



HOPE

LOWERTOWN

ST. PAUL



1517



2017

AMAZING GRACE

The Reformation to the Glory of God

SOL**A**

saved by

GRATIA

Grace alone

SOL**A**

through

FIDE

Faith alone

SOL**U**S

in

CHRISTUS

Christ alone

SOL**A**

according to

SCRIPTURA

Scripture alone

SOL**I**

for the

DEO GLORIA

glory of God alone



SEVEN GOSPEL

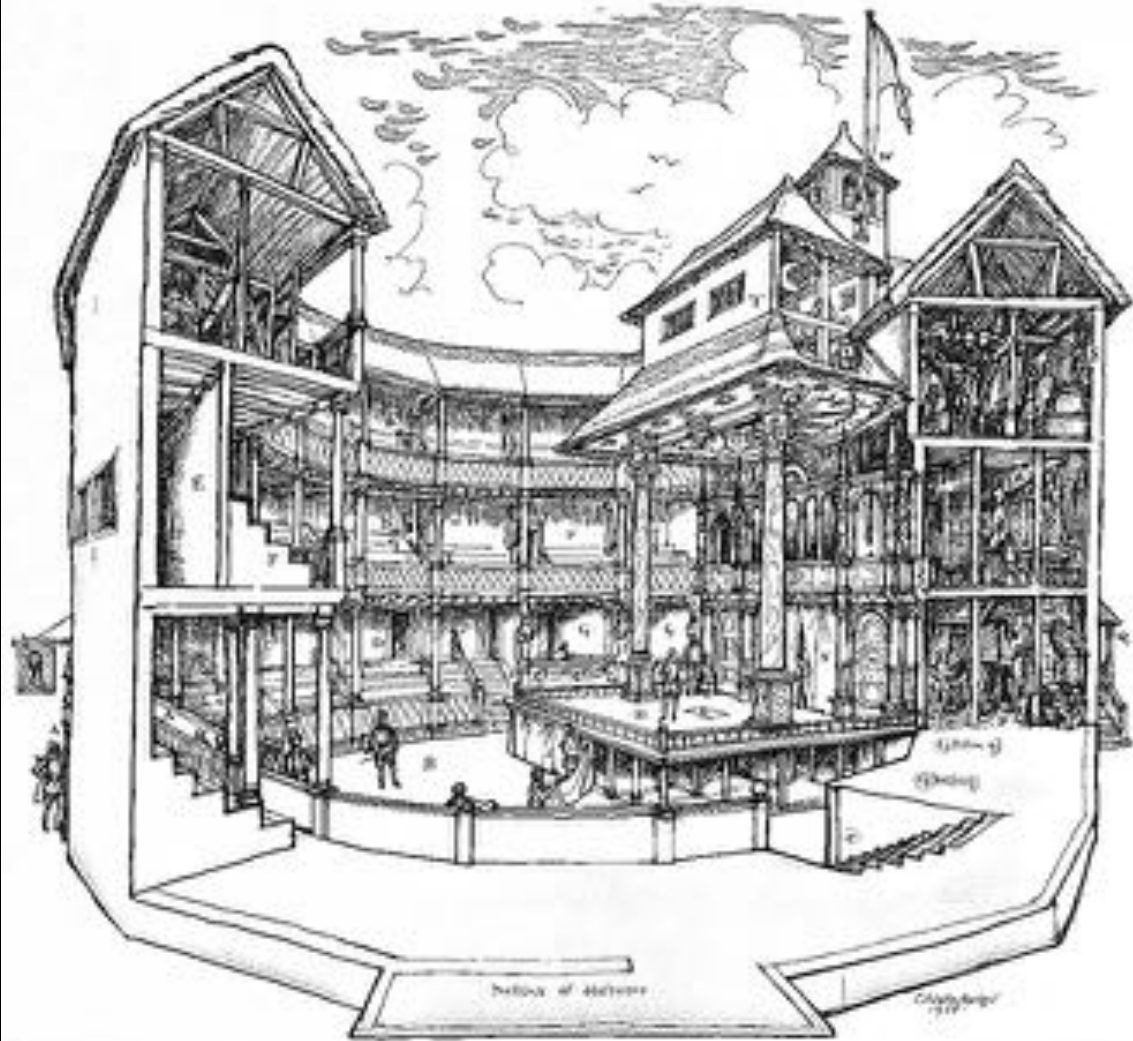
FLAMES REKINDLED

AMAZING GRACE

The Reformation to the Glory of God

Today's Sermon:

Creation: Created the way God wanted it to be.





