Beginnings All Things New

1. God Created.

- However, it was actually a <u>rare idea</u> when it was first recorded.
- Suddenly, God is the <u>creator</u>, not just a manipulator of material.

- When your fingerprints are on it your heart is in it.
- God is nuts about you for no other reason than you have his *fingerprints* all over you.
- We don't just believe that God is Father, but also that he is the <u>Son</u> and <u>Spirit</u>.

2. Spirit Created.

- Jesus, however, introduced the Spirit as a *unique person* of the Godhead.
- That Hebrew word indicates a kind of vibration or quaking.
- Whatever is on your <u>mind</u> is also on God's <u>heart</u> because of the Holy Spirit.

3. Jesus Created

 If we were to fast-forward to John 1:1, we would see that Jesus is the embodied Word of God called the "logos."

- God the Father is the <u>architect</u> who designed the plan.
- God the Son was the <u>builder</u> who created our universe.
- And God the Spirit acted as the engineer to infuse this creation with life, beauty, and order.

- 4. The <u>Difference</u> a Christian Creational Worldview Makes.
- For those that believe that matter is eternal, *matter* is what matters most.
- In my opinion, this is a consequence of *losing sight* of God the Father.

- However, most Christians in my experience have ignored the <u>Spirit</u> in creation.
- Protecting creation without <u>knowing</u> the <u>creator</u> is making a false god out of what we should be ruling rather than worshipping.

- Salvation cannot be merely about going to heaven <u>someday</u>, but about bringing heaven to earth <u>today</u>.
- What I'm suggesting is that a recognition of Jesus in creation demands social engagement with the structures of inequity, injustice, and prejudice that plague our world today.