

By Bessie Wilton

Sunday School Lesson



SEPTEMBER 7, 1986
 SUBJECT: The Prologue
 Scripture: Genesis 1:1, 26-31

INTRODUCTION: Anytime we take just a few moments to think about ourselves and the world in which we live, we must have questions about beginnings—Where is my beginning, what about the whole human race, and the universe?

The Genesis account of creation is not history, nor is it science, nor a myth. It is revelation—a biblical account of creation, given by God to comfort and assure his children who are willing to read and believe.

THE LESSON: "In the beginning, when God created the universe—Then God said, 'And now we will make human beings... they will be like us and resemble us. They will have power over the fish, the birds, and all animals, domestic and wild, large and small. So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female, blessed them, and said 'Have many children, so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control. I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals. I have provided all kinds of grain and all kinds of fruit for you to eat; but for all the wild animals and for all the birds I have provided grass and leafy plants for food' - and it was done. God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased. Evening passed and morning came - that was the sixth day. Genesis 1:1, 26-31.

Genesis establishes certain facts. 1). The physical universe had a beginning. It did not evolve out of preexisting matter. 2). God was the creator of the physical universe. It did not come into being by natural impulse or desire. 3). The physical universe was created by God, One God. This means that there was unity of purpose in the creation which is in marked contrast to some of the pagan creation myths in which gods were involved in the creation.

Modern instruments are just beginning to open the vast expanses of space to our observation. We congratulate ourselves on being able to place a man on the moon, which is 240,000 miles away. We know, however that there are heavenly bodies billions and billions of miles from earth. How can one gaze into the heavens with all its stars and say there is no God?

The Spirit of God and the Son of God were present at the creation and it is clear that man is the product of God's design. To hold the view that man is the product of an unplanned, unintelligent process is to believe that we live in a world of blind chance. To believe this is to believe that we live in a world without any absolute moral standards. Our newspapers are filled with the stories of those who have made the goal of their lives the pursuit of pleasure, sex and drugs. At the end of this road stands despair, evidenced by a rising suicide rate.

The Christian need not fall into the ruts that inevitably lead to despair. Because man is made in the image of God, his destiny is not the grave. God has better things in store for us.

Once God had created human beings, He blessed them and gave them a task; be fruitful and multiply, and subdue the earth. Human beings were not handed the world on a silver platter with no responsibilities. The wealth of this globe was put at our disposal. We had to seek this wealth and learn how to use it. God had coal and oil hundreds of feet below the surface of the earth. There it awaited the day when people would find it and use it. Vast fertile land lay for centuries awaiting the time when the human family would need to cultivate this land for food.

We, as Christians, still have the obligation to subdue the earth. We have the responsibility to use our natural resources carefully.

The Christian believes in divine creation because he believes the Bible as the word of God, clearly as an act of faith. If physical universe and man came into existence as the result of blind chance, then clearly there is no purpose in the universe. Without purpose, there can be no logical basis for morality. Man may devise rules for his own protection, but if there is no God behind the rules to give them authority, then man may break them whenever he feels it convenient to do so, or when he thinks he can get away with it. If we believe that God created the universe with moral laws as well as physical laws to govern it, then our approach to life will be dramatically different. We will feel constrained to learn God's moral laws, and learning them, we will seek to obey them.

The first commission that God gave to the human race was to replenish or fill the earth and subdue it. Man has vigorously carried out this command more than any other that God has given. Today four and one-half billion persons crowd our globe and consume its shrinking resources.

As Christians we ought to see this growing population as a challenging mission field that needs the gospel. To meet this challenge will require a vastly increased commitment of our resources and a willingness to send our sons and daughters out to these distant lands as soldiers of the cross.

"What a glorious world the mighty God has given us. How thankless and ungrateful we are, and how we labor to mar His gifts". (Robert E. Lee).

50,000 Americans Suffer From Sickle Cell Anemia

By Russell Clark
 Post Staff Writer

According to medical experts, 50,000 Americans suffer from sickle cell anemia. About 1 out of 10 blacks in the United States has the Sickle Cell Trait. Since the odds are that you or someone you love will encounter the disease sooner or later, here's what you can do to fight against it.

Spread The Word about Sickle Cell and how it's inherited and treated. Be Tested for the trait and make sure your loved ones are tested. Know where to get help if needed. Potential parents with the trait may want counselling, support research and education to solve the sickle problem.

Governor James G. Martin has proclaimed September as Sickle Cell Month in North Carolina. During this observance, special efforts will be made to make the public more aware of this disease, its symptoms and what is being done to detect and treat it.

In his proclamation the Governor stated that "Sickle Cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that causes greatest suffering and economic strain, especially to black Americans and their families. Blood cells affected by the disease assume a sickle shape, causing lifelong anemia and debilitation. Complications may include pain, infections, and chronic disability."

