

The Beginning of God's Creation

A dramatic image of two hands reaching towards each other against a cloudy sky, with a bright light source between them. The hands are positioned horizontally, one on the left and one on the right, with their fingers just inches apart. A bright, starburst-like light emanates from the gap between the hands, casting rays of light across the scene. The background is a deep blue sky filled with large, billowing white and grey clouds, some of which are illuminated from behind, creating a glowing effect. The overall mood is one of divine spark and creation.

Presented By Dallas Carter on July 9, 2023,
at 11a Sunday Service @ New Covenant Church of the Apostles

What is Genesis?

- Genesis means origins or beginning
- Genesis(γένεσις) is used three times in the New Testament to mean generation or nature (G10748).
- Genesis was written to give us an origin story and account of the nature of reality.
- What kind of story is Genesis? Myth? “Mytho–history?,” or history?



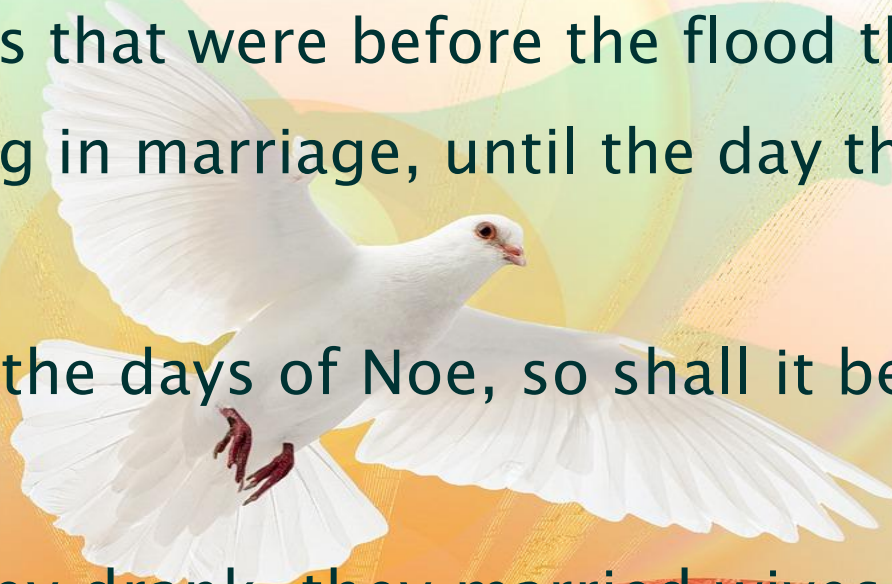
Genesis as History

- Luke 3:23–38 assumes Genesis literal history
- Jude 1:14 And Enoch also, the **seventh from Adam**, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,
- 1 Peter 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, **eight souls** were saved by water.



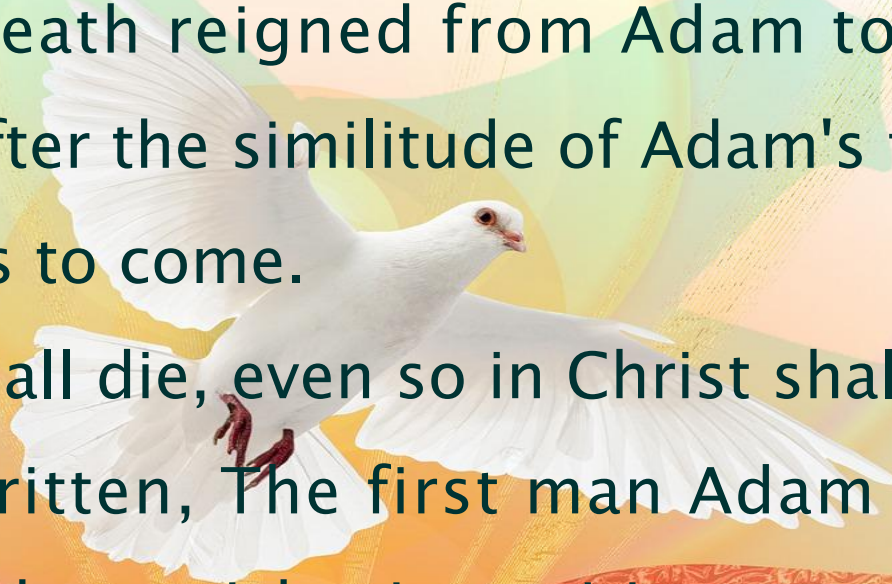
Genesis Flood as History

- Mat_24:38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,
- Luk_17:26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.
- Luk_17:27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.
- Heb_11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

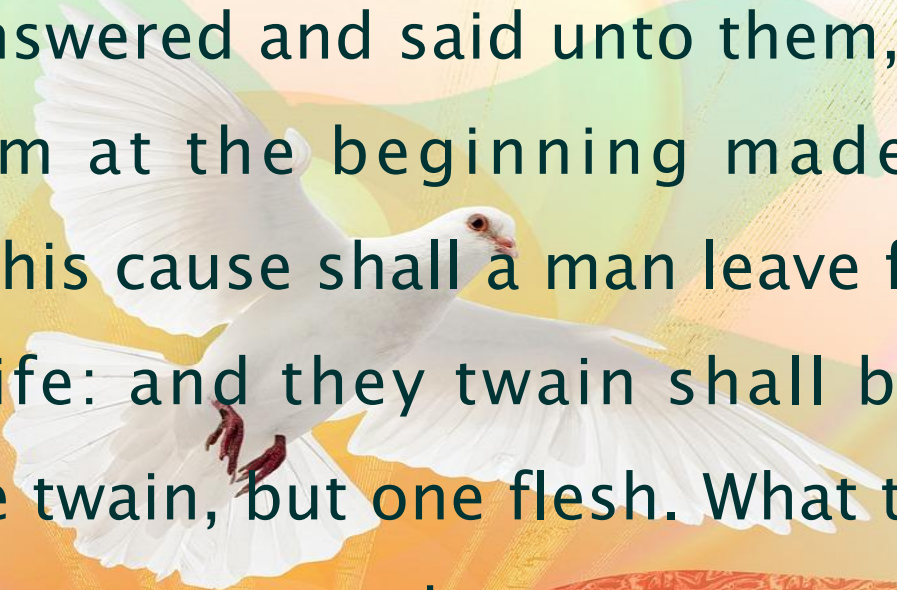


Genesis Adam as History

- Rom_5:14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.
- 1Co_15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
- 1Co_15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.
- 1Ti_2:13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.
- 1Ti_2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.