T H E
Tragicall Historie of
H A M L E T,

Prince of Denmarke.

By William Shakespeare.

Newly imprinted and enlarged to almost as much
again as it was, according to the true and perfect
Coppie.



AT LONDON,

Printed by I. R. for N. L. and are to be sold at his
shoppe vnder Saint Dunstons Church in
Fleetstreet, 1615.

the
Jesus
Storybook



Every story whispers his name

Bible



WRITTEN BY SALLY LLOYD-JONES & ILLUSTRATED BY JAGO



The Story and The Song

Introduction from Psalm 19 and Hebrews 1

The Heavens are singing
About how great God is;
And the skies are shouting it out,
“See what God has made!”
Day after day...Night after night...
They are speaking to us
(Psalm 19:1-2 paraphrase)

God wrote, "I love you" – he wrote it in the sky, and on the earth, and under the sea. He wrote his message everywhere! Because God created everything in his world to reflect him like a mirror – to show us what he is like, to help us know him, to make our hearts sing.

The way a kitten chases her tail. The way red poppies grow wild. The way a dolphin swims. And God put it into words, too, and wrote it in a book called "the Bible."

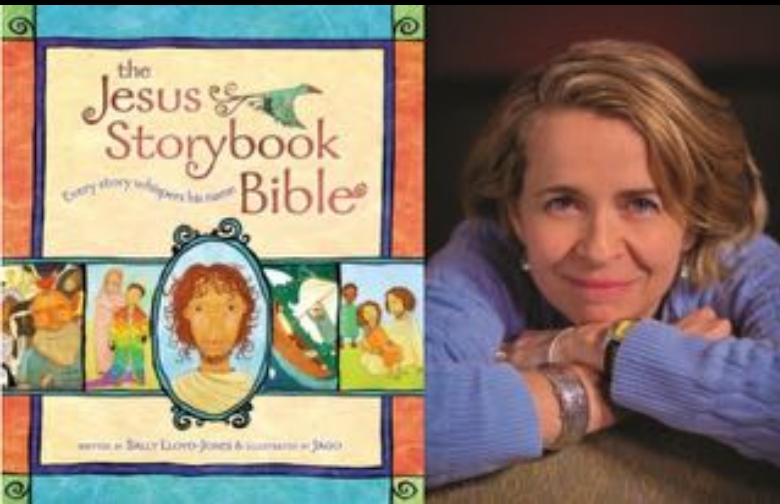
No, the Bible isn't a book of rules, or a book of heroes. The Bible is most of all a Story. It's an adventure story about a young Hero who comes from a far country to win back his lost treasure. It's a love story about a brave Prince who leaves his palace, his throne - everything - to rescue the one he loves. It's like the most wonderful of fairy tales that has come true in real life!

You see, the best thing about this Story is - it's true.

There are lots of stories in the Bible, but all the stories are telling one Big Story. The Story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them.

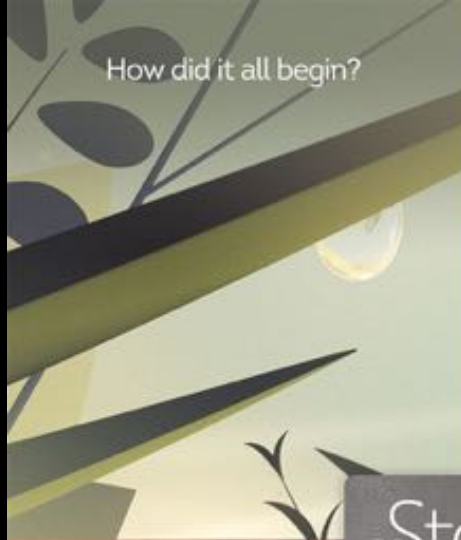
It takes the whole Bible to tell this Story. And at the center of the Story, there is a baby. Every Story in the Bible whispers his name. He is like the missing piece in a puzzle – the piece that makes all the other pieces fit together, and suddenly you can see a beautiful picture.

And this is no ordinary baby. This is the Child upon whom everything would depend. This is the Child who would one day – but wait. Our Story starts where all good stories start. Right at the very beginning...



~Sally Lloyd-Jones, *The Jesus Storybook Bible*

How did it all begin?

