

THRU THE BIBLE SYNTHESIS
"Part I: Genesis - The Sources Of Calamity And Good In Our Origins"

Need: "With all of the complexities of problems in the world, where can one sensibly go just to START to find solutions? Why? How?!"

- I. **All that is wholesome comes from the Creator God Who is good!**
- A. All that exists that is wholesome was made by the God of the Bible:
 - 1. God created all that exists in the universe, Gn. 1:1-27; Jn. 1:3.
 - 2. He instituted all that is wholesome in relationships, Gen. 2:17-24.
 - a. God made humans the rulers of His entire created earth, 2:8-15.
 - b. God made the man to be the leader of his wife, Gen. 2:17-23.
 - c. God made the man to leave his parents and to cleave to his wife, forming a monogamous, heterosexual, intimate, permanent union in starting a new, sovereign family unit, 2:24; Mt. 19:3-6.
 - d. God gave humans the spiritual task of preferring the tree of life over the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Gen. 2:9, 16-17.
 - B. All that God created and instituted was very wholesome, Gen. 1:31.
- II. **Conversely, all that is calamitous originates with sin against God!**
- A. Satan, the chief created angel, sinned in proudly trying to usurp the role of the Creator God of the Bible, Ez. 28:11-19 and Is. 14:12-15.
 - B. Therefore, he was cast out of his office in God's heaven, Rv. 12:4a.
 - C. He came to usurp the order and rule of God on the earth; he tempted Eve thru the serpent who in turn urged Adam into sin, Gen. 3:1-6.
 - D. The results of this rebellion against God was devastating for man:
 - 1. Marital disharmony resulted from humanity's sin, Gen. 3:7, 12.
 - 2. Mankind's discord with God came from this sin, Gen. 3:8, 23-24.
 - 3. Mankind's strife with nature arose from sin, 3:13, 14-15, 17b-19.
 - 4. Pain and sorrow in reproduction resulted from this sin, Gen. 3:16.
 - 5. Physical death arose from sin, Gen. 3:19b; 2:17 with Rom. 5:12.
 - 6. Employment difficulties arose from sin, Gen. 3:17c-19a.
 - 7. Environmental hardship came from sin, Gen. 3:17c-18; Ro. 8:20.
 - 8. Family strife and murder came from sin, Gen. 4:1-15.
 - 9. Extended family alienation came from sin, Gen. 4:16.
 - 10. Humans turned to urbanization to create a shield against the effects of sin's curse, Gen. 4:17. Thus, urban problems arose in history.
 - 11. A host of sexually aberrational behaviors arose by sin, Gen. 4:19.
 - 12. Various inventions came from Cain's sons to compensate for their inability to raise crops; this led to marketing troubles, Gn. 4:20-22.
 - 13. Communal atrocities arose because of sin, Gen. 4:23-24.
 - 14. Thus, man's society inevitably turned self-destructive, 6:1-2, 11-12.
- III. **Since the Creator God is good, He checked man's self-devastation with a point-by-point program to save him from his sin!**
- A. God cleansed the earth with a flood to restore order on earth, 6:3-14.
 - B. He promised never to destroy the earth again by a flood, Gen. 9:9-17.
 - C. Yet, sin lingered in the flood's survivors, 9:20-27. Nimrod, a godless descendant of Noah led a world witchcraft union at Babel (a zodiac on the tower's top, (Waltke, Th.D., DTS & Ph.D., Harvard)) to meet man's fears instead of trusting God and scattering from e/o over the earth, 9:1; 10:8-10; 11:1-4. Thus, God spread man out via languages, leaving him insecure enough to have to trust in Him, 11:6-9; 10:25!
 - D. Rev. 17:5-6 shows that by Satan's influence, Nimrod's error began to apostatize the nations by stealth; seeing this, God privately thus chose a counter Noahic descendant, Abraham, to form a nation to be used by Him (see "IV" below) to usher in His rule and defeat sin in man, Gen. 12:1-3 and Rev. 12:1 with Gen. 37:5-11.
 - E. However, sin in Abraham and his family so harmed relations that his family unit nearly dissolved and ended God's program, Gn. 13-41!

- F. **Yet, in His eternal wisdom and grace**, God countered this challenge by relying upon the **unconditional nature** of His **promises** to Abraham to preserve his program thru the ages, Gen. 15:13-2 (as a sample). In Genesis, God's **ULTIMATE** solution to sin, the "thread of redemption" begins its marvelous journey through the Bible:
1. When man sinned, God graciously killed animals and gave their skins to replace man's futile self-help fig leaf clothing, Gn. 3:7,21. This anticipates the substitutionary death of Christ, the Lamb of God, the Second Adam and seed of Abraham to replace our futile works with His righteousness, Jn. 1:29; 1 Cor. 15:22; 2 Cor. 5:21.
 2. Christ's Calvary defeat of Satan, the serpent is forecast in Gn. 3:15.
 3. The Abrahamic Covenant predicts salvation, Gn. 22:18; Ga. 3:13ff
 4. As are all others through history, people in Genesis were justified by God through faith alone, Gen. 15:5-6 with Rom. 4:9-12.

Application: To handle ANY calamity and head toward wholesome solutions, **ALWAYS START** with (1) faith in Christ as Savior from sin to receive eternal life, Jn. 3:16. With this step comes the indwelling Holy Spirit's presence to live above sin and the world and the devil, Gal. 5:16-23; 1 Jn. 5:4, 2:14. (2) Then we confess any sins we do and rely on the Spirit to obey Scripture, 1 J. 1:9; Ga. 5:16ff; Ro. 8:3-4. (3) Next, we wait by faith on God to fulfill His Abrahamic Covenant through Jesus Christ and usher in permanent blessing for the world!

Lesson: All that is good started with God. All that is calamitous comes from sin. What rescues man from calamity is salvation through Christ!

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