

Family Style Theology

Welcome to FAMILY STYLE THEOLOGY! Here are a few notes and activities to aid your discussions for each topic. This six-part series is about the FIRST THINGS. Everything has a beginning, and we will get to talk about how our world, and even our own story, began. The FIRSTS of this series are:

1. **First Creations** from Genesis 1
2. **First Theories:** Big Bang, Evolution, and our reasonable Faith
3. **First Man and Woman** from Genesis 2
4. **First Doubt** from Genesis 3
5. **First Consequences** in Genesis 3
6. **First Promise** in Genesis 3

Take advantage of all the resources to engage your children in this discussion! You may tailor the resources to fit your needs, or follow the suggested schedule below for a full hour of theological conversation.

- **Ask the “Think about it” question first.** (5 minutes) There are no right or wrong answers, and you will hear my own kids give their responses to the same questions! These questions are meant to help start the discussion through including each child’s thoughts.
- **Listen to the first half of the podcast.** (15 minutes) Sit back and enjoy. Your children may want to have their own Bible to refer to as we work through our discussion. Be aware! I invite the kids to circle and highlight in this Bible. Check they have the one you have approved!
- **Take a quick break.** (5 minutes or more...) Ask the review questions on the study sheet, to make sure the kids understand what we just talked about. Take time for more discussion if they have questions. Gather additional resources to continue the lesson, or just run to get a drink of water!
- **Listen to the second half of the podcast.** (15 minutes) The study sheet will continue with written answers. Of course, you may discuss these verbally as well. Make sure they still have their Bible!
- **Activity and/or discussion time.** (20 minutes) See each episode’s study packet for an extended activity that will actively teach the lesson. Some extra materials may be needed.
- **Adult resources:** For further study, check out the additional resources on each topic.

First Creations from Genesis 1

Think About It:

What is the FIRST THING you can remember?

Review Questions:

Who wrote the Bible? **God, through Holy Spirit, by the hand of people**

What is the first thing that happens in Genesis? **God created the heavens and the earth (light)**

Who is at the beginning? **God the Father, Spirit, and the Word (Jesus! See John 1)**

Study Question Answers (worksheet below):

How does God create? With His _____ **WORD**

What does God call his creation? _____ **GOOD**

Write or Draw what God does on each day.

DISCUSS: How do we rest with God? **Keeping the Sabbath Day holy and by gladly hearing and learning His Word.**

See Luther's Catechism Explanation of the 3rd commandment.

Activity: CREATIVE COLLAGE

Supplies: Heavy duty white paper (even a shoebox lid lined with white paper): blue tempera paints, white glue, medium paintbrush, tissue paper (brown and green), salt, aluminum foil, FISH and BIRD stickers or magazine, clay

This is a process-focused activity. Don't worry about the end result, we are focusing on our children's creativity. This will be quick & messy! Try to keep it around 2-minute creations for each day, but be flexible to allow extra time if needed. (Play classical music for inspiration)

Day 1: Slightly dilute blue tempera with water. Paint dark blue color on entire lower half of paper. Talk about the difference between dark and light.

Day 2: Dilute blue paint until very watery. Paint light blue on top half of paper and blend into dark blue. Talk about God separating the waters in the heavens from the waters below.

Day 3: Sprinkle salt on ½ of the dark blue (still wet) paint for the sea. Paint glue on the opposite ½ dark blue section. Tear brown tissue paper pieces for land. Pinch together green tissue paper plants and stick them to the land. (If the glue/water section is still wet, you will not need additional glue for your plants!)

Day 4: Cut and shape foil into a sun, moon and stars for the sky. Attach in the sky with glue.

Day 5: Place bird and fish stickers or cut from magazines/construction paper. Attach in the sky and sea.

Day 6: Mold animals (and humans!) from clay. Attach on land with glue.

Day 7: Look at your creation and say, "It is very good!"

ALSO, look at our FAMILY STYLE THEOLOGY Pinterest board "FIRST THINGS" for more ideas!

Adult Resources:

- Martin Luther's commentary on Genesis 1 From [Concordia Publishing House](#)
- [Moses as the author of Genesis](#)

BIBLE PASSAGES:

Luke 24:27 – *Jesus talks about Moses as an author of the Old Testament.*

“And beginning with **Moses** and all the Prophets, (Jesus) interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. “

John 1:1-3 – *This is the account of Jesus, not as a baby born of Mary, but as present in creation as the Word. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are at all the beginning of creation.*

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.”

