
The Bible in 4 Acts: Act 1 Creation January 27, 2019

Intro: Did you ever arrive late to watch a movie? Sometimes it's ok, like a comedy or something light hearted. But sometimes it's a mystery and you must see the first 2 minutes to understand the rest of the movie. The Bible is like this. Without understanding the first part it's hard to make sense out of the rest of it.

Don't you hate it when everyone else seems to know what is going on but you feel clueless? You try to ask but they all say, "shhhhh". So you lose interest and feel left out and lonely.

The Bible is a story. It is a completely true story. It is the greatest story ever told. It is great literature, very diverse in its style. Written over a period of 1500 years. But it contains a consistent theme and purpose.

You must understand the first chapters of the story. The bible starts with Genesis which is a word that may be defined as beginning or origin

A word about the Bible

1. It starts with the assumption that God is real and that the Bible is true
2. Its purpose is to tell the truth to man about God
3. Your presuppositions will determine your conclusions

Scene 1: The GOOD – Creation

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth.

And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the **Spirit of God** was moving over the surface of the waters.

Then **God** said, "Let there be light", and there was light.

And **God** saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

And **God** called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

A. It is all about God

Also vs. 6,7,8,9,10,11, 14,
The point is that God did it.

B. God did it in literal days

1. The word for day is “day”. Hebrew “yom”.
2. God works hard to say it was “morning and evening”
vs 5, 8, 13, 19, 23
3. After making stars God said that they would be for signs, seasons, days, and years – vs.14

C. It was Good

vs 4 first day, 10& 12 third day, 18 fourth day, 21 fifth day sea creatures, 25 fifth day land creatures, 31 man and everything was VERY GOOD.

D. Man was created special

1. He didn't evolve
2. He was specially made by God
2:7 “Then the Lord God formed man of the dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”
3. Man was in the image of God
1:26, 27

E. Man had a Job

- 1:28 “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it...”
2:15 “Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.”

F. Family was established

- 2:18 Not good for man to be alone... helper suitable...
2:24 Leave and cleave

G. Ultimate purpose

Relationship with God
Rev. 4:11
“Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed and were created.”

Scene 2: The BAD

A. The temptation to sin Genesis 3

B. They had free will

God is more glorified when we choose to obey and serve him than when we do so without choice.

The only creatures with moral choice were angels and humans

C. They chose to serve self rather than God

Gen 3:4 -6 They were not content but believed a lie and tried to be like God

Man has been trying to be God ever since – deciding himself what is right and wrong, when life begins and ends, what means to be male and female, and there is nothing new under the sun.

D. The bad act leads to bad consequences

Curse on the serpent 3:13

Curse on the woman 3:16

Curse on man the ground 3:17

Scene 3: The SAD

A. Death (Remember Genesis 3:4 “...you will not surely die”)

B. Cain killed his brother Abel over jealousy concerning relationship with God.

His refusal to give God a blood sacrifice resulted in his anger at God and his brother.

After killing his brother his relationship with God was cut off but God didn't kill him.

Genesis 4:13–14 Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is too great to bear! “Behold, You have driven me this day from the face of the ground; and from Your face I will be hidden, and I will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.”

C. Chapter 5 genealogy emphasizes death

D. God regretted that He had made man because man was so wicked so sent the flood

Genesis 6:5–7 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. 7 The LORD said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them.”

The flood was real – presuppositions lead to conclusions. The science points to the flood.

E. After the flood man continued to rebel. Genesis 11

What man thought

Genesis 11:4 (They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top *will reach* into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

What God thought

Genesis 11:6–7 The LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. 7 “Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another’s speech.”

Scene 4: The GLAD

What makes us glad is the Grace of God

Grace is giving us something good that we don’t deserve

A. God showed grace to Adam and Eve

Adam and Eve should have been killed but God showed grace

Genesis 3:21 “The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.”

God showed mercy and grace through the death of an animal to cover them.

B. God showed grace to Cain

He should have been killed as a murderer, but God preserved him.

C. Noah found grace. Gen 6:8

Genesis 6:8 “But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.”

D. Humanity found grace because God started over after the flood.

Covenant

Genesis 9:4–7 “Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood. 5 “Surely I will require your lifeblood; from every beast I will require it. And from *every* man, from every man’s brother I will require the life of man. 6 “Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man. 7 “As for you, be fruitful and multiply; Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it.”

Genesis 9:11 “I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be cut off by the water of the flood, neither shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth.” 12 God said, “This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; 13 I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth.

E. Humanity found grace at the Tower of Babel

Genesis 11:6–7 The LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. 7 **“Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another’s speech.”**

God could have/ should have killed them, but he intervened in human history.

This explains language, race, nations, borders, culture....

It also explains the opposing thread (opposed to grace) running through history and the world... it is a thread of false worship.