



Genesis 1-2 points to Jesus because it introduces us to the God who would come in person to restore what he first created.

📖 **Text:** John 5:39-40; Luke 24:25-27; Genesis 1-11

1 Reading the Torah with a Jesus Lens

• **Luke 24:25-27:** Jesus explained from the Hebrew Bible that it all pointed to him.

• **John 5:39-40:** Jesus emphatically stated that Scripture led to eternal life because it leads people to him.

• How do Genesis 1-2 and the account of creation help us to discover Jesus?

2 Origins can point us to Jesus

• Genesis 1-2 is not a science text. It's a story of identity for God's people.

“ The purpose of a creation narrative was not to satisfy the curiosity about the origin of the world; cosmogonies were concerned with the origin of a people. The story of creation was important, not for what it might declare about the past, but for what it stated about the present. ”

— Elmer Martens *God's Design*, 279

• Genesis 1-2 should be read with Genesis 3-11 as a prologue to the rest of the Old Testament (OT).

3 A helpful way of reading OT Narrative

(Fee and Stuart, *How To Read the Bible For All It's Worth*)

• **3 levels of reading - all pointing to Jesus:**

1. Meta-Narrative: God's Redemptive Plan
2. Israel: God's Covenant People
3. Lineage: Personal Stories of God's Plan



reflection questions

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1. Think of reading the Bible. What positive or negative ideas come to mind? Why?
2. Genesis 1-2 (1-11 actually) is a prologue to the rest of the Bible. What changes if we read Genesis 1-2 to be more about the origin of a people than a scientific explanation for how the universe began?
3. Have one person read Genesis 1:1-2:4. Notice the correlation between Day 1 and 4; 2 and 5; 3 and 6. What do you notice about the link between these pairings? What does this tell us about God?
4. Read Genesis 1:28-31. What does this tell us about God's relationship with creation?
5. Now read John 1:1-18. What does this text add to your understanding of Genesis 1?
6. How does Colossians 1:15-20 fill in more of the picture of Origins and Jesus?
7. For someone who struggles with reconciling the biblical account of Genesis 1-2 and our modern scientific understanding of the universe, how might you help them rethink these problems? How does your answer to #2 affect the way you help them?

Give it a try! choose one of the following

1. Consider buying and reading some books that might help you grow in reading the Bible in a new way.
 - **Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart:** *How to Read the Bible For All It's Worth*
 - **John H. Walton:** *The Lost World of Genesis One*
 - **Scot McKnight:** *The Blue Parakeet: Rethinking How You Read the Bible*
2. Consider reading through the Bible in 2 Years. You can find a reading plan here at https://www.blueletterbible.org/assets/pdf/dbrp/2Yr_OTNTPlan.pdf



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