Study Questions WORKSHEET – First Creations

Use each letter once to answer the questions:

D R D W O O O G

How does God CREATE? With His _____

What does God call his Creation? _____

Write or Draw what GOD DOES on each day	<u>Day 1</u>	<u>Day 2</u>	<u>Day 3</u>
<u>Day 4</u>	<u>Day 5</u>	<u>Day 6</u>	<u>Day 7</u>

DISCUSS: How do we rest with God?

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First Theories

Think About It:

How do you know things?

Review Questions:

What is a FACT? **A piece of information presented as having objective reality**

What is a THEORY? **A plausible or scientifically acceptable general principle or body of principles offered to explain phenomena**

Describe the Scientific Method. **Ask a question, Research, Hypothesis, Test, Analyze, Report**

What does the Bible tell us about the beginning of all things? **God created the world in 7 days, made each animal its own kind, etc.**

Study Question Answers:

Classify the statements

BB = BIG BANG

EV = EVOLUTION

C = CREATION

C A creator made the entire world in seven days.

BB The universe sprang into existence as "singularity" around 13.7 billion years ago.

EV Natural selection can create entirely new species, known as "macroevolution."

EV Complex life is a product of random chance and excessive time.

C A catastrophic flood changed land masses and formed fossil layers.

BB The universe expanded and cooled, going from very, very small and very, very hot, to the size and temperature of our current universe. It continues to expand and cool to this day.

EV Searching for fossil record links that show dinosaurs changed into birds, amphibious mammals into whales and the ancestors of apes changed into humans.

C Animals remain in species of their own kind, while still adapting to their environment over several generations.

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

- **Circle** the statements above that believe the world was made by a Creator.

"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God'." Psalm 14:1

- **Underline** the statements above that believe the world was made without a Creator.

Activity: **WATCH A VIDEO**

Watch the documentary, *Is Genesis History?* on Netflix. (1hr. 44min.)

Discuss how your starting point (worldview belief) will affect what you observe about the world.

Adult Resources:

- *In Search of the Genesis World* by Erich A. Von Fange
- Two Kinds of Science?
- Is Evolution Theory or Fact?
- Big Bang Theory
- Evolution vs. Creation
- What is Darwin's Theory of Evolution?

Study Questions WORKSHEET – First Theories

Classify the statements:

BB = BIG BANG

EV = EVOLUTION

C = CREATION

- ___ A creator made the entire world in seven days.
- ___ The universe sprang into existence as "singularity" around 13.7 billion years ago.
- ___ Natural selection can create entirely new species, known as "macroevolution."
- ___ Complex life is a product of random chance and excessive time.
- ___ A catastrophic flood changed land masses and formed fossil layers.
- ___ The universe expanded and cooled on its own, going from very, very small and very, very hot, to the size and temperature of our current universe. It continues to expand and cool to this day.
- ___ Searching for fossil record links that show dinosaurs changed into birds, amphibious mammals into whales and the ancestors of apes changed into humans.
- ___ Animals remain in species of their own kind, while still adapting to their environment over several generations.

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

- Circle the statements above that believe the world was made by a Creator.

“The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God’.” Psalm 14:1

- Underline the statements above that believe the world exists without a Creator.

First Man and Woman from Genesis 2

Think About It:

Would you rather run a race in high heels or dance a ballet in work boots?

Review Questions:

What did God make the very first man out of? **Dirt/Dust**

What did God put in the Garden for the Man? **Plants and Animals**

What two special trees were in the middle of the garden? **Tree of Life, Tree of Good and Evil**

Take 5 minutes to DRAW your idea of the Garden of Eden. (See worksheets for drawing space)

Study Question Answers:

What IDENTITY did God give to Adam? (Genesis 2:15-17, 19)

- **Gardener**
- **Listens to God's Word**
- **Names or calls the animals**

What IDENTITY did God give to the woman? (Genesis 1:20-22)

- **Helper**

What is the IDENTITY of man and woman together? (Genesis 2:24, 1:27-28)

- **One Flesh**
- **Image of God**
- **Dominion over all of creation**
- **To be fruitful and multiply**

How was Adam created? (Genesis 2:7) Formed from the **DUST**

How was woman created? (Genesis 2:22) Built from the **RIB** of Adam

What does God say about EVERYTHING that He made? (Genesis 1:31) "It was **VERY GOOD** "

Activity: **CROSS WORD PUZZLE** (see below)

Adult Resources:

- [*Woman the Forgotten Story*](#) by Cindy Koch
- [The Breath of Life](#)

BIBLE PASSAGES:

Ezekiel 37:1-14, John 20:19-23 - Consider these parallels to the *Breath of Life*

Psalm 33:20 – *God is our help*

"We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield."

