

Origins - 4

Creation, a Biblical Theme

Memory Verse **Hand Out Scriptures to read**

Revelation 14:6–7 (NKJV) *Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—⁷ saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”*

2 Corinthians 4:5–6 (NKJV)⁵ *For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake.⁶ For it is the **God who commanded light to shine out of darkness**, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. **Same Creative Power***

***Psalm 11:3** (NKJV)³ *If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?*

Creation In Genesis 2

Genesis 2:4 (NKJV) *This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, Chapter 1 is overview, now more details.*

The foundational statement that introduces scripture is creation.

Water, Plants, Gardner

Genesis 2:5–6 *before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.*

Genesis 2:7 (NKJV) *And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. **Two Eves? Legend of Lilith***

***Genesis 2:18** (NKJV) *And the Lord God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”*

Matthew 19:4–6 (NKJV) *And He answered and said to them, “**Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’⁵ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’ ?⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.**”*

Creation In The Psalms

Psalm 8:3–8 (NKJV)³ *When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,⁴ What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him?⁵ For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.⁶ You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,⁷ All sheep and oxen— Even the beasts of the field,⁸ The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas.*

Psalm 33:8–9 (NKJV)⁸ *Let all the earth fear the Lord; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.⁹ For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.*

***Psalm 139:13–14** (NKJV) *For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.¹⁴ I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.*

Psalm 148:5–6 (NKJV)⁵ *Let them praise the name of the Lord, For He commanded and they were created.⁶ He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.*

Creation In The Book Of Job

Job examines the big questions of why God blesses even the wicked and why bad things sometimes happen to good people.

***Job 2:13** *So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great.*

Job 38:4–31 (NKJV)⁴ *“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.⁵ Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?*

Job Repents For Limited Knowledge

Job 42:1–6 (NKJV) *Then Job answered the Lord and said:² “I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.³ You asked, ‘Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?’ Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.⁴ Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, ‘I will question you, and you shall answer Me.’⁵ “I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.⁶ Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes.”*

Creation In The Prophets

Jeremiah 51:15–16 (NKJV) *He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, And stretched out the heaven by His understanding.* ¹⁶ *When He utters His voice— There is a multitude of waters in the heavens: “He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightnings for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasuries.”*

***Jonah 1:9** (NKJV) *So he said to them, “I am a Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.”*

Zechariah 12:1 (NKJV) *The burden of the word of the Lord against Israel. Thus says the Lord, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him:*

Isaiah 45:12 (NKJV) ¹² *I have made the earth, And created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded.*

***Isaiah 45:18** (NKJV) ¹⁸ *For thus says the Lord, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: “I am the Lord, and there is no other.*

Creation In The New Testament

Hebrews 4:3–5 *“... although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”; ⁵ and again in this place: “They shall not enter My rest.”*

Paul Addressing the Areopagus

Acts 17:22–31 (NKJV) *Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ²³ for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription:*

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: ²⁴ God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵ Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. ²⁶ And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, ²⁷ so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

²⁸ *for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’ ²⁹ Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising. ³⁰ Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”*

Like a vegetarian going to burger king saying there is no meat here.

In case you haven't heard the news, there is a new edition of the King James Bible that rewrites eight key verses that speak against homosexual practice. It's called the Queen James Bible (I kid you not), and the editors state that, "We edited those eight verses in a way that makes homophobic interpretations impossible."

Yes, you can now practice homosexuality and read your Bible without feeling condemned, although you still have to deal with the hundreds of verses affirming only heterosexual marriage and family (including one of the Ten Commandments that says, "Honor your father and mother" rather than, "Honor your father and father").

And then there are the thousands of verses that assume the importance of male-female gender distinctions, beginning with the first chapter of the Bible, which states, "God created man in His own image ... male and female He created them"(Gen. 1:27). But why quibble?

On the genuinely positive side, it is good see a hunger for the Scriptures in the LGBT community, and the editors boast that the Queen James Bible (QJB) "is the perfect Bible for ceremony, study, sermon, gift-giving or simply to put on display in the home or church."

On the totally negative side, to the extent professing LGBT Christians believe this translation to be accurate, they are deceiving themselves. And that would be tragic.

Take a moment and put yourself in the shoes of a Christian struggling with homosexuality. You want to follow Jesus and obey the Scriptures, but you find yourself attracted to the same sex, through no conscious choice of your own. You pray for God to change you and often cry yourself to sleep, only to wake up the next morning with the same unwanted attractions.

You wonder if God hates you and has singled you out for condemnation: *God, why won't you change me and make me normal?*

You hit rock bottom and are considering suicide when someone tells you that your homosexuality is a gift, that God made you this way, and that preachers are misinterpreting the Bible when they say you can't be a practicing homosexual and a Christian at the same time. Then they hand you your very own copy of the QJB, and voila, all those negative verses are gone.

Can you imagine how tempting it would be to embrace this new "revelation"?

So, Leviticus 18:22 doesn't say, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination" (King James Version). It really says, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with womankind in the temple of Molech: it is an abomination" (QJB; Molech was a pagan idol).

And Paul didn't actually write that "men who practice homosexuality" will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9; ESV). What he really said was that neither "morally weak, nor promiscuous" people will inherit God's kingdom (QJB).

The problem, of course, is that the original Hebrew of Leviticus and the original Greek of 1 Corinthians do not say what the QJB says. Not a chance.

The editors have simply changed the Bible to fit their sexuality, opening up a Pandora's Box of potential mistranslation. It would be like changing "Thou shalt not commit adultery" into "Thou shalt not commit adultery unless you are deeply in love and willing to divorce your spouse to marry your adulterous partner."