

New Beginnings

Big Idea: The God Who created life from nothing in the beginning can also recreate life from death, offering us the hope of a new beginning!

1. Life From Nothing

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1; In the beginning was the Word ... All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. John 1:1a,3

God's Word is clear: He is the Source of all life. After 150 years of attempted academic brainwashing since Darwin's book *On the Origin of the Species*, it's still overwhelmingly obvious. Over 80% of Canadians and 95% of Americans still believe that in the beginning God created. Our universe and all it contains simply could not have happened by accident. Common sense tells us that every painting has a painter, every building has a builder, and the cosmos has a Creator. He is the Uncaused Cause, the only One capable of creating life *ex nihilo*, "out of nothing."

2. From Life To Death

And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, You may surely eat of every tree of the garden. but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. Genesis 2:16,17; Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned. Romans 5:12

God is love (1 John 4:16) so the purpose of creation was to form a loving family. Love must involve a choice. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve (along with all of us), chose to reject God and live for themselves. When we separate ourselves from the Source of life, death follows. All of the consequences of man's fall illustrate the inevitability of pain and death, yet with the hope of resurrection:

- The first promise of Christ's death and resurrection (Genesis 3:15)
- The pain of childbirth (3:16)
- The cycle of harvest (3:17-19)
- The cycle of the seasons (8:22)

3. From Death to Life

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." John 11:25; But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

The same God Who spoke the universe into existence and created life out of nothing also has the power to bring life where there was once death. For every person who, by circumstances or the consequences of their own choices, are experiencing "death", God offers new life and a new beginning. *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17*

In what area of your life do you a fresh start?

God can create a new beginning for you today. If you would like someone to pray for you, please come forward after the service.