

Foundations Devotional

• FOR THE WEEK OF AUG 2 - AUG 8 •

MONDAY // GENESIS 1-2

A person's worldview is defined by how they see or think about the world. The first two chapters of the Bible establish the biblical worldview all Christians should have when it comes to how they think about the natural world, human identity, and human relationships. These chapters affirm God as a sovereign, loving Creator, speaking the natural world into existence for His glory. He made humans in His image, linking our identity to His own. He also made male and female as partners who complement one another and model unity within the diversity that is found in the body of Christ.

TUESDAY // GENESIS 3-4

In these two chapters, we read how God's perfect creation was made imperfect through the cunning deceit of the serpent, or Satan, one of God's own creations who rebelled against Him. The serpent convinced Eve to doubt God's goodness, and in response she disobeyed God and convinced Adam to do the same. We know this event as the fall of man. With that single act of disobedience, sin entered the world. The negative impact of sin is felt in all of creation. Through Adam and Eve, sin became an inevitable part of human nature.

WEDNESDAY // GENESIS 6-7

It didn't take long for sin to wreak havoc on God's perfect creation. Notice how quickly the human race spiraled in its immortality and corruption. Humanity was created to worship and obey God, and because that no longer took place, God acted in judgment against the world's sin by sending a flood to wipe out the entire human race. In as much as God is just, though, these chapters also give evidence of His mercy through the fact that Noah and his family found favor in God's eyes. He, subsequently, spared their lives. All of Scripture affirms that these two aspects of God's character--His justice and mercy--remain in perfect harmony at all times.

THURSDAY // GENESIS 8-9

Genesis 8-9 record the aftermath of the flood. Noah and his family faithfully obeyed God, and God faithfully protected them from His judgment. We are reminded of God's love for humans--those He created in His own image. God used Noah's family to once again populate the earth with His people. In what is known as the Noahic covenant, God promised to never again destroy the earth and its inhabitants with a flood--a promise He has kept to this day. God sealed this promise with a rainbow, a sign that God keeps His promises.

FRIDAY // JOB 1-2

The Book of Job addresses the issue of why God allows suffering in the lives of His people. The early chapters of Genesis describe sin's entrance into and corruption of the world. We also realize that human suffering is an inevitable consequence of sin. Job 1-2 remind us that even the most faithful of God's people are not exempt from suffering and sin. However, these chapters also remind us that because God is sovereign, everything--even suffering--has a purpose that ultimately leads to His glory and the fulfillment of His plans. The purpose of Job's suffering was that the world would see the life-transforming power of genuine faith in God.

WEEKEND

Finish up any you haven't done from above!