



Faith Talk

Trinity Canadian Reformed Church

Worshiping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E

The book of Genesis: The beginning of humankind

By Deanna Smid

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” This is Genesis 1:1, the first words of the Bible. The Bible, and the history of all people, began when God created the world. He created the world good, as Genesis 1: 31 states, “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.” After God created the world, he did not abandon it. Even after the first humans, Adam and Eve, sinned, God did not leave the world in its misery. Already in the third chapter of Genesis, God promised that he would send a man who would crush the devil. That man is the son of God, Jesus Christ, who came to rescue us from our sins. The book of Genesis reveals God’s faithfulness to the people he has chosen to follow him.

God continued to show his love and faithfulness to those he had chosen. He saved Noah and his family from the flood. He made a covenant with Abraham, promising to build him into a great nation. We also share in God’s promises, for God says to Abraham, “and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me” (Genesis 22:18). God has promised to bless us and care for us, and God never breaks his promises.

The book of Genesis is not just full of interesting stories about temptations, floods, and miracles, however. It also contains long lists of names, whole chapters of them. Why did God include these long lists? Why do we need to know who was the father of whom? The list of names is comforting to us. God, the creator of the whole universe, who made nebulae, moons, and mountains, also knows us by name. We are his creation and he knows us thoroughly and personally. We, as his children and heirs, will never be forgotten by him, but through Christ, will one day live with him forever. He has promised this from the beginning, when he first created the heavens and the earth.

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