Psalm 121:1-2 – *God is our help*

I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from?

My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Study Questions WORKSHEET – First Man and Woman

MATCH the right answer with the icon:

What IDENTITY did God give to Adam?
(Genesis 2:15-17, 19)



What IDENTITY did God give to the woman?
(Genesis 1:20-22)



What is the IDENTITY of man and woman together?
(Genesis 2:24, 1:27-28)



- *To be fruitful and multiply*
- *Gardener*
- *Names or calls the animals*
- *One Flesh*
- *Image of God*
- *Dominion over all of creation*
- *Helper*
- *Listens to God's Word*

FILL in the BLANK:

How was Adam created? (Genesis 2:7)

Formed from the _____

How was woman created? (Genesis 2:22)

Built from the _____ of Adam

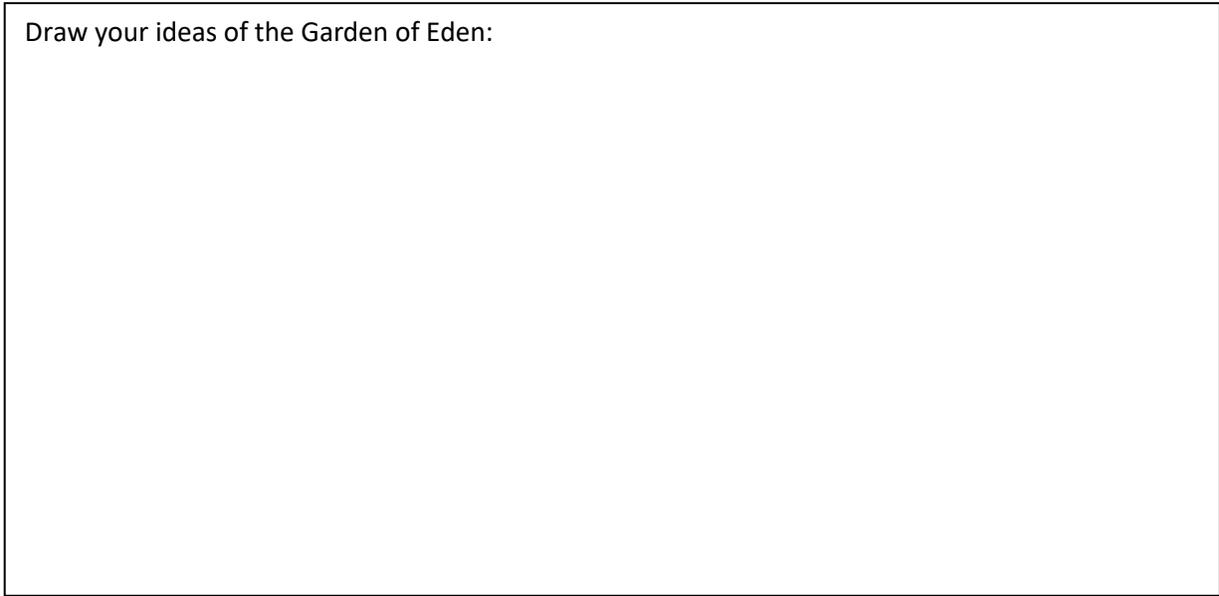
What does God say about EVERYTHING that He made? (Genesis 1:31)

"It was _____"

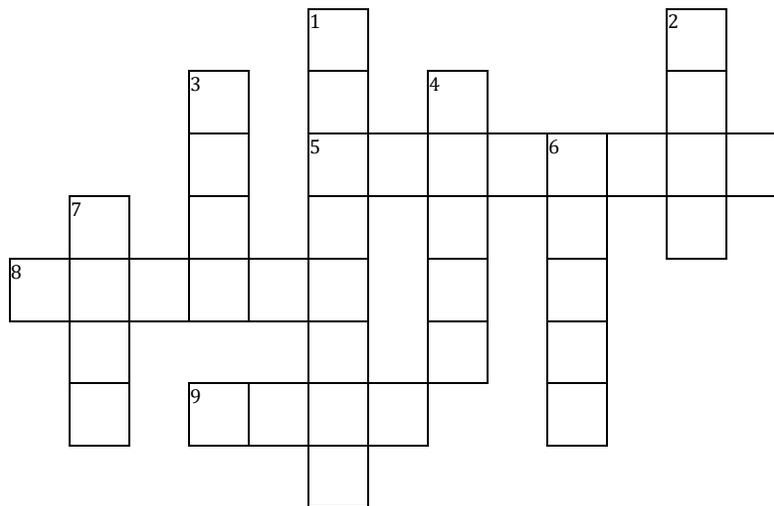
Use these letters:

