

10-MINUTE BIBLE LESSON

Careful Dominion

Genesis 1:24-31

Before watching the video: what do you believe about how the universe began? What did you learn in science classes or in a religious tradition? If you've ever heard about, been taught about, or read Genesis 1, what have you believed or assumed it says or means?

Now read the passage twice. Take your time to notice every sentence and phrase. What stands out to you?

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

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

– ***Genesis 1:24-31***

Think about what "dominion" means in this passage. Compare and contrast it with ways we might tend to think about it or act it out today. What ways of dominion over creation might be more faithful to what God intends? What ways might be less faithful? How might this apply to your own interactions with God's creation?

Conclude in prayer. Thank God for blessings, ask forgiveness for wrongs done, request help for uncertainty. Close with "amen."

