

Bible as Christ's Testimony.

Session # 20 2024-10-22

Last time: the sources that Moses used – eyewitness testimony, God's revelation, oral and written sources. The writing of different parts of the first five books of the Bible.

Beginnings of the Bible.

Writing of different parts.

How did Moses know what to write? Where did he get the materials?

- **Genesis 1 and 2.** Most famous chapters. Origins. Who are we? The creation vs evolution debate: what are the implications? For our ID, worth, purpose, meaning, etc. Our lives, our societies, culture, etc.
- **How to think about those chapters?**
 - o If Moses recorded this account, where did He get it from? Written records? Revelation?
 - o It is God's own revelation.
 - o Dr David Adams (CC series) Event and account. It is about how we read the Bible, where do we want to focus?
 - [1] On the events.
 - [2] Or on the account.
 - o Gen 1 and 2 is not simplistic or naïve. God speaks in a universally accessible and understandable way. Relates to our experience.
- **How does this read against the ANE background?**
 - o Deities and creation interconnected. Fertility cults. Continuous violence among deities. No order. No design. No laws of creation.
 - o Humans as an afterthought to serve gods.
- **How does the Biblical account /worldview compare with these?**
 - o What about God? What about humanity? There is no account of origins more beautiful and truthful than Gen 1 and 2.
- **What questions does Genesis account answers** E.g. mobile phone. What questions would we ask?
 - o Who is God? The Creator. How did He create? By speaking.
 - o How to think about creation? Good, or not. Orderly, or not. Purposeful or purposeless. Guided and random.
 - o Who are we as human beings? Image and likeness. Male and female. Equal. Different. Complementary. What about our significance?
 - o Why are we here, for what purpose? Carrying on God's word of creation. Exercise loving dominion.

Genesis 3... teaches about fall, sin, salvation, etc.