Jesus Regarded Genesis as History

- Matthew 19:4–6 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, (5) And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? (6) Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. m was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.
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The Apostolic Church Regarded Genesis as History

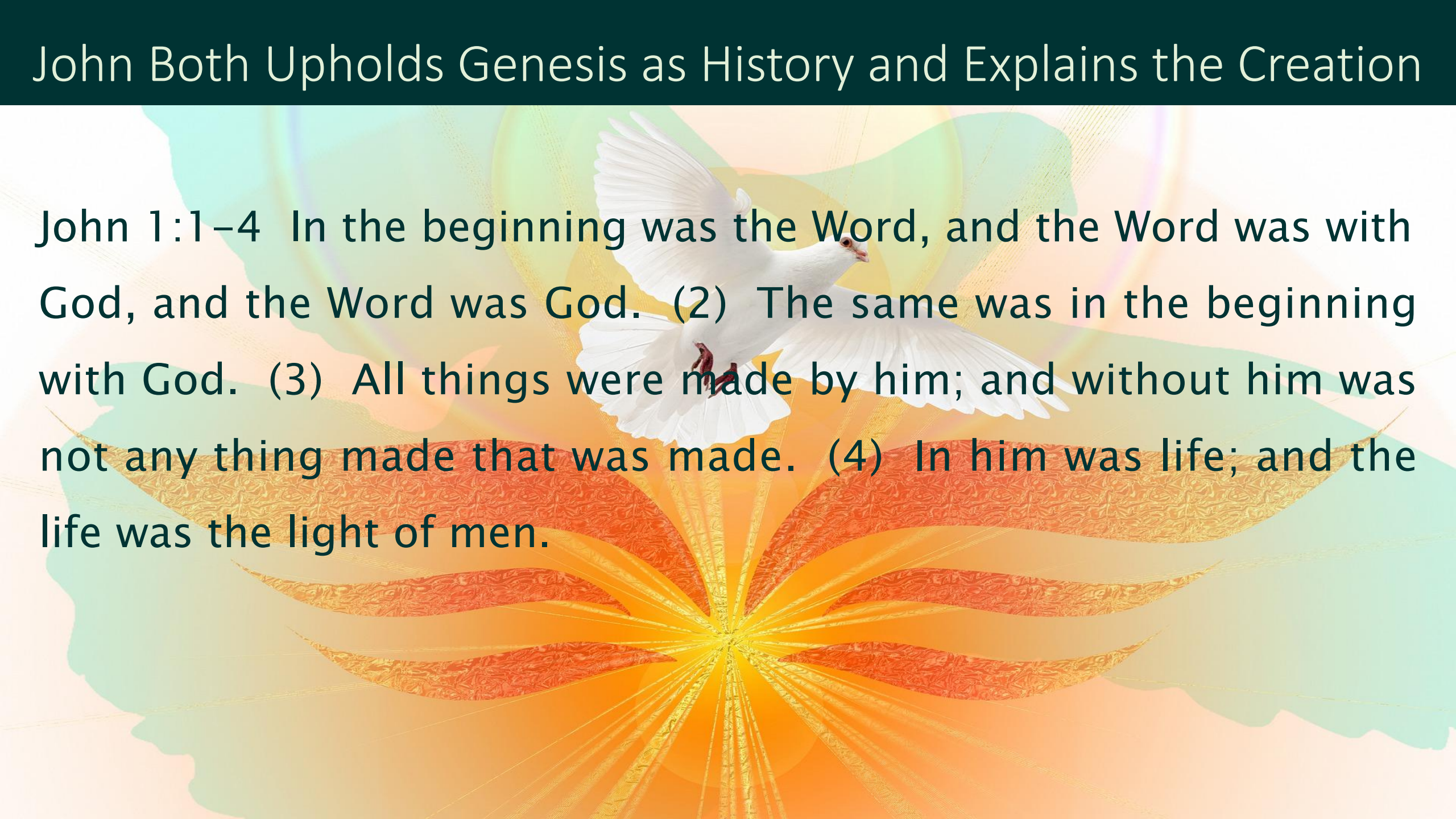
- Jesus Christ
- Peter
- Paul
- Jude
- Matthew
- Luke



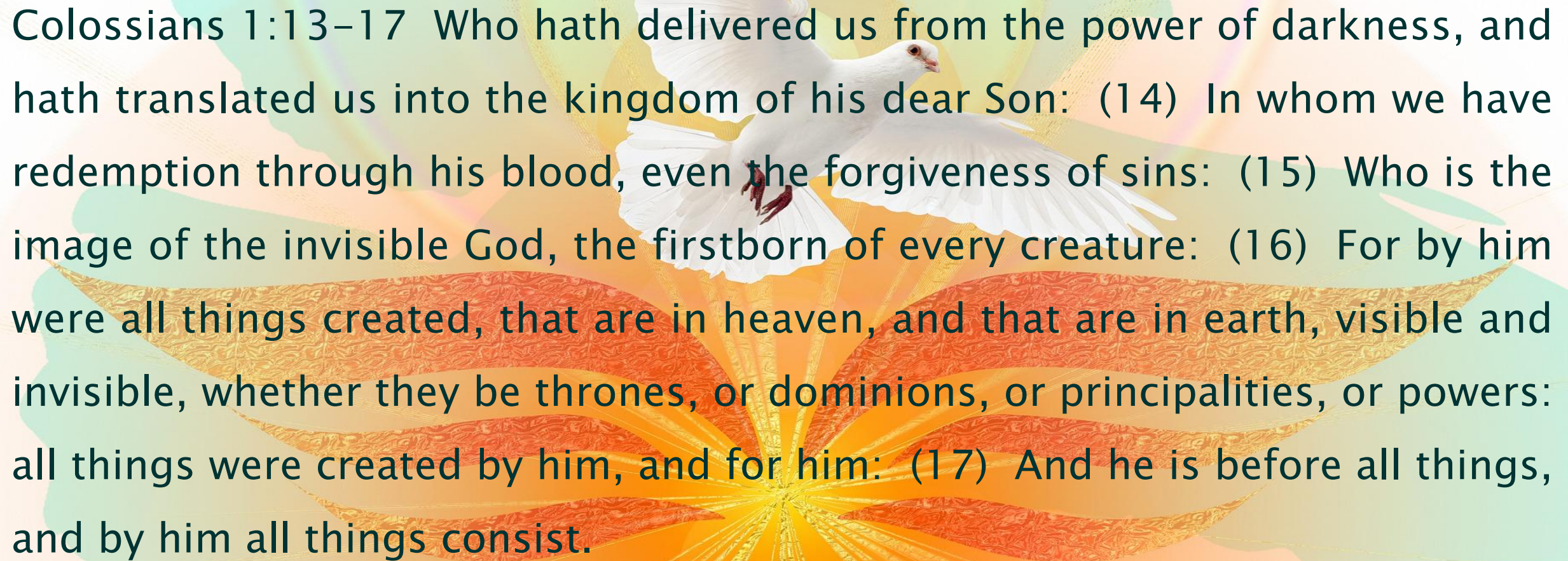
To deny that Genesis is history is to say that Jesus and the Apostles of Christ are in error

