and **there was** morning, the fifth day (Genesis 1:23).

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and **there was** morning, the sixth day (Genesis 1:31).

Principle: When God speaks, it is so.

By faith we understand that the universe was created **by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible (Hebrews 11:3).

C. ...**it was so**... (Genesis 1:6, 9, 11, 15, 24, 30).

⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. **And it was so** (Genesis 1:7).

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." **And it was so** (Genesis 1:9).

¹¹ And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." **And it was so** (Genesis 1:11).

¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." **And it was so** (Genesis 1:15).

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." **And it was so** (Genesis 1:24).

³⁰ *And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." **And it was so** (Genesis 1:30).*

Principle: "It is so" – the Amen – The acknowledgement of a valid word.

*"And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: '**The words of the Amen**, the faithful and true witness, **the beginning of God's creation**'" (Revelation 3:14).*

D. Authority

*By faith we understand that **the universe was created by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible (Hebrews 11:3).*

*For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water **by the word of God** (2 Peter 3:5).*

Principle: Authority is found in the spoken words of God.

²² *"Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. ²³ By myself I have sworn; **from my mouth has gone out in righteousness a word that shall not return**: 'To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance' (Isaiah 45:22–23).*

*But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, **but by every word that comes from the mouth of God**'" (Matthew 4:4).*

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Scripture Reading: Isaiah 45:18, 21-23

In the beginning, God... (Genesis 1:1).

- I. To Whom Are We Listening?
- II. ONE God (*Isaiah 45:5–6*)
- III. Before (*Revelation 4:8b*) (*Isaiah 46:9–10*) (*Ephesians 1:3–5*) (*Hebrews 4:3*) (*John 17:5*) (*Revelation 13:8 NKJV*)

Principle: God is sovereign _____ time, _____ time and _____ time.

IV. In the Beginning...

- A. God said... (*Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 28*)

Principle: God _____ creation into _____. (*Psalms 33:6*)

- B. There was... (*Genesis 1:3, 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31*)

Principle: When God speaks, _____ . (*Hebrews 11:3*)

- C. *It was so...* (*Genesis 1:6, 9, 11, 15, 24, 30*)

Principle: "It is so" – the _____ – The _____ of a _____ word. (*Revelation 3:14*)

- D. Authority (*Hebrews 11:3*) (*2 Peter 3:5*)

Principle: Authority is found in the _____ of God. (*Isaiah 45:22–23*) (*Matthew 4:4*)