All Life Is Sacred Series Why The Incarnation Matters: Creation Genesis 1:1, 26-2:3

- I. The Initial Creation Narrative (Genesis 1:1-2:3)
 - A. God created the world and all it contains with value and worth
 - 1. He created with purpose
 - 2. He created with order
 - 3. He created with life as the end goal
 - 4. He created with beauty
 - B. God declared the world and all it contains as "good" at creation
 - 1. The creation itself reflects the character, power, and attributes of God (Romans 1:20)
 - Creation was made for the continued promotion and reflection of both God's glory and God's goodness (Psalm 19:1-6)
 - 3. Though now marred by the Fall, the creation itself reflects glimpses of the goodness of God
- II. The Worth of Humanity (Genesis 2:4-25)
 - A. Humanity was placed as chief above all other created things
 - 1. This is demonstrated in being "image-bearers" (Genesis 1:26-27)
 - 2. This is demonstrated in the divine mandate (Genesis 1:28)
 - 3. This is demonstrated by making humans "living souls" (Genesis 2:7)

- 4. This is demonstrated by the planting and giving of Eden (Genesis 2:8)
- 5. This is demonstrated by giving marriage to humanity (Genesis 2:21-25)
- B. Made in God's Image
 - 1. Reason
 - 2. Creativity
 - 3. Authority & Dominion (Powerful)
 - 4. Priesthood & Prophetic (Caring for a sacred Word, in a sacred space)
 - 5. Community that is intentional in personal self-sacrifice
 - 6. Spiritual in essence
- III. God as Creator: Lessons Learned about Life and the Sacred from Creation Itself
 - A. Everything made was originally done so by God as good it has value in itself because God has declared it valuable
 - B. Since all things have their existence in the power of God, all things are therefore sacred it is our misuse of things that make them defiles or profanes them
 - C. All things, even in the Fall, on some level reflect the glory and goodness of God
 - D. The Incarnation proves to us the worth of the created material world Jesus came in the flesh to redeemed, re-create, and glorify the fallen material world. He came to restore Eden, and the ultimate purpose of what has been made.