John Both Upholds Genesis as History and Explains the Creation

John 1:1–4 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) The same was in the beginning with God. (3) All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. (4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men.



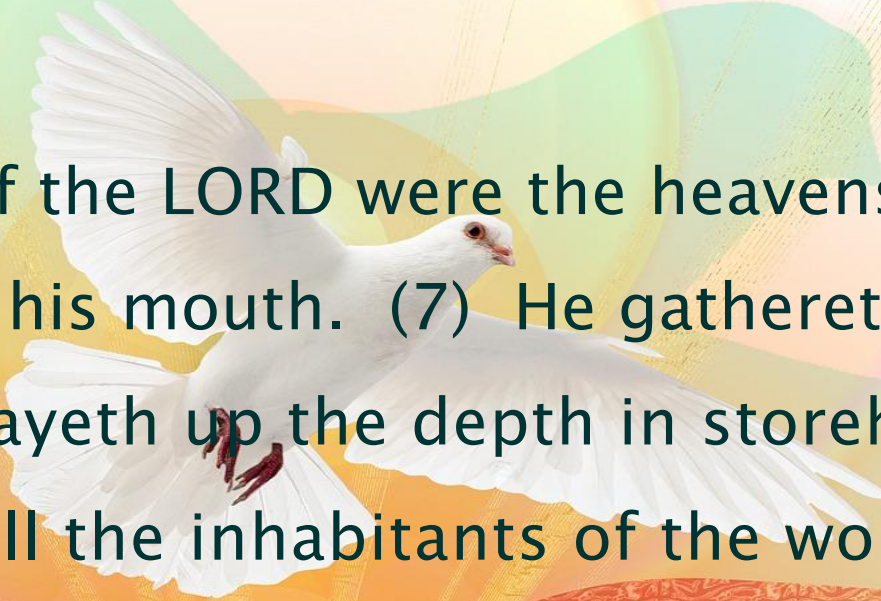
Paul Confirms John's Inspired Explanation of the Creation



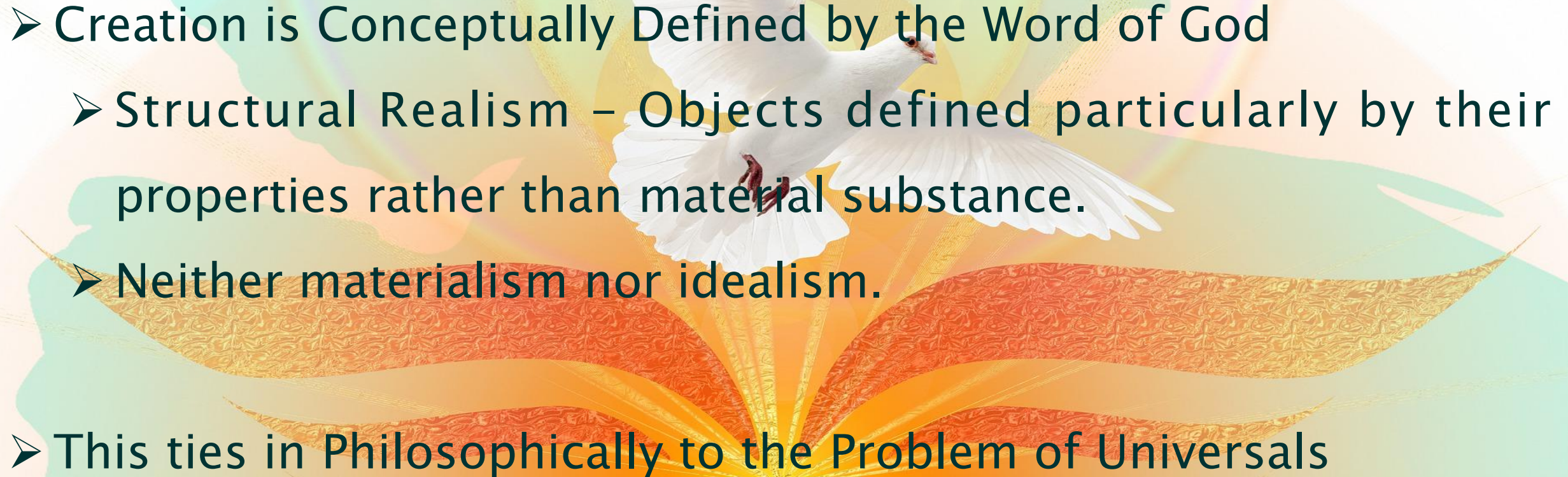
Colossians 1:13–17 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: (14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: (15) Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: (16) For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: (17) And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

David Confirms John's Inspired Explanation of the Creation

Psalms 33:6–9 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. (7) He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. (8) Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. (9) For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.



