

DAILY **DEVOTIONS**

THE 7 ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What does this passage tell us about man?



What does this passage demand of me?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?

DAY 01

GENESIS 1:1-5

There is a tremendous amount of truth packed into the very first verse of the Bible. This one verse is foundational to our understanding both of God and the of the world in which we live. The Hebrew word for God in Genesis 1:1 is plural, but the Hebrew verb for "create" is singular. This is intentional. In the first verse of the Bible, we find the Triune God acting as one in accomplishing what is arguably the single most powerful act in the history of the universe: creating everything out of nothing. No one has ever done anything like this before. Every time anyone has ever created anything, they have always done so out of something—everyone except for God, that is. This passage highlights God's power and sovereignty. The picture painted here is that God is the source of all things and is also in control of all things as He shapes the world to His liking and to our benefit. This should change how we think about, relate to, and pray to God. Our God is powerful and He is in control.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT GOD CREATED EVERYTHING OUT OF NOTHING?

WHAT DOES THAT TELL YOU ABOUT HIM? ABOUT HOW YOU SHOULD PRAY TO HIM? RELATE TO HIM?

DAY 02

GENESIS 1:6-13

WHAT DO WE SEE GOD DOING IN THESE VERSES? MAKE A LIST.

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD DID THESE THINGS? WHO BENEFITS FROM GOD'S ACTIONS IN THESE VERSES?

WHAT DOES THIS TELL US ABOUT GOD?

After Genesis 1:1, we see God bringing order and beauty to all that He created. In these verses, we see God shaping the world so that it will be good and beneficial for us—His creatures. In other words, the creation account not only highlights God's power and sovereignty, but His care and love for His creatures.

DAY 03

GENESIS 1:14-19

WHAT DOES GOD CREATE IN THESE VERSES?

HOW DOES WHAT GOD CREATED HERE BENEFIT US?

WHAT DOES GOD NOTICE ABOUT THE THINGS HE CREATED (V. 18)? WHY IS THIS GOOD NEWS?

Not only has God created a world that is beautiful and beneficial to us, but also one that He, in His infinite power and sovereignty, has declared good. There is much that is broken in our world—pollution, suffering, sickness, sin, etc. But we need to remember that the world was not created broken. We, human beings, have introduced brokenness into God's good world, but His design was and is still good.

DAY 04

GENESIS 1:20-25

WHAT DID GOD SAY ABOUT THE ANIMALS HE CREATED (SEE V. 21 & 25)? WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO NOTICE?

HOW AWARE ARE YOU ON A DAILY BASIS OF GOD'S GOODNESS? HOW CAN YOU GROW TO BE MORE AWARE OF IT?

This phrase, "and God saw that it was good," is repeated over and over again in Genesis 1. This tells us something about God and the world we live in. Our God is good and His design for our world, and for us, is good. Soon we will see how God's good designs have been fractured or broken by human sin, but for now, it is important to acknowledge the beauty and benefit of the world God made and designed for our flourishing.

DAY 05

HEBREWS 1:1-3

Psalm 19:1 tells us that all that God has created declares His glory—His infinite greatness. In other words, the created world communicates to us about who God is and what He is like. Here in Hebrews 1:1-3, we find another way God communicates to us—and this way is even more profound than creation. God communicates to us about who He is and what He is about through Jesus. If you want to know more about what God is like, look at Jesus. By examining Jesus' words and actions, we will get a better picture of who our God is and why He is worthy of all that we are and all that we have.

ACCORDING TO THE WRITER OF HEBREWS, HOW HAS GOD SPOKEN TO US MOST CLEARLY?

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TELL US ABOUT JESUS? WHY IS HE WORTHY OF OUR TIME AND ENERGY?