

Who is God (According to Genesis)

The Book of Genesis—the first book of the Bible—tells the story of the creation of the world, the early history of humanity's sins, and focuses on God's relationship with the new Israelites through covenants and promises. God is introduced as the Creator of the universe, the one who brings light into darkness and life into existence. From the very first words of Genesis, God is presented as intentional and connected to His creation. Understanding who is in Genesis helps shape both the biblical view of humanity's place in the world and what an individual's purpose is in life.

According to Genesis, the book explains that God is the first and last Creator of everything. In the opening chapter, God “creates the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1), showing His ultimate authority over all living things. He simply speaks of creation in existence, as He says, “Let there be light,” and “there was light” (Genesis 1:3). In the first six days described in Genesis, God creates an abundance of formations: light, darkness, sky separated with waters, dry land, seas, vegetation, sun moon, stars, birds, sea creatures, land animals, and most importantly, humans. God makes humankind in His own image by saying, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground” (Genesis 1:26). Humans, initially, were created in God's own image, which then He gave instructions to “be fruitful and increase in number” (Genesis 1:28). God gave authority to Adam and Eve, the first human beings on the earth and until they sinned by eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, they were living in one with God. Later, He establishes covenants with His people, especially with Abraham, saying that He will “make [him] into a great nation, and [that He] will bless [Abraham]” (Genesis 12:2). These verses reveal that God is purpose and transcendent—a Creator who is both above creation and involved in it.

Genesis depicts God as a being who values order and relationships. The creation story illustrates a God who wishes to spread love and promote harmony in the world, rather than chaos or violence. When God rested on the seventh day after creating the universe in six days, it demonstrates His appreciation for balance and rhythm in life, as well as a desire for peace and genuine connection with us as sinners. This leads me to understand that God truly wants to show us that life has purpose and is not accidental.

I also think Genesis presents God as someone who gives humans freedom and responsibility. For example, when God places Adam and Eve in the garden, He allows them to make choices, even though their decisions have consequences. This tells me that God is not controlling but allows people to learn, grow, and experience life. From my perspective, this reflects a God who cares more about genuine relationships than forced obedience. It suggests that God values trust and partnership, even though humans sometimes fail.

Genesis describes God as the all-powerful Creator and covenant-maker, but also as a being who values order, relationships, and freedom. While the Bible provides a clear image of God's greatness and purpose, my own understanding of Him emphasizes His desire for peace and genuine connection with humanity. Together, these views show that God is not only the source of life but also the one who gives it meaning.