Genesis Provides a Explanation of the Creation

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- Creation is Conceptually Defined by the Word of God
 - Structural Realism – Objects defined particularly by their properties rather than material substance.
 - Neither materialism nor idealism.
 - This ties in Philosophically to the Problem of Universals

The Problem of Universals

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- The Problem of Universals relates to how to account for commonalities among particulars “What is redness.”
 - Views of Universals
 - Nominalism
 - Platonism
 - Hylomorphism
 - Conceptualism

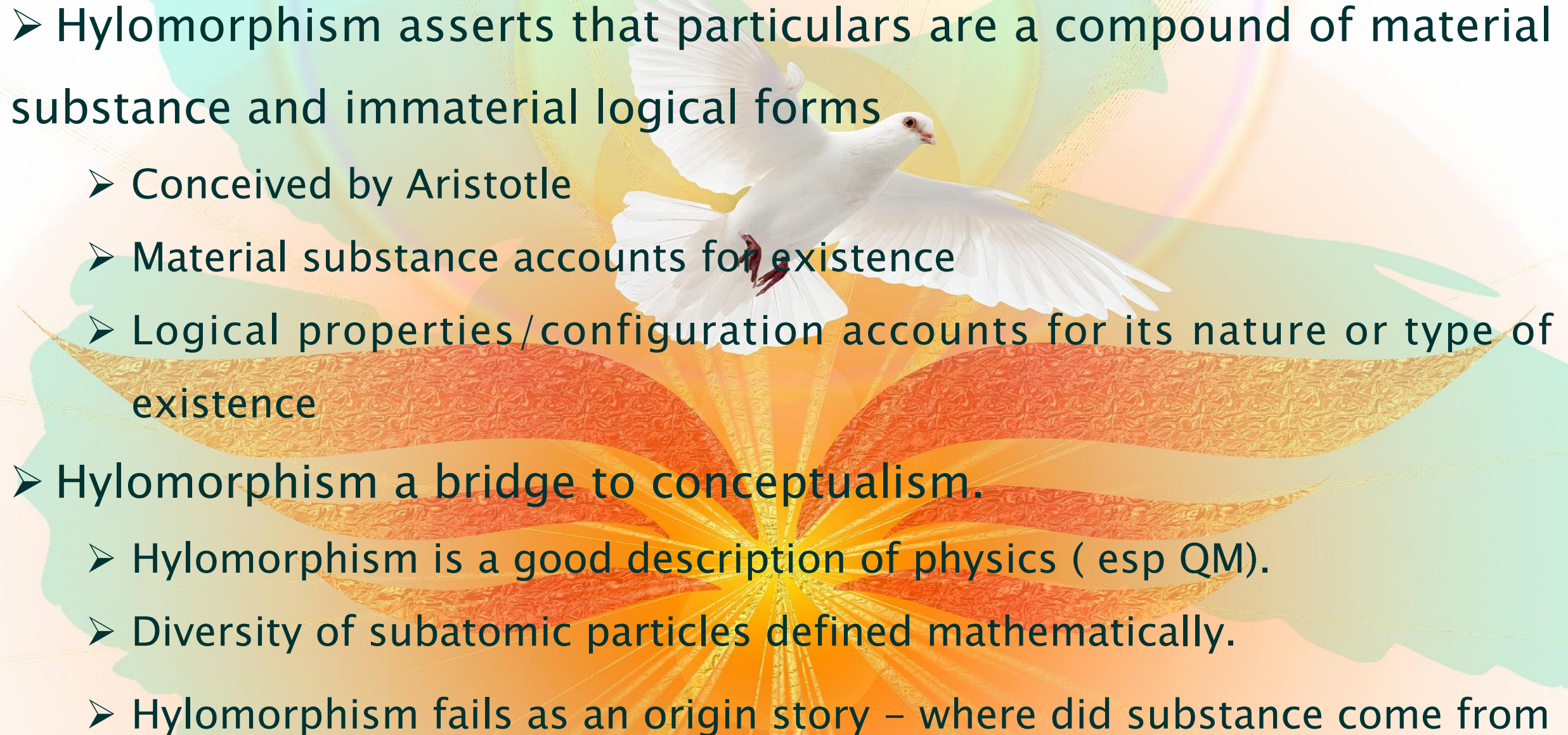
The Problem of Universals: Nominalism

- Nominalism asserts that there are no universals.
 - If there are no universals, then universal terms are meaningless
 - I am a man = I am "" + I am "ffsd\$%"
- **If Nominalism is true, then everything is meaningless.**
 - Tropes proposed as a workaround to this
 - Tropes asserts that each particular has its own unique nature identical to other particulars of a class
 - This begs the question of why commonalities

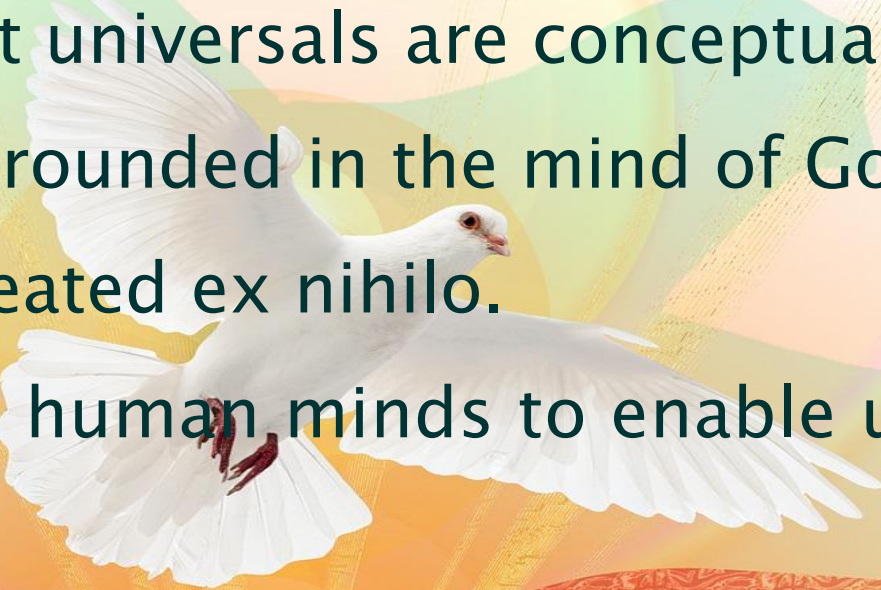
The Problem of Universals: Platonism

- Platonism asserts that each universal corresponds to a concrete substance or form.
 - Named after Greek Philosopher Plato
 - Plato believed that every chair, for example, shared the substance of a perfectly formed chair
- Problems – absurd conclusions
 - If all universals are concrete, then universals representing numbers are concrete.
 - Each object is one of itself, containing the substance of the universal 1
 - 2 is one of itself, containing the substance of the number 1; **2 = 1**

