

From the beginning, the world's Creator told us what He did. God did not describe His work with fables and mythologies so that we could get some nice lessons about His work. We are created in His image! He trusts us to figure out both what He tells us in His Word and what He has written in creation.

God told us much about what He did; it is accurately revealed. God's Word in the Bible encourages, supports, and synchronizes with every reality of our world, including with every scientific observation and measurement.

For scientists, the Bible accurately describes the universe, though not completely. Recognizing the universe to be created and knowing God's word on it can often aid scientists working to understand it, as in Chapters 6 and 12 of Book 1.

On the earth, very smart people learn more and more about God's creation, and this helps all of us. We neither exalt science too highly nor ignore its advances. Science does not do itself favors when it ignores its own facts to believe unreal ideas, such as an acceptance of gender fluidity, and Bible believers do not do themselves favors when they ignore or reject repeatable and measured scientific realities, such as the limited range of adaptations established by Genetics.

God's delegation leaves people responsible: in the Bible, our Creator told us Who He is, and who we are, and how we are to live in this world He created for us. While God revealed just a portion of what He knew, knowing His Word on our lives should be most important to us, since it greatly aids us in our living.

We trust our Creator ... He told us exactly what we need to know. He used the right words, and He ordained their locations and contexts in the Bible.

We need the Bible for life, not merely for a religion. As valuable as meditating on its words can be, the Bible has far more than nice thoughts to bless us. We do not have a 'take the good ones' and 'leave the hard ones' mindset toward the Bible. The Bible is, for us, much more than a religious devotional ... the Bible is our manual from God, but much in it is technical.

In our 'manual,' God also describes operations, interconnectedness, structures, and more. Each piece of His revelation in the Bible is important individually and synergistically. Think of a complicated engine – those who use it and take care of it need to know precisely how each part works, and how they all function together. A mechanic's manual is also technical, even if they use AI.

The Bible is this ... and more. All of God's revealed word is needed. We need all of it for our lives, so we pay attention to all of it ... and we trust it as written.

### **It will take work**

It can be hard at first, when we do not know the Bible well enough to find out if an idea or a teaching is Biblical or not. We need teachers, and we ask them,

"Where is that in the Bible?" and we learn. We learn other possible explanations, other passages that relate, and much more ... and our understanding changes as we learn more and more of what God told us about the reality He created for us.

When the Bible says something that seems different from what we have been taught, we pause. We say, "I believe the Bible. I will also believe this teaching ... if it is true to the Bible." An example is the apparently conflicting teachings that God is good, but that He also creates evil. These have a resolution that begins with a proper definition of evil seen in the details of His creation in Genesis 1 and 2 – before Adam's sin. Concerning evil, we can know exactly what God created, and what He is responsible for. The resolution to the apparent conflict is that we are okay with a good God both telling Adam not to eat from a specific tree, making it a bad option, and then designating a serious consequence upon him and his world if he freely chooses to eat from that tree. We are also okay with God's act of enforcing the consequences of Adam's wrong choice. Since these describe the evil that God created, and since we know that His creation is good, His actions are good, and He is Good, we should also be okay with the fact that God created evil, as He said He did.

Believing all that the Bible says can be difficult, since a resolution between apparently conflicting teachings may not come easily. We often believe a Bible passage before we understand it, but we continue to learn. It is hard work, but it is worth it. When we embrace the reality that God created, we are not fighting God. Believers in a Sovereign God in control on the earth do not believe they are fighting God, yet they do not believe or live by His act of delegation. They do not believe that human choice matters, although they may live like they do. All of us must seek God for help to make better choices, or our lives will be harder than we or God want them to be.

Therefore, we do not reject what is in the Bible, not knowing how to fit a truth into what we understand. The two key passages used in this book so far, Isaiah 45:7 and Genesis 1:26-28, will test us. They may be the most difficult text to read and believe literally, partly because their message affects – and challenges or changes – our view of almost everything in the Bible, and in life, and partly because they seem to challenge our view of God Himself. If we are able to read and believe these two texts literally, most other verses will be easier to believe. God means what He says – every word and every verse is true, just as written.

The next chapter considers objections to God's delegation in Genesis 1. To date, human authority *over all the earth* has not been believed ... but God's delegation of authority holds true under intense scrutiny and hard questioning. We should respect this act of God and believe it, just as He has revealed it to us.