

Big Truths from the Beginning

The beginning of the book of Genesis contains many significant truths from God. Though some dismiss the creation account as a fictional story, Jesus Himself clearly believed in the historical accuracy of the whole Old Testament. Let's take a look at some important truths from Genesis.

Topic	Old Testament	New Testament
Creation	Genesis 1 outlines a specific order in which God created everything, and this order makes sense scientifically. God created light, water, and dry land before creating plant life; otherwise, the plants would not have survived. Then He then created animals and people, who had the plants for food. God later confirmed the six-day creation when giving the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:11).	In giving the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:11), God stated that He created everything in six literal days. The fourth commandment is based on this. Moses wrote down the words we find in the book of Exodus. Then in the New Testament, Jesus makes it clear that we must believe what Moses wrote, because it is completely true (John 5:45-47). According to Jesus, creation is the truth.
Kinds	Genesis 1:20-25 tells us that God created everything according to its own kind. This lines up with what we observe in nature, where there are no fossils of transitional species, which would be necessary to prove Darwinian evolution. Instead, we see a clear distinction between different species of animals.	God placed dietary restrictions on the people of Israel in order to visibly set them apart from the other nations of the world (Leviticus 11). But after the resurrection of Jesus, as salvation spread around the world, God removed these restrictions and permitted the Jews to eat all kinds of animals (Acts 10:9-15).
Holy Trinity	In Genesis 1:26 , God said "Let Us make man in Our image," which is the earliest indication that our one God exists in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.	Everything that was created, we are told in John 1:1-14 , was created by Jesus Christ, who existed eternally before being born of Mary. Jesus was present and active in the six days of creation.
Marriage	Marriage is the oldest institution in existence, having been ordained by God in Genesis 2:24 . The man and woman shall join together and become as one, just as God joined Adam and Eve together in the beginning.	Jesus quoted this verse while discussing divorce (Matthew 19:3-9). Marriage is a picture of the relationship between Christ and His church (Galatians 5:31-32), and any deviation from that (such as adultery, divorce, or homosexuality) distorts the intended purpose of marriage.
Sin	Genesis 3 contains the history of the first sin and the fall of mankind. But the first sin wasn't merely eating a piece of fruit—it was trusting Satan over God in an act of willful disobedience.	In the beginning, Satan took the form of a serpent in his deception of Adam and Eve (Revelation 20:2). In the end, we already know that God will be victorious over Satan (Revelation 20:7-10).
<i>Having a solid understanding of how sin came into the world is crucial to understanding the overall story of redemption through Jesus. We cannot rightly understand salvation if we fail to grasp the foundational truths in Genesis.</i>		

Death	The first death was done by God Himself. The coverings Adam and Eve made for themselves weren't sufficient. God killed an animal in order to make clothes for them (Genesis 3:21). Ideas like theistic evolution disagree with the Bible because death would occur before the first sin, thus blaming God for death.	This is the earliest picture of salvation, in which we cannot earn God's favor on our own, but we must be covered in the righteousness of Christ in order to be accepted (Isaiah 61:10 and Philippians 3:9). We cannot cover our own sin, just as the fig leaves that Adam and Eve made for themselves were inadequate.
Murder	Jealousy, hatred, and pride have been with us since the beginning of sin. Consider what happened with the first two brothers on earth: Cain killed his brother Abel out of envy (Genesis 4).	Abel was the first martyr for his faith. His murder is a historical fact, as confirmed by Jesus (Matthew 23:35) and the writer of the letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 11:4 and 12:24).
The Ark	Scientists have studied the size of the ark that Noah built and have found that the dimensions of the ark combined with the density of the water would have allowed the ark to float. It is unlikely that Noah would have known how to figure that out, supporting the biblical account that God told Noah exactly how to build it (Genesis 6:14-16).	The ark is an early picture of the salvation that comes through Jesus Christ. Imagine the door of the ark as Jesus, the only way to God, and God brings in all those who belong to Him through that door. Then, God Himself shuts the door, keeping His people safe while all those who failed to believe and obey Him perish outside (John 10:1-9).
The Flood	Almost everyone knows the story of the Noah's ark that we read in Genesis 7 . But it's not just a story; it's true history. For example, the fossil record includes fossils of sea creatures on mountains and evidence of rapid burial of plants and animals from a catastrophic event.	Jesus knew that the flood was a real event in history. For example, Jesus is recorded in Matthew 24:36-39 making a comparison between how sudden His future return would be and how sudden the flood struck the earth, catching all those who did not believe by surprise.
Weather	It is believed that there was no weather like we are accustomed to before the great flood (Genesis 2:5-6). This makes Noah's faith even more remarkable, if he told people a great flood was coming when it had never rained. But after the flood, the Earth began to experience weather (Genesis 8:22).	Jesus explains how weather is a common blessing for everyone, whether they know God or not. God makes the sun rise on the evil and the good, and He sends rain on the just and the unjust (Matthew 5:45). We all receive many blessings from God that most of us take for granted.
Blood is Life	After the flood had ended, God made a remarkable statement to Noah, saying that life is in the blood (Genesis 9:4-6). It would have been impossible for a mere man to make this statement, since this fact wasn't known to scientists until William Harvey discovered the circulatory system in 1628.	Because life is in the blood, a perfect blood sacrifice is what God requires to atone for our sin against Him. This is why Jesus Christ came to die on the cross, and rise again on the third day, because He alone lived a perfect life and could, therefore, take the punishment that we all deserve (Hebrews 9:12-22).

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