The Problem of Universals: Hylomorphism

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- Hylomorphism asserts that particulars are a compound of material substance and immaterial logical forms
 - Conceived by Aristotle
 - Material substance accounts for existence
 - Logical properties/configuration accounts for its nature or type of existence
 - Hylomorphism a bridge to conceptualism.
 - Hylomorphism is a good description of physics (esp QM).
 - Diversity of subatomic particles defined mathematically.
 - Hylomorphism fails as an origin story – where did substance come from

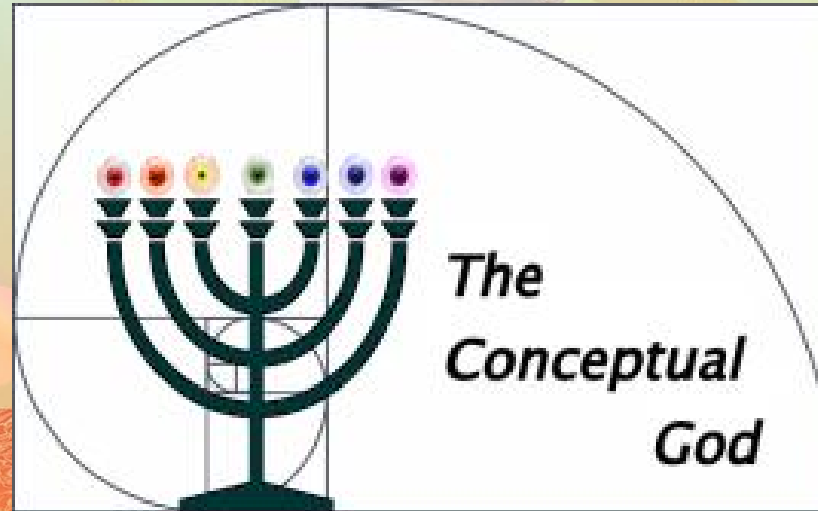
The Problem of Universals: Conceptualism

- Conceptualism asserts that universals are conceptually defined.
 - Universals are **ultimately** grounded in the mind of God
 - Hylomorphic substance created ex nihilo.
 - Universals embedded into human minds to enable us to interact with both God and the world.
 - Conceptual Creation unique to a Judeo-Christian worldview.
 - Conceptual Creation explains continuity and infinity in the world without paradoxes of infinity
 - Genesis presents a conceptualist account of Creation with the words “...and God Said,...”
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My Book on Conceptualism

More on Conceptualism can be found at:

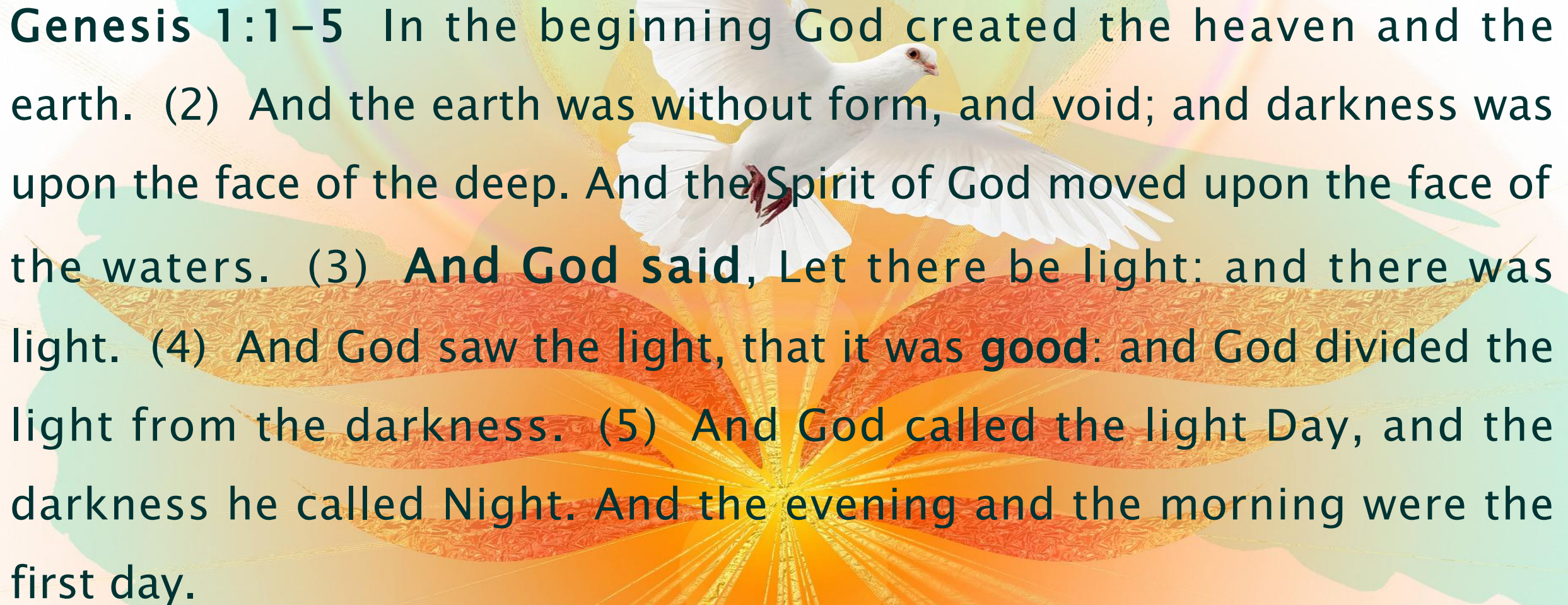
<https://christiannetguide.info/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/TheConceptualGod-2.pdf>



*Presenting a robust case for
Divine Conceptualism and
Structural Realism, and Its
Implications for Life and Faith*

