

“The Story Starts with a Big Bang”

Introduction: The beginning of our journey through the story of the Bible is like the beginning of an action-packed movie. If you miss the opening minutes of a movie with its fast-paced scenes, you will not understand the rest of the story. It is the same with the Bible’s grand Story. The Story opens with a “big bang.” Not the “big bang” of evolutionary theory, but the “big bang” of the revelation of God Who is the main character of the Grand Story.

- . The Bible Story opens with the “big bang” of creation.
 - . The opening verse, Genesis 1:1, introduces us to the Story’s main character: God. The “big bang” is not an impersonal accident, but the creative purpose of a personal God.
 - . The “big bang” of creation is presented poetically and artistically.
 1. Days 1, 2, and 3 are places created by God.
 - Day 1—Light and Dark
 - Day 2—Sky and Water
 - Day 3—Land
 2. Days 4, 5, and 6 those places are filled with the things the places were created for.
 - Day 4—Sun and Moon/stars
 - Day 5—Birds and Sea creatures
 - Day 6—Animals and human beings
 - . The “big bang” of creation concludes with God’s core passion: human beings.
 1. God’s core passion is people made in God’s image, Genesis 1:26-27, as depicted in Adam and Eve
 2. All the beauties of creation are secondary to you. This truth is a self-esteem builder. God’s supreme passion is to be with us at all costs.
- . The Bible Story continues with the “big bang” of the Fall (Adam and Eve’s rebellion).
 - . Adam and Eve were created with the freedom and power to choose. God does not force love.
 - . The story introduces the tale of two trees.
 1. The “tree of life” and the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil” present a choice: Genesis 2: 9 and 17
 2. Adam and Eve rebelled against God and ate from the forbidden “tree of the knowledge of good and evil” and God’s vision to be with people was ruined.

(transition: the rest of the Bible is about God's pursuit to get us back)

- . The Bible Story reports the “big bang” of sin’s damage to the human race.
 - . Because Adam and Eve chose a different vision than God’s vision, sin became part of their spiritual DNA and they produced more sinners.
 1. Genesis 4 – 9 present sin and a sin nature permeating the human race.
 2. God’s chooses Noah to build the ark and God does a “do over” of the human race after the judgment of flood waters. The flood erased the wicked human race, but did not erase the sin nature from Noah and his family: Genesis 9: 20-23.

- . The Bible Story offers a salvation clue even in the midst of the opening “big bang.”
 - . After Adam and Eve sinned and became aware of their nakedness, they made fig leaf clothing to cover their nakedness. God took away the fig leaves and covered Adam and Eve with the skins of animals.
 - . The Clue: For God to restore the vision that human beings are His supreme passion will require the shedding of blood.

Application: From the creation story we discover the value of all human beings. God wants to be with you. Think about that. You. God wants to personally be with you. At great cost to God, God has done everything possible to get you back. You are valuable. True, lasting self-esteem begins by believing what God says about you.