IN THE BEGINNING ... FREEDOM CITY CHURCH JAN. 7, 2024 PASTOR MATT HUFMAN

[[SLIDE – SCRIPTURE]]

Genesis 1 (NIV)

- ¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
- ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning — the first day.

[[SLIDE – POINT 1]]

The story is about God

[[SLIDE – SCRIPTURE]]

John 1 (NIV)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

[[SLIDE – SCRIPTURE]]

Romans 4:17 (NIV) ... the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

[[SLIDE – POINT 2]] Creation is not a mistake

[[SLIDE – SCRIPTURE]] Romans 1 (NIV) ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

[[SLIDE – POINT 3]]

God created people specially

[[SLIDE – SCRIPTURE]]

Genesis 1 (NIV)

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it — I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

[[SLIDE – SCRIPTURE]]

Ephesians 3 (NIV)

¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.