By
Dallas Carter

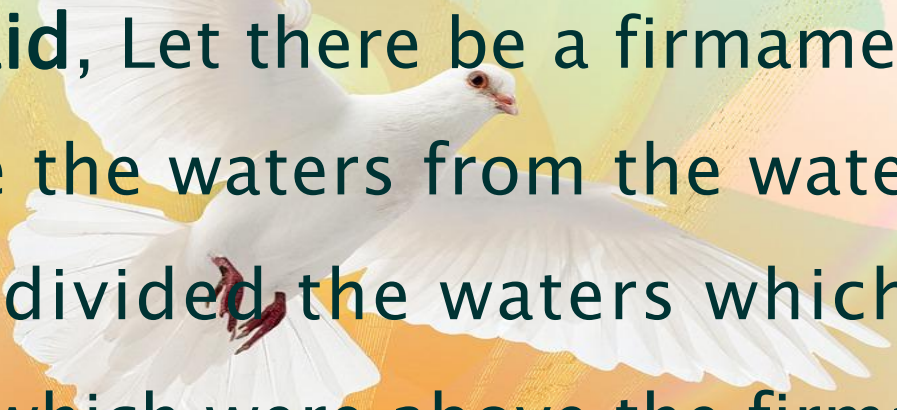
And God Said: Day One

A white dove is shown in flight, centered in the upper half of the image. The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping shapes in shades of green, yellow, and orange, with a bright sunburst effect emanating from the bottom center. The text is overlaid on this background.

Genesis 1:1–5 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (2) And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (3) **And God said,** Let there be light: and there was light. (4) And God saw the light, that it was **good:** and God divided the light from the darkness. (5) And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

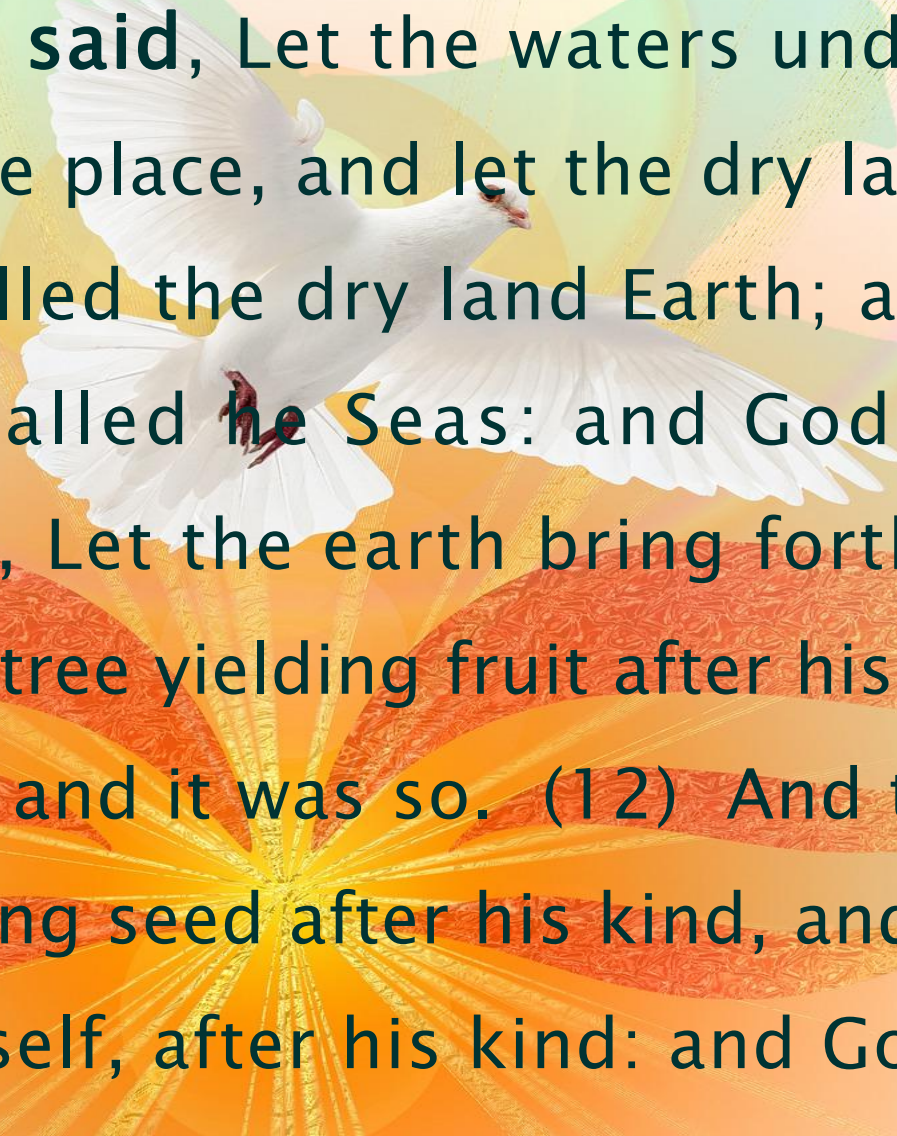
And God Said: Day Two

Genesis 1:6–8 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. (7) And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. (8) And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.



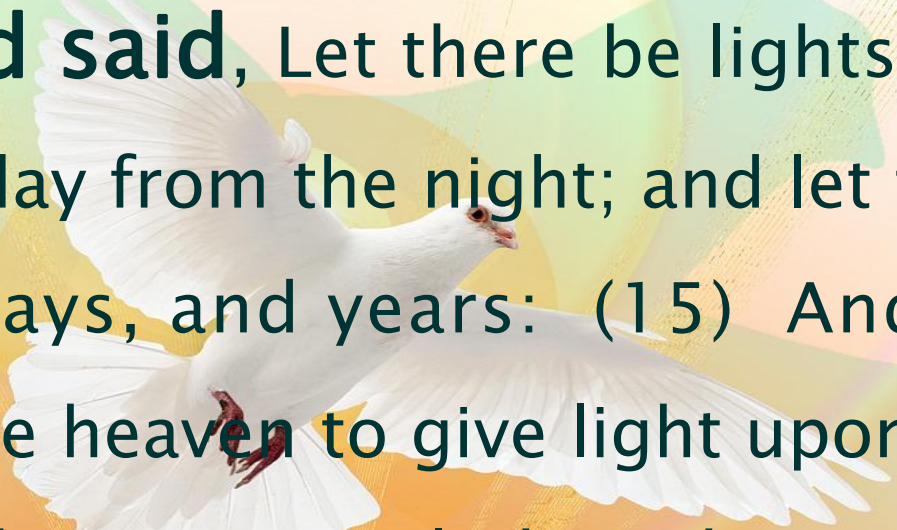
And God Said: Day Three

Genesis 1:9–13 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. (10) And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good. (11) And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. (12) And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was **good**. (13) And the evening and the morning were the third day.



