



A Throne in the Earth

God's Design for a Creative Revolution

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*Dedicated to all those who knew that creating a place for God was
bigger than their personal destiny.*

Contents

Chapter One	1
Chapter 1	2

Chapter One

Chapter 1

Before the beginning, there was God. Well, actually, there *is* God. Because God dwells outside of time, there is a reality before the beginning, and the reality is always now. Eternity is not a lot of time, it is outside of time.

Before the beginning there is God.

In other words, before the book of Genesis, there is God. Genesis begins the story of this space and time reality. But there was a reality before the beginning. For our story, and for us to understand why artists have an important job to do, we have to get the perspective of heaven. Heaven existed before this created reality.

Although it is true that this universe, and our planet earth, were created out of nothing, it is also true that there was something before this world. For that matter, there was something before us.

There was something before this created world and that something was God; and God's world. We do not know much about that world in terms of a clear cut description, but we do know some things. We know that God is always in an unbroken harmonious relationship within the Godhead—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We know that this relationship is ultimately love—God is love.

We also know that there are other beings who are in that world, and it has some history before our world was created. We have little hints in scripture about angels, fallen beings who were angels, and a realm beyond ours filled with fantastic creatures. This history, and those beings, all came long before this created order. Or rather, outside this order, because this order is outside of time. All of this was before our beginning.

In the heart of God there was a desire to have a relationship with a creature that would be like God. God wanted someone outside the

Godhead, the Trinity, to love. And this desire to love and be loved is the preface to our story. The desire to love and be loved is where the Bible begins: In the beginning.

In the beginning of this story, God needed to create a place where these godlike beings could live. They needed a safe habitat where they could love and be loved, just like God. God knew that these new creatures would need things that the atmosphere of God could not provide. They would need a physical environment that they could explore and exercise influence over. They would need air, water, light, and food. They would need points of reference, time and space. They would need gravity, and they would need protection. All of these things would mirror the realm where God lived.

They would need external things to provide order and balance, so God created “interstellar space, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.”

All of these ideas were first suggested by Rabbi David Fohrman of the AlephBeta Academy. Rabbi Fohrman points out that this earth, this atmosphere, is like the womb. It is created to be a safe, perfect environment for the growth and development of a child. In the same way, this earth was a perfect environment for humanity.

Then after all the other pieces of this environment were in place, God created a man and a woman and them this command: “Be fruitful and multiply.” They were to be like God, and become creators too. “Make little versions of yourselves that you can love, and that I can in turn also love.” And God saw this all, and God said it was very good. God knew it was very good because there would be more and more little creators who would share His infinite love.

Hebrew has a name for “little Creator”: *b’tzelem Elohim*. In latin this term would get translated, *Imago Dei*. The little creators are the image of God. So from the beginning, the plan for this earth was to create little volitional beings (people who could freely make their own decisions, choices, and judgement calls) who would freely

love God. These *B'tzelem Elohim* beings were the center of this new world, just like a new baby is the center of a young couple's world. God intended these beings to be like him, and to rejoice in a world that was all about them—they would be the center, so that they in turn could focus their attention and love on God. It is no mistake that before the enlightenment the earth was considered the center of the universe. From God's perspective, and the perspective of the Bible, the earth is the center of the universe, because human beings are the center of His creation. After He created humankind, God looked at them and said, "Ahh, very good, indeed."

And then God rested.

Of course there was this history before the beginning. It would not take long before that history would impact this new world. We know that the story quickly gets badly interrupted. This new atmosphere of safety becomes an atmosphere polluted with death. It becomes a place where God and man no longer walk in the cool of the day together. It becomes a world where man is no longer a little creator, but a destroyer of his environment. That original call to create becomes a discreative call to make idols that elevate false gods, broken sexuality, and death. Saddest of all, it becomes a place where the good, loving Creator becomes misunderstood, mistrusted, and unwelcome.

In this special place created by God, there was no place for God.

God could have taken this place back by force, made the man and woman submit to his authority and ruled it with an iron fist. But, ultimately, God wanted this man and woman, and their children, to love Him. Because of this, God submitted to the rules of this new world, and began a strategy to retake this renegade creation.

In the next chapter we will look at the next part of the story. It is the story of one family, and how they will begin to repair the earth.