**The importance of understanding that which is revealed in these opening verses *cannot be overemphasized*, for man, a *subsequent* creation of God, also fell into a ruined state *because* of Satan’s actions (**[**Genesis 1:26-28**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.26-28&t=NKJV)**;** [**3:1ff**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+3.1ff&t=NKJV)**). And if ruined man was to be restored (as the ruined material creation had previously been restored), it would have to be accomplished *exactly in accordance with the previously established pattern*.**

**Eternal Salvation***As Seen in the Earth’s Restoration*

**By Arlen L. Chitwood of** [**Lamp Broadcast**](http://lampbroadcast.org/)

The Bible is a book of redemption; and basic, *unchangeable* teachings surrounding redemption are set forth at the very beginning of Scripture.

In the opening verses of Genesis God sets forth the *unchangeable* manner in which He, in His infinite wisdom and knowledge, restores a ruined creation. There is *a restorative work* which follows *a* *specific pattern*, and the matter is accomplished *entirely* through *Divine intervention*.

And within this pattern set forth and established in a perfect God-ordained fashion at the very beginning, God reveals how *any* subsequent ruined creation would, *of necessity*, have to be restored. It would have to be restored *in complete accord with the established pattern*. In this respect, it would have to be restored after *a certain order*, and it would have to be restored *entirely* through *Divine intervention*.

Thus, to establish *correct* thinking relative to the fundamentals of salvation (restoration), as previously stated, one *must begin where God began* — in the opening verses of [Genesis 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1&t=NKJV).

In these opening verses, God begins by revealing His creation of the heavens and the earth ([Genesis 1:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.1&t=NKJV)). Then, immediately following this, in the first part of the second verse ([Genesis 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2&t=NKJV)), God reveals that the earth *became* a ruin (which, as subsequent Scripture reveals, could *only* have resulted from God’s actions *following* Satan seeking a higher regal position than the one which he held [the God-appointed ruler over the earth ([Isaiah 14:12-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+14.12-17&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 28:14-16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+28.14-16&t=NKJV))] and be “like the most High” [be like the Ruler over the entire universe, like God Himself ([Psalm 103:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+103.19&t=NKJV))]).

Then, immediately following the statement in [Genesis 1:2a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2a&t=NKJV) concerning the ruin of the material creation, God reveals the *means* which He used to restore this ruined creation ([Genesis 1:2b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2b&t=NKJV) ff) — *a restoration accomplished entirely through Divine intervention*.

The importance of understanding that which is revealed in these opening verses *cannot be overemphasized*, for man, a *subsequent* creation of God, also fell into a ruined state *because* of Satan’s actions ([Genesis 1:26-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.26-28&t=NKJV); [3:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+3.1ff&t=NKJV)). And if ruined man was to be restored (as the ruined material creation had previously been restored), it would have to be accomplished *exactly in accordance with the previously established pattern*.

It would have to be accomplished *exactly in accordance* with the method which God revealed at the beginning of His Word concerning *how* He restores a ruined creation.

This is the *first* of numerous unchangeable ways in which God has revealed Himself, His plans, and His purposes to man in His Word.

Once God establishes a pattern, *no change can ever occur*. And He has forever established, once for all, at the very beginning of His Word, *exactly* how He goes about restoring a ruined creation.

[Genesis 1:2-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2-3&t=NKJV) [2b] records *the initial act* of the triune Godhead in bringing about the restoration of the ruined material creation — an act in which the *Father*, the *Son*, and the *Holy Spirit* each participated.

In this foundational pattern, forming a *type*, *the Spirit of God moved, God spoke, and light came into existence* (note that *nothing* can come into existence *apart* from the Son, Who is “the light of the world” [[John 1:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+1.3&t=NKJV), [9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+1.9&t=NKJV); [9:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+9.5&t=NKJV)]).

And in the *antitype*, within the framework of man’s salvation experience, the matter is *identical*. Salvation can occur *only* through a work of the triune Godhead, and this Divine work *follows* an established pattern.

Thus, there is an *initial past work* of the triune Godhead which foreshadows an *initial present work* of the triune Godhead:

In *God’s* *initial past work* of restoring the ruined material creation in [Genesis 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1&t=NKJV), *the Spirit of God moved, God spoke, and light came into existence*.

In *God’s* *initial present work* of restoring ruined man, *the Spirit of God moves, God speaks, and light comes into existence*.

*This is the manner in which God began/begins His unchangeable, restorative work.*

And, relative to God’s present restorative work, *foreshadowed* by the foundational pattern surrounding His restorative work on day one in the *type*, *everything* within the outworking of that revealed in this pattern is based on *one thing* — *the Son’s finished work at Calvary almost 2,000 years ago* (progressively *opened up* and *brought to light* in subsequent types).

(Note that God’s initial restorative work, seen on day one in the Genesis account, is the *only part* of His six-day restorative work which has to do with salvation by *grace*. There had to be *an initial work*, *producing* light shining out of darkness, *before* God could *continue* His restorative work.