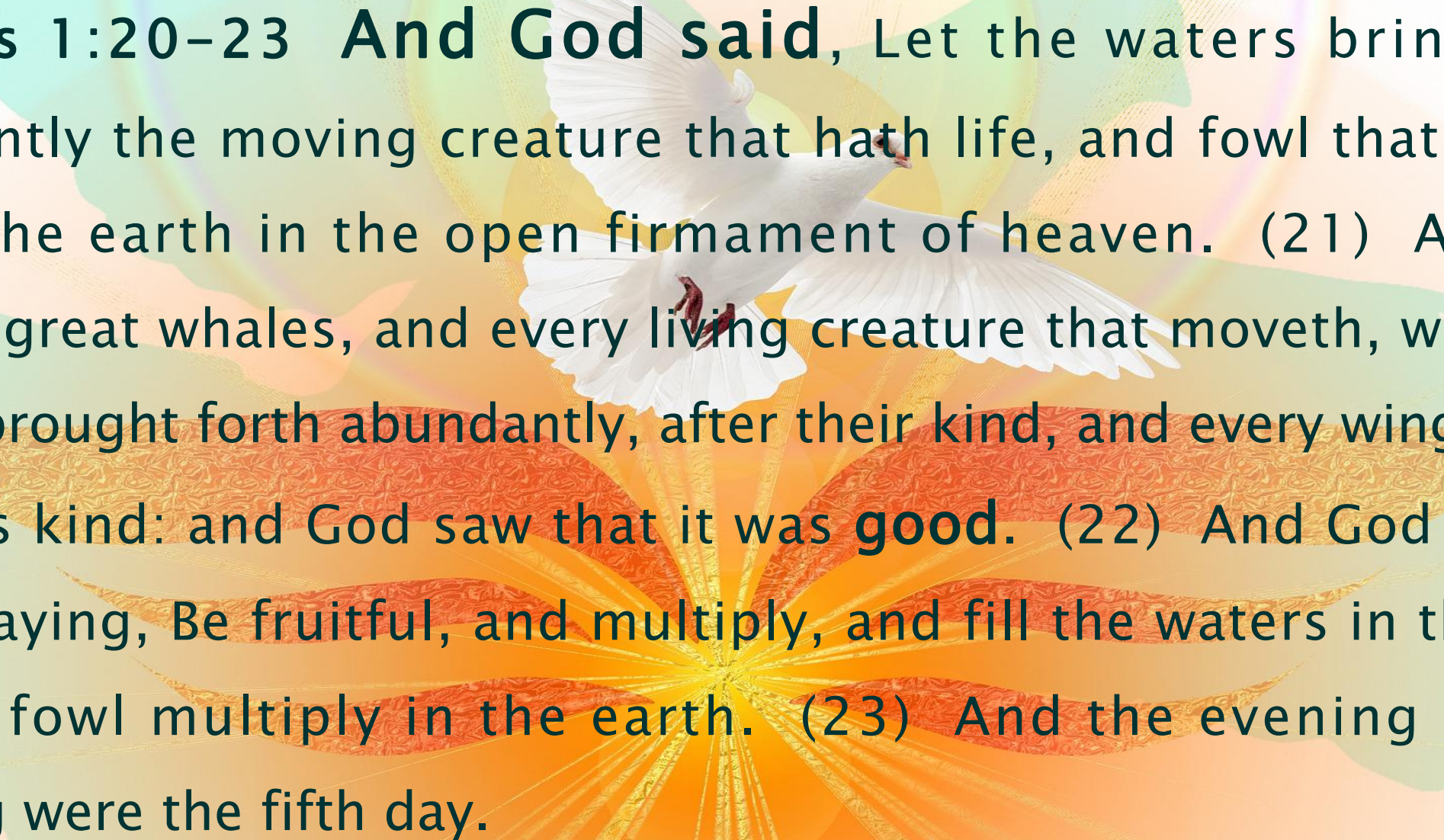
And God Said: Day Four

Genesis 1:14–19 **And God said,** Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: (15) And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. (16) And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. (17) And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, (18) And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was **good.** (19) And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

A white dove is shown in flight, facing right, with its wings spread wide. The background features a bright sun with rays emanating from the bottom center, and a rainbow arching across the scene. The overall color palette is warm, with oranges, yellows, and greens.

