

1. The creation of a perfect environment

- a) Genesis 1:1-5, 6-8, 9-13, 14-19, 20-23, 24-25, 31 What theme do you hear repeated through this inspired account of creation?
- b) Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7, 23-25 What was unique about the creation of the human family?
- c) Intelligent people present a completely different account of the origin of life on this planet. What presuppositions lead them to their conclusions?
- d) If an eternal, omnipotent God exists, what hinders Him from creating an inhabited planet like the one described in Genesis 1?
- e) The theme of God's creative activity is repeated throughout the Bible. Give some examples.

2. The provision of a day of rest

- a) Genesis 2:1-3 How does this inspired account describe the gift of the Sabbath?
- b) There is no mention in this text that the human family should also rest on that day. Where do we find a command to rest each Sabbath day? Exodus 20:8-11
- c) Why is keeping the Sabbath holy given as a command and not simply a recommendation?
- d) What specific sequence of miracles clearly identified the Sabbath each week? Why? Exodus 16:14-31
- e) What additional meaning regarding the Sabbath is given in Deuteronomy 5:12-15?

- f) What teaching of Jesus confirms that the Sabbath wasn't simply for the Jews but for the entire human family? Mark 2:27
- g) Why did Jesus speak with such authority about the purpose of the Sabbath? John 1:1-3,14, Mark 2:28

3. Keeping the Sabbath holy

- a) What did our Creator have in mind when He commanded the human family to keep the Sabbath holy?
- b) What inspired texts help us to understand God's intention regarding Sabbath observance? Psalm 92:1-4 (a song for the Sabbath day), Matthew 12:10-12, Leviticus 19:3, etc.
- c) Share some admonitions in the Scriptures to gather for corporate worship each Sabbath, in addition to our personal communion time with the LORD. Leviticus 23:3, Luke 4:16, Hebrews 10:25, etc.
- d) Isaiah 58:13-14 How can we help our family and friends to experience the gift of the Sabbath as a delight?
- e) Share your testimony of a delightful Sabbath. Why was that time so special for you?

