**Genesis 1**

Introduction

I. This series on Genesis 1-3 is a series on a Christian worldview

II. What is a worldview?

A. In basic terms it’s our view of the world that answers the big questions of life and puts the pieces of life into a coherent whole

 B. It is our mental map of the world (like a Thomas Guide)

 C. It is the glasses/lenses we wear that help make sense of the world

1. Our worldview often goes unnoticed by us because we filter everything through it

2. Two people can look at the same experience or information and arrive at totally different conclusions because they filter that through their worldview lens

III. Genesis 1-3 gives us all the fundamentals of a Christian worldview

The Passage

I. The foundation of the Christian worldview is the belief in God as Creator of everything

II. What kind of a creator is God based on what we see in Genesis 1?

A. An all-powerful creator

 1. He simply speaks the world into existence (v. 3, 6, 9, etc.)

2. This is staggering when you consider the findings of modern science about the size of the universe

3. This is also interesting when you consider other ancient creation accounts. Many of those accounts depict the creation being the result of some cosmic battle/struggle between gods.

 4. In Genesis 1, there is no battle or struggle because God is all-powerful.

5. Some modern worldviews hold to a dualistic view of the universe (= good and evil are equal and opposite powers), but the Bible does not

B. A creative creator

 1. Notice the way he creates: like an artist/painter

 a. In Days 1, 2, 3 he creates the canvas/backdrop/background

b. In Days 4, 5, 6 he puts characters in each of those backgrounds (day 1 and 4 go together, day 2 and 5 go together, and day 3 and 6 go together)

c, Just like an artist/painter

2. Notice the diversity of what he creates (v. 11, 20-21, 24)

 There’s such diversity and variety and creativity to what he creates

C. A good creator

 1. “And God saw that it was good” (v. 4, etc.)

God is like an artist who creates good things and then steps back to enjoy and celebrate what he’s created

 2. God “Blessed” them (v. 22, 28)

The first word’s on God’s lips are words of blessing and life, and the whole tenor of this chapter is one of joy and fullness

3. Clearly, God did not create out of a lack or sense of need in himself (consider the Trinity) but out of the fullness of his life and joy.

III. What should our response be to this creator God?

A. Humility

1. The humility of the creature before the creator.

-We should be in awe of the infinite gap between us and the creator.

-Ps 8: What is man that you are mindful of him?

 2. Humility in the moral realm

 -As the creator, God has every right to dictate to us how we should live

-When it comes to specific issues, our starting point should not be, “what do I think of this?” but rather “God, what have you said about this?”

B. Gratitude

 1. The gratitude of the creature before the creator for creating such a wonderful creation

-G.K. Chesterton, “the worst moment for an atheist is when he is really thankful and has no one to thank.”

2. Gratitude in the moral realm

-Not only should we obey God, but we want to obey God. His good design and his good laws will lead to human blessing and flourishing

-Psalm 19: the psalmist finds great delight and joy in God’s commands

-Sin isn’t just bad, it’s dumb

**Discussion Questions**

1. This series is a series on a Christian worldview. Consider the two metaphors for a worldview given on Sunday: 1) a mental map and 2) a pair of glasses. What strikes you as you consider your own worldview in terms of those metaphors?

2. On Sunday we considered God as a Creator who is all-powerful, creative, and good. Of those three qualities which stood out most to you personally and why? How did the passage increase your appreciation for who God is?

3. On Sunday the question was posed: Why did God create at all? What did you think of the answer given to that question, and how would you answer that question?

4. Sunday’s message concluded with a call to humility and gratitude in light of who the creator is. Does the world experience us Christians as some of the most humble and grateful people around? If so, in what ways do they experience that, and if not, where is the disconnect?