

## *In the Beginning*

*Genesis 1:1-9; John 1:1-13*

February 13, 2022

### Intro

Beginnings can be wonderful things.

Beginning of my marriage

- Remember my nervousness
- Remember the conversation I had with my uncle
- Remember the way the pastor has to cut the ring off the pillow

Ben and Lillian came into the world.

- I remember the specialness
- I remember the feeling of Wonder
- I remember the crying

Some beginnings we remember, some we do not.

- We went there or we were too young

This whole ball of way, life, the universe, everything, it has a beginning.

### God

There are 700 quintillion planets.

200, billion trillion stars.

At least 2 trillion galaxies.

Two things become immediate clear when you're talking about those kinds of numbers.

- Good is literally awe-some
- We are minuscule
  - Or we would be, if it weren't for this.
    - Genesis 2:5-7 – *"5 When no (D)bush of the field was yet in the land[b] and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man (E)to work the ground, 6 and a mist[c] was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— 7 then the Lord God formed the man of (F)dust from the ground and (G)breathed into his (H)nostrils the breath of life, and (I)the man became a living creature."*
      - Intimate, loving creation
      - Hands on
        - The way Good will always be
    - Psalm 139:13-16 – *"13 For you (P)formed my inward parts; you )knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.[a] (R)Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. 15 (S)My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in (T)the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your (U)book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them."*

We are begun, created intentionally by a powerful God.

- Omnipotent
- Loving
  - 1 John 4:7-10 – *"7 Beloved, (Q)let us love one another, for love is from God, and (R)whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 (S)Anyone who does not love does not know God, because (T)God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made*

*manifest among us, that (U)God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, (V)not that we have loved God (W)but that he loved us and sent his Son to be (X)the propitiation for our sins.”*

## What Happens

Fall – Genesis 3

One rule, messed it up.

But although things were going to be different, God’s love is constant.

- Making a soufflé
  - Throw it away
- Didn’t destroy us, stayed with us

God’s people aren’t perfect.

- We shouldn’t expect to be either
  - For ourselves, especially for others

Fallen Heroes of the Bible

- Abraham – pawns his wife off as his sister
- Moses – kills a man’s
- David – Bathsheba problems
- Peter – denies Christ
- Paul - participate in the stoning of Christians

Because beginnings, they’re important – but perhaps more important are new beginnings.

## New Beginnings

New birth – John 3

- John 3:2-6 – “*Rabbi, (E)we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do (F)unless God is with him.*” 3 Jesus answered him, “*Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is (G)born (H)again[b] he cannot (I)see the kingdom of God.*” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “*How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?*” 5 Jesus answered, “*Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born (J)of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 (K)That which is born of the flesh is (L)flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*”

2 Corinthians 5 – “*Therefore, if anyone is (Y)in Christ, he is (Z)a new creation.[b](AA)The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, (AB)who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us (AC)the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling[c] the world to himself, (AD)not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us (AE)the message of reconciliation.*”

Baptism – link that cements this.

Revelation 21:1-4 – “*Then I saw (A)a new heaven and a new earth, for (B)the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw (C)the holy city, (D)new Jerusalem, (E)coming down out of heaven from God, (F)prepared (G)as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, (H)the dwelling place[a]of God is with man. He will (I) dwell with them, and they will be his people,[b] and God himself will be with them as their God.[c] 4 (J)He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and (K)death shall be no more, (L)neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”*