ONE in the word

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me (Jesus)." (John 5:39)

January 7 - Reflection

Men of ONE:

We have completed one week in our journey through a pursuit of God's word. This week's reading covered 15 chapters of the book of Genesis. In those chapters much was revealed, much was examined, therefore much is required. Even in just the few chapters that were read, it is evident that only God Almighty could have authored this Book.

In beginning chapter 1 of Genesis, we see Colossians 1:16 being fulfilled, "For by him were all things created," We were able to take a peek into God's word in action. It is apparent that through these first few chapters when God speaks, creation has no choice but to react. We must re-emphasize that even a non-reaction is a reaction.

In the second day of our reading we took the time to focus on the "image of God". We could take hours discussing this doctrine of our Bible, but suffice to say that the "image" was lost the day Adam sinned, leaving all of mankind to be born "in his own likeness, after his image;" God's plan for creating a race of beings that were created in His image to bring forth praise, glory, and honour to himself were put on hold due to Adam's sin and the results thereof. This plan remained on hold until the "Word became flesh" (John 1:14) to provide Himself a sacrifice for our sins.

As the story continues to unfold in Genesis, we find the evidence of the depravity of man in Genesis 6. It became so overwhelming that "it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." What a statement God makes in regards to man. On a practical note, as we read this chapter, has it crossed our minds if the statement could be made concerning us personally? This thought, without fail, should provoke us to "examine ourselves". Praise God that "where sin abounded, grace did much more abound" (Romans 5:20), for "Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD." By this grace, God chose to save mankind from complete destruction.

Through these chapters what is truly amazing to see is how the different attributes of God begin to be unveiled. We see Him as Creator. We see Him as love. He is revealed to us as light. He shows Himself as righteous. He shows Himself as faithful and true. He reveals to us His longsuffering Spirit. We see Him as holy. Through His relationship with Adam, we see His friendliness. We see Him portray mercy. He reveals Himself as gracious. He also reveals Himself as judge. He is revealed as the way by prophesying and providing of the way (John 14:6). Needless to say our God is amazing. Our God is deserving of all glory and honour. What a Book we have, and what a God is He!

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

Genesis 3:6 "And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; **and he did eat**."

Genesis 5:3 "And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:"

Genesis 7:1 "And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation."

Genesis 11:4 "And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

Genesis 13:9 "*Is* not his whole land before thee? **separate** thyself, I pray thee, from me: if *thou wilt* take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if *thou depart* to the right hand, then I will go to the left."