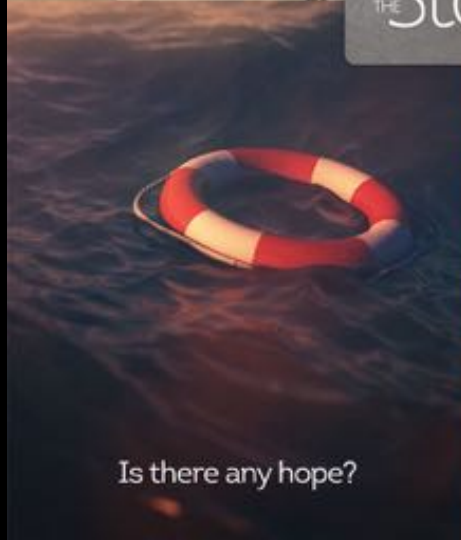


What went wrong?



THE Story

Is there any hope?



What will the future hold?



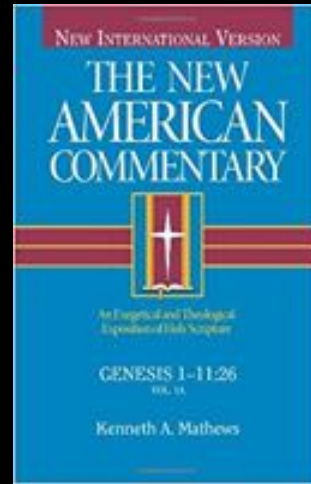
How did it all begin?

Genesis 1:1-2

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Creation's mystery and its Maker beckon us to know the One in whom "we live and move and have our being." The opening section of Genesis introduces us to the Creator. He is the main character of the book, even all Scripture. The creation account is theocentric, not creature centered. Its purpose is to glorify the Creator by magnifying him through the majesty of (what was created).

Mathews, K. A. (1996). (Vol. 1A, p. 113). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.



Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:26-31

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

²⁹ Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

Genesis 1:26-31

³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.”

And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God Created ALL PEOPLE in His Image

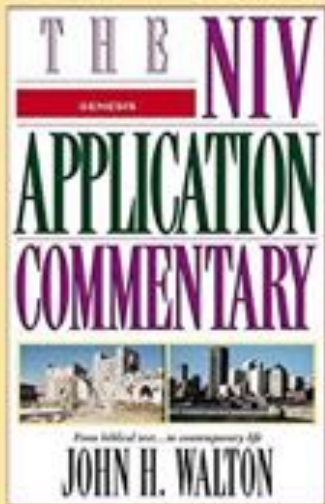
Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God Created all people IN HIS IMAGE

The Image of God is an important theological concept both in Old and New Testaments, with roots that extend back into ancient Near Eastern thought. In the ancient world an image was believed in some ways to carry the essence of that which it represented.



~John H. Walton, *The NIV Application Commentary: Genesis*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001), 130.



Exodus 20:4

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

All of what God created was Very Good!

Genesis 1:26-31

³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.”

And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

Harmony

Harmony
Between God and Man

Genesis 3:4

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day,

Harmony
Between Man and Nature

Genesis 2:4

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.



Harmony
Between Man and Man

Genesis 2:23-25

²³...“This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called ‘woman,’
for she was taken out of man.”

²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother
and is united to his wife, and they become one
flesh.

²⁵ Adam and his wife were both naked, and they
felt no shame.

So then what went wrong?

Harmony Broken

Genesis 3:8-13

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

Genesis 3:8-13

¹¹ And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹² The man said, “The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Genesis 3:8-13

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Harmony Broken
God and Man

Genesis 3:8-13

²³ So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴ After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Harmony Broken
Man and Nature



Genesis 3:17-19

“Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat food from it
all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

Genesis 3:17-19

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return.”

Harmony Broken
Man and Man



Genesis 3:16

¹⁶ To the woman he said,

“I will make your pains in childbearing very
severe;

with painful labor you will give birth to children.

Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you.”

Can anything be done to fix it?

Can anything be done to fix it?

Jesus is the hope of the World!

What does the future hold?

Revelation 21:1-5

¹ Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”^m for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them.

Revelation 21:1-5

They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ ^u or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!”

Gospel Application:

*Do you believe YOU have been created in the image of
God?*

Gospel Application:

Do you believe YOU have been created in the image of God?

Do you believe ALL PEOPLE have been created in God's image?

Gospel Application:

Do you believe YOU have been created in the image of God?

Do you believe ALL PEOPLE have been created in God's image?

Do you believe that Jesus is the hope of the world?