G O U
E T O Y
R I D V
D S B R

Draw your ideas of the Garden of Eden:



MAN and WOMAN Crossword



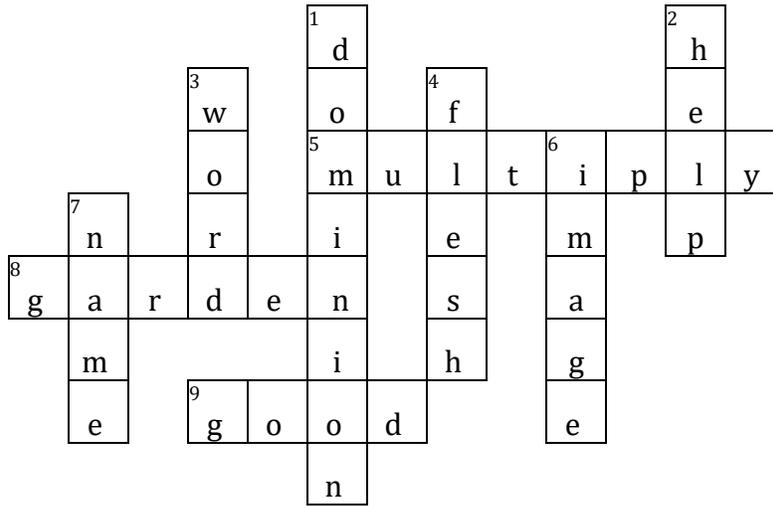
Across

5. God created them to be fruitful and...
8. Man takes care of God's...
9. God saw His creation was VERY...

Down

1. Above all the animals they have...
2. Woman was created to...
3. Man listens and teaches God's...
4. Together they live as one...
6. Together they were created in God's...
7. Man gives everything its...

Crossword ANSWERS



Across

- 5. God created them to be fruitful and
- 8. Man takes care of God's
- 9. God saw His creation was VERY

Down

- 1. Above all the animals they have
- 2. Woman was created to
- 3. Man listens and teaches God's
- 4. Together they live as one
- 6. Together they were created in God's
- 7. Man gives everything its

Family Style Theology

First Doubt from Genesis 3

Think About It: *What is the first bad thing you have done that you can remember?*

Review Questions:

What do we learn about the serpent? **He is crafty and he is a creation of God**

What did the serpent's words do to Eve? **Made her doubt God's Word**

What does doubt mean? **To not trust or believe**

Study Questions Answers:

What did the woman realize about the fruit?

It was good for food

It was nice looking

It would make her wise

What was the result of man and woman's doubt in God? **Ate the fruit**

Who is blamed for eating the fruit through most of the Bible? **Man**

What happened to man and woman's eyes after they ate the fruit? **They were opened**

What is the first bad thing that happened with the Serpent? **DOUBT of God**

How did man and woman see each other differently? *They felt* **SHAME**

How did man and woman see God differently? *They were* **AFRAID**

What did God do in verse 9? **CALLS to His creatures**

What did man and woman do after hearing God's Word, "Did you eat the fruit?" **BLAME**

Activity: **THE BLAME GAME**

Make your own game on the following resource pages. (Hint: Print on **CARDSTOCK!**) PAGE 1: Write a different unfortunate situation on each card. (The funnier the better!) Cut these 12 cards apart. Place **BLUE** situation cards facedown in a pile in the middle of the table. PAGE 2: Write a **NOUN** on each card (person, place or thing). Be creative! Cut these 24 cards apart. Deal out **RED** cards evenly to each player. Each player may look at their own cards.

How to play: Youngest player flips over a **BLUE** situation card. On his/her turn, each player chooses a red card from their own hand to "blame". One at a time, players explain their blame. All players vote on the winning answer they like the best! The winning player keeps the blue situation card. (In case of a tie, the blue card goes back to the bottom of the **BLUE** situation pile.) Red cards are returned to each player to use again!

How to win: Collect the most winning **BLUE** situation cards. Congratulations, you are an expert blamer!

