



A BETTER WORD

FROM OLD TO NEW TO YOU

8 Themes That Run Through the Whole Bible | with Pastor Nick Gatzke

Creation and Re-Creation

Genesis 1:1–2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:19–23; Revelation 21:1–5

THE BIG IDEA

The God who created the world out of nothing is the same God who recreates you in Christ — and one day he will make all things new.

SERMON SUMMARY

The story of the Bible begins with God creating and ends with God recreating. In Genesis 1 and 2, God speaks the world into existence out of nothing — purposefully, beautifully, for his glory. But when sin entered through Adam and Eve, creation was marred. The flood was God’s first act of cleansing and recreation; the covenant with Abraham was God recreating a person and forming a people. The entire Old Testament follows this cycle: sin mars, God judges, God recreates. His patience through that cycle is not weakness — it is the faithfulness of a Creator who refuses to abandon what he has made.

In Jesus, God’s work of recreation reaches its ultimate expression. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul declares: “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” You groan because you know you are not yet who you should be — and God looks at that groaning and says, I will reconcile you to myself. Creation itself also groans (Romans 8:19–23), awaiting its own renewal. God’s final answer is a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21), where every tear is wiped away and God dwells with his people forever. You need to be recreated to enjoy it — and in Jesus, you can be.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. God created the world *ex nihilo* — out of nothing — by the power of his word. What does this reveal about his power and sovereignty? Colossians 1:16–17 says all things were created “through him and for him” and “in him all things hold together.” What purpose does this give to creation?
2. The flood in Genesis 6–9 follows a pattern: sin mars creation, God judges and cleanses, then recommissions Noah with the same language used for Adam and Eve. What does this recurring pattern of judgment → cleansing → recreation reveal about God’s character? Have you seen a version of this cycle in your own spiritual life?
3. Romans 8:19–23 describes not only humans but all of creation “groaning” as it waits for redemption. What does it mean for the creation itself to long for renewal? How does this expand your understanding of what salvation ultimately involves?
4. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation — the old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” What does it mean practically to live as a new creation? In what area of your life do you most need to believe this is actually true?
5. Revelation 21:1–5 describes a new heaven and earth where God dwells with his people, wipes every tear, and makes all things new. How does this picture change the way you

think about eternity? How should the certainty of a recreated future shape how you live right now?

LIVING IT OUT

You groan. The world groans. We all sense that something is broken — in us and around us. But the God who spoke creation into existence is not finished. He is recreating people right now through the gospel, and one day he will recreate the entire earth. You can be part of that new creation. In fact, if you are in Christ, you already are.

Heart Check: Is there an area of your life where you've given up on God recreating you — a habit, a relationship, a pattern of thought you've told yourself will never change? What would it look like to surrender that to the One who creates out of nothing?

This Week: Set aside ten minutes to go outside and quietly observe the world around you — sky, trees, light, living things. Let what you see remind you that the God who made all of this out of nothing can make you new as well. Then journal or pray through one specific area where you need his recreating work this week.

REFLECTION & PRAYER

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

— **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Praise God for being both Creator and Re-Creator. Confess the areas where you feel most broken or beyond repair. Ask him to do in you what only he can do — make you new, from the inside out, for your good and his glory.

Your Prayer:

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