

GENESIS

FROM THE DUST

SESSION 8

Read Genesis 1:26-30

(Finishing up from last week)

- 1 How does Genesis establish the place of mankind on the earth especially in regards to the following hot button issues of today:
 - *Environmentalism, animal rights --Today we have come to see ourselves either as masters of the universe (given the potential of our technological powers) or as the worst thing ever to happen to the universe (given our potential for ecological destructiveness).*
 - *Reproduction, overpopulation, fertility, family planning, abortion – God said to be “fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”*
 - *Gender dysphoria (transgenderism) and homosexuality—God made sexuality as a vital part of humanity. Male and female are not choices but the deliberate design of God.*

PSALM 139:13-16

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them

ROMANS 5:3-4

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope...

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:8-10

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

- 2 God commands that man (as male and female) be fruitful and multiply. How does the mystery of procreation and reproduction defy materialistic, evolutionary explanations and give testimony to God himself as sustainer and enabler of all things?
- 3 What do we make of the fact that God originally intended for mankind to eat plants and says nothing about meat? Is vegetarianism a better way?

Read Genesis 1:31 - 2:3

- 4 In a world that was "very good" God rests. What does it mean that God set aside the seventh day as a holy day of rest?