Adult Resources:

- Martin Luther's *Commentary on Genesis 1* From [Concordia Publishing House](#)
- "Original Sin" from [The Augsburg Confession](#)
- "First Commandment" from Martin Luther's [Large Catechism](#)

BIBLE PASSAGES

Romans 5:12 - "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men."

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 - "For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive."

THE BLAME GAME CARDS, PAGE 1

Write a different unfortunate situation on each card. (The funnier the better!) Cut these 12 cards apart.

Study Questions WORKSHEET – First Doubt

What did the woman realize about the fruit? *Cross out the WRONG answers.*

1. It was good for food
2. It was rotten
3. It tasted like a peach
4. It was nice looking
5. It would give her super powers
6. It would make her wise

What was the result of their doubt in God? *(circle one)*

Ran away



Ate the fruit



Mad at God



Who is blamed for eating the fruit through most of the Bible? *(circle one)*

Man



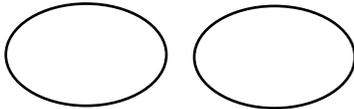
Woman



The Serpent



What happened to man and woman's eyes after they ate the fruit? *Draw what happened.*



BLAME

CALLS

SHAME

AFRAID

DOUBT

What is the first bad thing that happened with the serpent? _____ God

How did man and woman see each other differently? *They felt* _____

How did man and woman see God differently? *They were* _____

What did God do in verse 9? _____ *to His creatures*

What did man and woman do after hearing God's Word, "Did you eat the fruit?" _____

First Consequences from Genesis 3

Think About It:

Think about this world, our lives, and this creation: what is the BEST thing and the WORST thing?

Review Questions:

To whom did God give the first consequence of the changed creation? **The Serpent**
How might the Serpent in Genesis be similar to the serpent in Revelation? (See Revelation 20:1-3)

Study Question Answers:

What is the Gospel found in Genesis 3:15?

*“He shall bruise/crush your **HEAD** and you shall bruise/crush his **HEEL**.”*

What is the changed reality God spoke to the woman? (Genesis 3:16)

- Pain in **child bearing**
- **Power struggle** with the man

What is the changed reality God spoke to the man? (Genesis 3:17-19)

- **Cursed ground**
- **Hard work**
- **Death**

Activity: **ACTIVE DISCUSSION:** *How did the CONSEQUENCES for sin affect God’s Creation?*

Supplies: A ball, a group of 2 or more!

Sit in a circle. One person starts with a ball. He/she gives an answer. Toss the ball to someone else. Repeat until you can’t think of anymore! *For extra competition: each person only has 5 seconds to answer. If he/she goes over time or cannot think of an answer, he/she is eliminated.*

ROUND 1: Recall a GOOD GIFT God gave in His Creation

ROUND 2: Recall a CONSEQUENCE, something different now because of sin.

ROUND 3: One person calls out a GOOD GIFT of creation, the next person answers with a corresponding CONSEQUENCE from sin.

Adult Resources:

- “Original Sin” from [Solid Declaration of Formula of Concord](#)
- [Creation and Fall Temptation: Two Biblical Studies](#) By Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Study Questions WORKSHEET – First Consequences

What is the Gospel in Genesis 3:15?

Use these letters:

D L E E E H A H

“He shall bruise/crush your _____

and you shall bruise/crush his _____.”

Unscramble the answers:

What is the changed reality God spoke to the woman? (Genesis 3:16)

- Pain in hdlic gbrnaie _____
- owepr glurgtes with the man _____

What is the changed reality God spoke to the man? (Genesis 3:17-19)

- csduer unrdog _____
- radh okrw _____
- detah _____

First Promise from Genesis 3

Think About It:

What does your name mean?

Review Questions:

What does God promise to man and woman when talking to the snake (In Genesis 3:15)? **A promised offspring would come and crush the head of the serpent (devil)**

What does "Eve" mean? **Mother of all the living**

Study Question Answers:

How does Jesus call his sheep? (John 10:1) **By NAME**

What does Eve's name mean? **MOTHER of all the LIVING**

What did Adam proclaim by calling his wife Eve? (Genesis 3:20) **FORGIVENESS**

What did the LORD do to cover Adam and Eve? (Genesis 3:21) **SACRIFICE**

Who is the One that is promised to come and restore all things? **JESUS**

Compare the Garden of Eden Genesis 1-3 and the New Earth in Revelation 21

Write what is the **SAME in BLUE**. Write what is **DIFFERENT in RED**

Activity: **PROMISE TREE**

Supplies: small paper plates, markers, glue, paint, glitter (optional), hole punch, ribbon. Also a tree and a Bible!

