

# SEEING BETWEEN THE TIMES

## Beginning

Genesis 1-3

1 Chronicles 12:32 "...understood the times and knew what Israel should do."

### TEXT (Genesis 1)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ..<sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light **was good**...<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." ...And God saw that **it was good**. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." ...And God saw that **it was good**. ...And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night,..." <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars...: And God saw that **it was good**. ...<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that **it was good**... <sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds..." <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that **it was good**.

### CREATION IS GOOD

**God did it**

**God did it well**

### RELATIONSHIP IS VERY GOOD

Genesis 2:18 The Lord God said, "It is **not good** for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Genesis 1:27,31 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; **male and female** he created them... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

## **With God**

Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Westminster Shorter Catechism: *“to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.”*

## **With People**

God did not create us to be loners. He created us to be lovers.

## **SOMETHING IS WRONG**

Genesis 3:1-7 (NLT) The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”<sup>2</sup> “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied.<sup>3</sup> “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”<sup>4</sup> “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman.<sup>5</sup> “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”<sup>6</sup> The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.

The most dangerous lie is the one we most want to believe.

### **Distorted creation (Genesis 3:17a)**

To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you;

Romans 8:19-22 (NLT) For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.<sup>20</sup> Against its will, all creation was subjected to God’s curse. But with eager hope,<sup>21</sup> the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God’s children in glorious freedom from death and decay.<sup>22</sup> For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

### **Damaged relationships (Genesis 3:16b)**

“I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

Genesis 3:8-9 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

Tim Keller, *"We are more sinful and flawed than we ever dared believe, yet more loved and accepted in Jesus than we ever dared hope."*