Dr. Ann Wolfe, who supervises the Clinical Management Unit for DHR's Division of Health Services, noted that Sickle Cell Disease causes the red blood cells to change from their normal disc shape to one that resembles a farmer's sickle. When

Antioch Baptist

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 On Sunday, September 7, at 4 p.m., Antioch Baptist Church will hold Dedication Services for its new multi-purpose building. Immediately following the Dedication Service the building will be opened to visitors and members may tour the facility.

Dr. Lloyd B. Morris, pastor of Grier Heights Presbyterian will deliver the Dedication Sermon. He will be accompanied by his choir and congregation. The Grier Heights Presbyterian Church Choirs will render songs for the occasion.

Antioch's new expansion building will house a commercial kitchen, a dining area (that is convertible to classroom space), the pastor's office, church offices, library, conference room, choir rooms, lounges and other facilities.

Refreshments will be served following the services this Sunday. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The church is located at 232 Skyland Avenue. Rev. Preston Pendergrass is pastor.



Peggy Beckwith
 ...ASCD director

this occurs within small blood vessels, the sickled cells form "log jams" which lead to partial or complete blockage of the blood supply to the body.

According to Dr. Wolfe, there is no known cure for Sickle Cell, but treatment and counselling can help its victims live more productive lives. People who have the disease are more likely to develop other complications such as heart problems, kidney disease and other blood-related disorders. In 1985, 17 North Carolinians died as a result of Sickle Cell Disease while in 1984 there were 9 sickle cell victims.

Dr. Wolfe said that while many individuals do not actually have the disease, one out of every 10 non-white persons carry the sickle cell trait.

The origin of sickle cell is not known, but it is likely developed in Africa thousands of years ago. The trait probably helped protect people against malaria according to a recent sickle cell publication.

George Cherry, Manager of the Sickle Cell Syndrome Program in the N.C. Department of Human Resources' Division of Health Services, said that the state provides a wide range of services to prevent and treat Sickle Cell Disease, to reduce sickness and death, and to help patients and their families lead more productive lives.

Since the Sickle Cell Syndrome was started in 1973, nearly 550,000 people have been screened for the Sickle Cell Disease and trait. About 45,000 were tested in fiscal year 1985-86 alone. Almost 4,800 were found to have the trait, and 191 were diagnosed as having Sickle Cell Disease.

The Division of Health Services (DHS) funds four community Sickle Cell Centers in Charlotte, Fayetteville, Greensboro, and Jacksonville. Here in Charlotte, ASCD is located at 951 South Independence Blvd., Suite 320. The Center is action-oriented under the supervision of Peggy Beckwith, Executive Director.

The Charlotte Sickle Cell Program will sponsor special events all month. So come out and show your support to fight against this life-threatening disease.

FOOTBALL KICK-OFF 1986

See Section B

CPCC West Area Fall Quarter Classes

Typing I & II - Advance to a well-paying job. Harding High, Double Oaks, or West Charlotte.

Flower Arranging - Accent your home, office, or church. Learn to make floral arrangements, door wreaths, and corsages using artificial and dry materials. Harding, West Charlotte, or Double Oaks.

Microwave Cookery - Learn how microwave ovens differ, safe utensils and materials to use, special cooking techniques, how to reheat food, complete a meal, and bake a pie or cake. Harding High.

High School Completion - You can finish high school in the day at Double Oaks or in the evening at Harding and West Charlotte.

Plus much more. Call 342-6658 to receive a complete listing of fall classes in the West Area.

Register: September 3, 4, 8-11, 24, 25 9a.m. to 2 p.m., 5-8 p.m. Fall quarter begins Oct. 1



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New Pricing-Programs:

86-87

The University Park Baptist Church Playschool announces the sponsorship of the Child Care Food Program. Meals will be available at no separate charge to enrolled children at the center listed below and will be provided without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

University Park Baptist Church Day Care

2400 Keller Avenue
 Charlotte, NC
 392-1681

Rev. James E. Palmer, Pastor

CHILD CARE GOOD PROGRAM
 INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS
 (effective July 1, 1986 through June 30, 1987)

These are the income standards to be used by Child Care Food Program sponsors to determine program eligibility.

FAMILY SIZE	MONTHLY		WEEKLY		YEARLY	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$ 581	827	134	191	6,968	9,916
2	785	1,117	181	258	9,412	13,394
3	988	1,406	228	325	11,856	16,872
4	1,192	1,696	275	392	14,300	20,350
5	1,396	1,986	322	459	16,744	23,828
6	1,599	2,276	369	426	19,188	27,306
7	1,803	2,566	416	592	21,632	30,784
8	2,007	2,856	463	659	24,076	34,262
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBER ADD:	+204	+290	+47	+67	+2,444	+3,478

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Hours: Monday - Friday - 7a.m.-5:30 P.M.

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