Decorate a tree with the promises of God! Create ornaments from small paper plates with words and pictures that PROMISE something from God. (Extra challenge: Include the Bible reference where God promises it!) Punch a hole in the top of each ornament and tie on a ribbon hanger. Find a tree in your yard, or a sturdy plant in your home, and decorate the living tree with God's PROMISES!

Look at our FAMILY STYLE THEOLOGY Pinterest board "FIRST THINGS" for more Promise Tree ideas!

Adult Resources:

- [Woman the Forgotten Story](#) by Cindy Koch

Study Questions WORKSHEET – First Promise

How does Jesus call his sheep? (John 10:1) By _____

What does Eve’s name mean? _____ of all the _____

What did Adam proclaim by calling his wife Eve? (Genesis 3:20) _____

What did the LORD do to cover Adam and Eve? (Genesis 3:21) _____

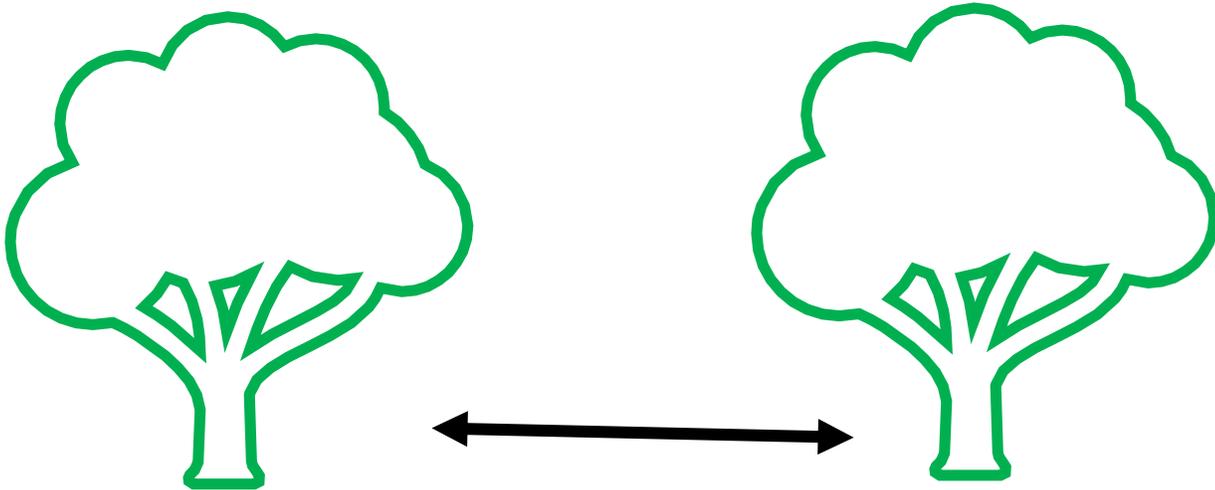
Who is the One that is promised to come and restore all things? _____

Find the answers in the puzzle:

W	X	Z	H	V	S	G	R	D	O	J	J	C	N	Y
Q	P	T	J	Q	S	A	K	W	C	C	B	A	L	V
Y	M	O	T	H	E	R	J	Q	P	Z	M	R	C	I
O	U	K	A	H	N	U	E	D	T	E	L	I	V	D
H	F	G	V	L	E	Z	S	C	W	W	Q	W	T	P
J	B	H	F	L	V	C	U	I	F	H	E	R	N	I
E	P	F	W	Y	I	F	S	Z	C	C	T	N	X	A
J	Z	Z	O	T	G	V	B	E	I	V	I	E	P	V
C	X	Q	C	D	R	N	I	F	Z	Y	L	O	E	P
X	X	Y	A	Q	O	Y	I	N	N	O	J	Y	I	C
H	W	U	I	B	F	R	G	N	G	K	D	N	U	S
C	G	A	Z	P	C	A	V	O	K	J	Y	B	L	V
X	E	N	S	A	K	R	Z	J	K	Y	V	N	D	F
V	I	O	S	E	T	Z	Q	F	K	X	K	L	L	H
J	R	R	U	L	V	F	N	L	K	A	X	G	Q	X

Compare:

Write what is the SAME in BLUE. Write what is DIFFERENT in RED



Garden of Eden Genesis 1-3

New Earth in Revelation 21