And *exactly* the same thing is true concerning ruined man today. Ruined man has to *initially* be made alive *spiritually* — pass “from death unto life,” *light* has “to shine out of darkness” [[John 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+1.5&t=NKJV); [2 Corinthians 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Corinthians+4.6&t=NKJV)] — *before* God can continue a restorative work.

Man today [*saved* man] has a *redeemed* spirit *dwelling alongside* an *unredeemed* soul, with *both* housed in an *unredeemed* body. That foreshadowed by God’s work on day one in the Genesis account *had to do* with man’s *spirit*, and that foreshadowed by His work on days two through six *had to do* with man’s *soul*, with the body *to be* redeemed *at the end* of that foreshadowed by God’s work *throughout the entire six days*.)

When the Son cried out from the Cross, “It is finished” ([John 19:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+19.30&t=NKJV); *cf.* [Luke 23:46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+23.46&t=NKJV)), He (the living Word) meant *exactly* that; and when God’s Word reveals that we have a salvation of Divine origin, based *entirely* on the Son’s finished work, this Word also means *exactly* what it states.

When man sinned in the garden, he died *spiritually*; and when unregenerate man, “dead in trespasses and sins” ([Ephesians 2:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+2.1&t=NKJV)), is made alive today, he is made alive *spiritually*. The movement of the Spirit ([Genesis 1:2b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2b&t=NKJV)) and God speaking ([Genesis 1:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.3&t=NKJV)) in order to restore the ruined creation are *simultaneous* events. It is the Spirit using the Word — the written Word and the Word which became flesh (*cf.* [John 1:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+1.1-3&t=NKJV), [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+1.14&t=NKJV)) — to *effectually* perform a supernatural work in *unredeemed* man.

It is at this point — through the inbreathing of God — that *life* is imparted to that which *previously* had no life. It is at this point that God breathes into lifeless man (the Spirit imparting life, in accordance with the God-breathed Word, based on Christ’s finished work), and man is “quickened [‘made alive’]” ([Ephesians 2:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+2.1&t=NKJV); *cf.* [Genesis 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+2.7&t=NKJV); [2 Timothy 3:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Timothy+3.16&t=NKJV)).

At this point, light *shines* “out of darkness” ([2 Corinthians 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Corinthians+4.6&t=NKJV)), a *division* is made between the light and the darkness ([Genesis 1:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.4&t=NKJV)), and the darkness *has no* apprehension or comprehension of *that* which is light ([John 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+1.5&t=NKJV); *cf*. [1 Corinthians 2:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+2.14&t=NKJV)).

The “spirit” of unsaved man, associated with “darkness,” is *dead*. It is a part of the totally depraved man, with his “body of… death,” in which there dwells “no good thing” ([Romans 7:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+7.18&t=NKJV), [24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+7.24&t=NKJV)). But, with the movement of the Spirit — breathing life into unsaved, lifeless man — man’s *spirit* is made *alive* and, at the *same time*, *separated* from his *soul* ([Hebrews 4:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+4.12&t=NKJV)).

The “soul” remains *within* the sphere of *darkness*, which is *why* “the natural [Gk., *psuchikos*, ‘soulical’] man” *cannot* understand “the things of the Spirit of God” ([1 Corinthians 2:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+2.14&t=NKJV)).

*That* which remains in the sphere of darkness can have *no* apprehension or comprehension of *that* which has shined out of darkness. There is a God-established division *between* the two which *cannot* be crossed over (*cf*. [Luke 16:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+16.26&t=NKJV)).

Thus, the unchangeable method which God *uses* and the pattern which He *follows* to restore a ruined creation have *forever* been set forth at the beginning of His Word, *through* the account of God’s restoration of the ruined material creation.

Then, in [Genesis 3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+3&t=NKJV), God’s new creation, *man*, finds himself in a ruined state. But he *is not* to be left in this state, for man, at this point, *becomes* the object of a new Divine restorative work.

And this work, as seen in the latter part of chapter three and subsequent types, follows that which had *already* *been set forth* in an unchangeable fashion in [Genesis 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1&t=NKJV).

*“What must I do to be saved? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved”* ([Acts 16:30-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+16.30-31&t=NKJV)).

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[Eternal Salvation As Seen in the Earth's Restoration by Arlen Chitwood](http://lampbroadcast.org/plets/ppdf5/Sal1.pdf)

The following Word Document is SAFE to open and print: [Salvation, Eternal, As Seen in the Earth’s Restoration by Arlen L. Chitwood.docx](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/resources/Salvation%2C%20Eternal%2C%20As%20Seen%20in%20the%20Earth%E2%80%99s%20Restoration%20by%20Arlen%20L.%20Chitwood.docx)

(See all of [Arlen Chitwood's Salvation Tracts](http://lampbroadcast.org/SalvationT.html) / pamphlets.)