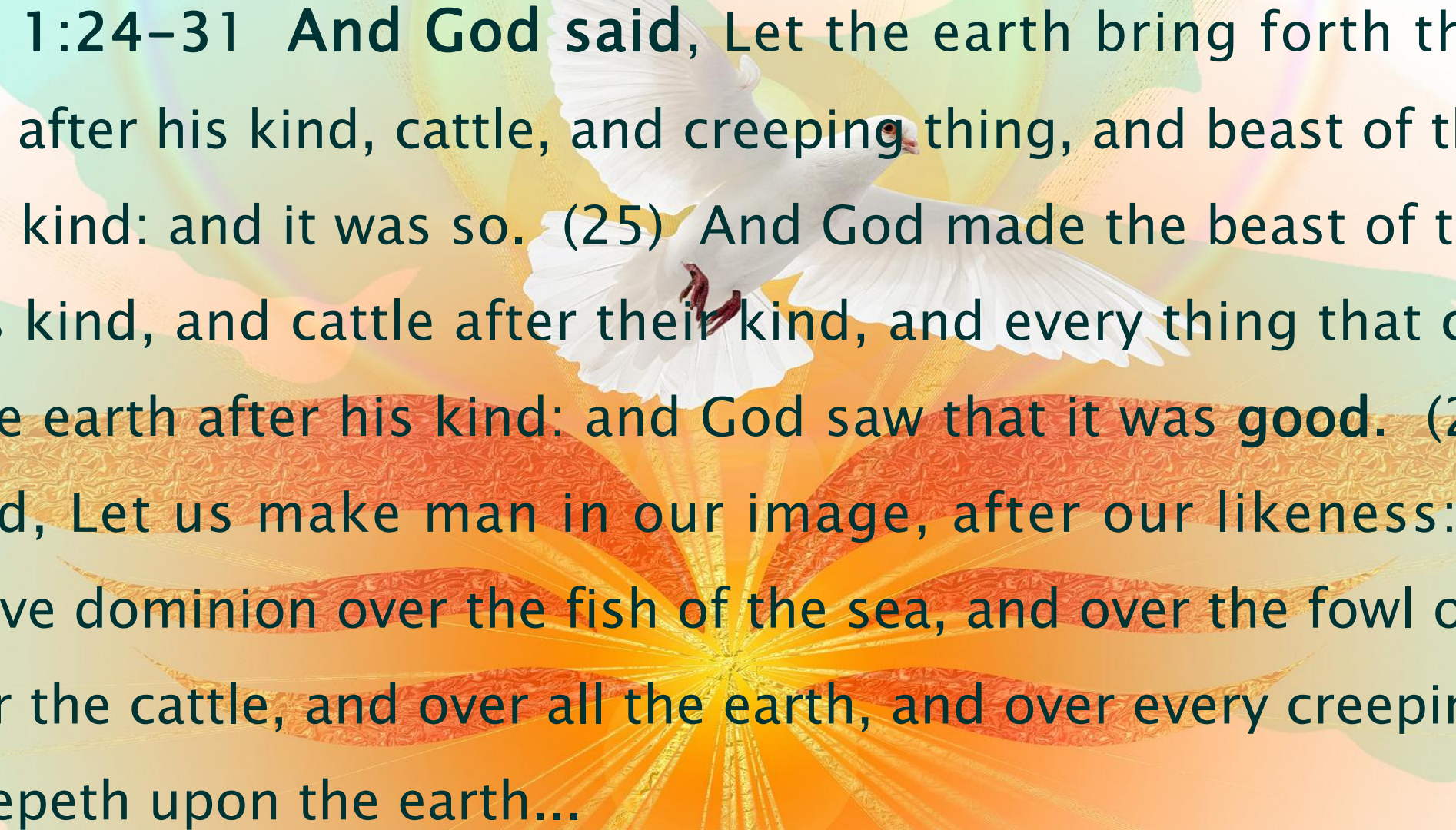
And God Said: Day Five

Genesis 1:20–23 **And God said,** Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. (21) And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was **good**. (22) And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. (23) And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

A white dove is shown in flight, wings spread wide, positioned centrally over the text. The background features a vibrant sunburst pattern in shades of orange and yellow, with soft, abstract shapes in light green and blue. The overall aesthetic is bright and hopeful.

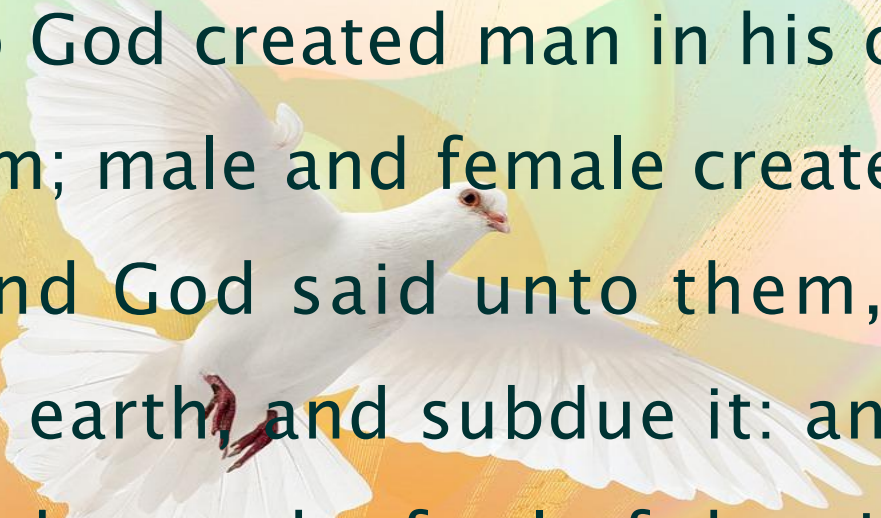
And God Said: Day Six

Genesis 1:24–31 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. (25) And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good. (26) And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth...

A white dove is shown in flight, wings spread, positioned centrally over the text. The background features a large, stylized sunburst or starburst pattern in shades of orange and yellow, with radiating lines. This is overlaid on a background of soft, abstract shapes in light green and blue.

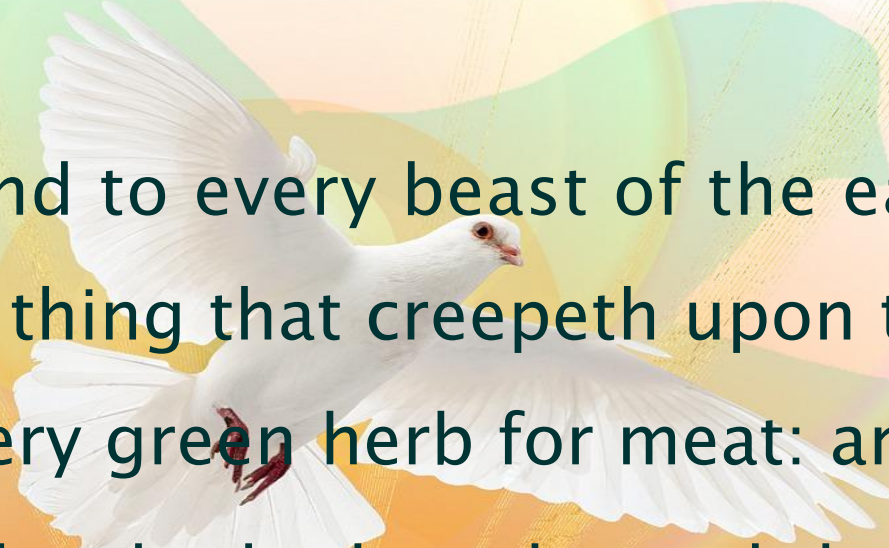
And God Said: Day Six

Genesis 1:24–31 ...(27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. (28) And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. (29) And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat...



And God Said: Day Six

Genesis 1:24–31 ...(30) And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so. (31) And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was **very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.



A white dove is shown in flight, wings spread, positioned centrally between the two lines of text. The background features a large, glowing sun in shades of yellow and orange, with rays extending outwards. Below the sun are two large, stylized leaves with a textured, golden-brown surface. The overall color palette is warm and vibrant, with soft gradients of green and yellow.

God's Word

is powerful