Foundations - Creation

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I. Series Intro: Building a strong foundation for our lives

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." (Matt 7:24-27)

In the Lord I take refuge. How then can you say to me: "Flee like a bird to your mountain. For look, the wicked bend their bows; they set their arrows against the strings to shoot from the shadows at the upright in heart. When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:1-3)

Week 1: Creation

Week 2: Truth

Week 3: Morals

Week 4: Authority

Week 5: Relationships

Week 6: Purpose

II. Creation

In the beginning, God created (Gen 1:1)

<u>Scopes Monkey – Rare Footage of the "Trial of the Century" | Flashback | History (youtube.com)</u>

a. Wrestling with the gap

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. (Heb 11:1)

... yet you refuse to come to me to have life. (John 5:40)

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him. (Matt 21:31-32)

b. Creation timeline

In the beginning God created (Gen 1:1-31)

Day 1: heaven, earth, light, water

Day 2: vault/atmosphere

Day 3: dry land, continents, islands (land and seas), vegetation

Day 4: stars, sun, moon (evening and morning)

Day 5: water creatures, birds (ability to multiply)

Day 6: all other creatures, mankind (male and female)

Day 7: God rested

c. Why is creation foundational?

a. God the creator

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. (Rom 1:20)

Do you not know? Have you not heard. The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. (Is 40:28)

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. (Gen 2: 1-2)

Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. (Heb 4:1)

b. Seeing ourselves in creation

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. (Gen 1:27)

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good . . . (Gen 1:31)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Cor 5:17)

c. Bible's credibility

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Tim 3:16-17)

d. Jesus and creation

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness. . . . " (Gen 1:26)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made . . . And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-14)

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Col 1:15-17)

e. Leading to a choice

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:12)