

Revisiting Genesis

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We are taught from several scriptures from both the Hebrew script and the Greek script that no man can know the mind of God and there is no man who could counsel Him. God's ways are infinitely higher than that of man and we should revere Him for his supreme deity. Regrettably we fail often in this regard but there are good men who are genuinely working to maintain their strong faith and relationship with God and these are voices to which we need to give heed.

Our frailties of being human are revealed to us in our day-to-day living and for many we are easily lured into brash conversation and naive comment about things of God - much to our reflective chagrin. However, we try and fall but get up again and walk on thanks be to God's uplifting hand.

Why I have mentioned this is to put in perspective what I wish to comment on with regard to how many people are reading, interpreting and commenting on God's written word in this day and age, and who of these are often not paying sufficient attention to detail and cross references to verify if their material is scripturally correct according to the whole of the bible. So often it is far easier to change the meaning of God's word when we don't have understanding of that which we read, and this pathway pushes us down a slippery road of re-interpretation to suit our personalised ideas, and even fiction to render a good story; whether many of these are innocently done or with malice will be tested and judged in the due course of history.

I can say this because I am as guilty as any for harbouring ideas and interpretations that were non-biblically based so that I could satisfy my own vanity (I suppose this is the best description) but it achieved nothing. God was never going to bless this material so apart from getting self-satisfaction at looking at the completed works there would be no human benefit.

This is an interesting position to recognise but thanks be to God's higher ways there has come an inkling of understanding about that which I endeavoured to achieve. I have spend quite a period of time looking into Genesis with the view to reconciling God's word with the paleo fossil evidence and astrophysicist discoveries that convincingly show that the universe is very old and took an extended period of time to develop into what we have about us today.

I have read many commentaries and articles discussing the Genesis account and disappointingly most re-interpret the original wording and change the essence of the account as rendered by the early scribes - and subsequently the early translators who brought the Word to our English-speaking shores, thereby changing the story that God originally delivered to His human creation.

Many men of great renown and high respect have not been helpful in the pursuit of God's word and great truths are not correctly taught to the congregations because of this dearth of understanding and lack of great men of the faith as the apostles of old would have taught us by example. Again let me re-state the issue. It is far easier to change the meaning of the original paleo-Hebrew words to suit an idea rather than to search God, the author, for the actual meaning that he intended for us. It is also a troublesome road to walk if we seek any understanding out of the Paleo-Hebrew song-lines in the Bible by referencing the creation process through just the perspective of Science's anti-God mind-set.

However, through an understanding extended to us from God, we can see what His authorship was intending in the song lines of Genesis Chapters One and Two and quite spectacularly, to further understand that this information comes to us through ancient song lines that reach back six millennia. The task of storing information through a system of memory retention for millennia before Moses was able to transcribe it into the written modality - and then restate it in a comprehensible form in these current times is extraordinary indeed, but this can only be achieved if we do not reinterpret the original rhetorical construct and haphazardly change the words that were originally employed. If there were to be a strong lesson God wished to teach me it was unquestionably that we should not tamper with the word of God and we should wait (with supplications) on God to teach us understanding. Not so easy sometimes.

The other side of the discussion about the Creation account in Genesis is that science should not endeavour to imbue any spirituality into the discussion. Clearly science works in the realm of our terrestrial abode proving by physical and observable evidences that which has occurred by the remnant deposits of fossils and other worldly phenomenon. The issue for Science is that it second guesses possibilities to fill the gaps inbetween their evidentiary patterns and somehow by "magic" these guesses become pseudo-factual pieces of information, and I might add again I have never seen a science report that acknowledges God's mighty hand in the creation processes.

Genesis is a collection of historic articles going right back to the creation period, but there are distinct sections throughout its account, and where they sequentially appear in the Genesis/Creation record changes the perspective of the report from (my terminology) journalist to eye witness. For instance, anything prior to Genesis Chapter 2 will be prior to human experience and those articles (or correctly song lines which were learnt by rote and passed down each generation) were delivered by God to Adam directly.

From Chapter 2 onwards what occurred on Earth could be accounted from Adam's personal experience, and therefore the song-lines would have been devised by him. As the generations passed, the song lines become more detailed and articulate experiential-isms consistent with being "in living memory".

How Genesis Chapter One Verse One became the very first writings in what was to become the greatest book of all time throughout the world is a great story and accredits Moses and his attendant scribes with a very canny presentation of materials that would introduce the fledging Hebrew nation to the human modality of written communication.

What we read as Genesis 1:1 was in fact a song line that every Hebrew youngster and adult would have been able to rattle it off like we do nursery rhymes today. So when came the time for the Hebrew nation to learn how to read and write, how easier the task became when Moses utilised the Song-line 1:01, "*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth*", and because it was so well known, possibly the most common of the song lines from that period, Moses put it up front as the opening words of the then new compendium of song lines and instructions for service to God - hence the Tanakh (bible) was born.

Down the millenniums we have been able to understand song lines and how they were utilised in illiterate societies. We know that paleo dated song lines were rarely allegoric although often could be symbolic. They were typically very literal, very succinct, void of superfluous detail and were constructed from base words from the host language vocabulary, and this is exactly what we have with Paleo-Hebrew. What also is a common trait in this ancient material is that we often have little information as to time gaps between events, and this is another net that catches up many researchers when they lose their way in the chronology from those early millennia.

The early Hebrew language was not a robust language and had a limited vocabulary of approximately eight thousand five hundred words. The language structure was based on a two-letter root word system which obviously was very successful in its day, however as the nation matured these root words morphed into a three letter root system and further developed down the millenniums. But the legacy of that early limited vocabulary was that many words had to take up multiple meanings, and this brings us to the present day when we are endeavouring to understand the interpretations of the Hebrew language relating back to the Genesis period.

It is quite legitimate that Genesis chapters One and Two carry multiple meanings for most passages, and many authors have seized upon this phenomenon and argue for a very different description of creation and the events of the first thousand years. This is very disappointing, however inevitably it was perhaps going to happen to some extent so we must be very careful about how we deal with these complexities of truth.

And God, of course, would have known this and hence he warns his human creation many times to not change his word. (e.g. Deuteronomy 4, Proverbs 30 and Revelation 22 to name a few)

It is not possible that all of the interpretational variations proffered by the multitude of commentators over the past two millennia can all be the truth. Some are shamefully fiction, some are bent to accommodate a fancy of the flesh and others are just plain wrong. It is a predicament that is costing many souls their purchase on faith and trust in God, let alone the diversionary constant bickering and hollow debates that undermine good order and fellowship of the believers.

This I believe sets the frame work for moving onto studying the Book of Genesis and in particular the Creation account. And I would invite you to re-visit our website at [<https://www.faithchasers.net>] and read the works done on the Genesis period:

The Story of Creation Revisited Through Ancient Song Lines #
Adam and Eve's Contribution to the World
And Man Became a Living Soul
Eden and the Garden that God Planted Eastward
Noah's Flood
The Etymology of Written Hebrew
The Meaning of Day in Genesis Chapter One
The Redemption Plan
The Seed of Eve
The Significance of Adam on the Hebrew Language

This is the original Study undertaken on the Book of Genesis

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