

**SUPER
SUMMER
SUNDAY
SEMINAR
SERIES**

Welcome

GOAL

- Learn something you did not know before!
 - About the Bible
 - About being a Christian
 - About being a Presbyterian Christian
- Come as much as you can
- Don't have to be here every Sunday

SCHEDULE

- June 10, 17, 24 – Hello Bible
- July 1, 8 – Presbyterian, for sure!
- July 15 – August 26 – What's the Church for anyway

**WHAT IS THE
BIBLE?**

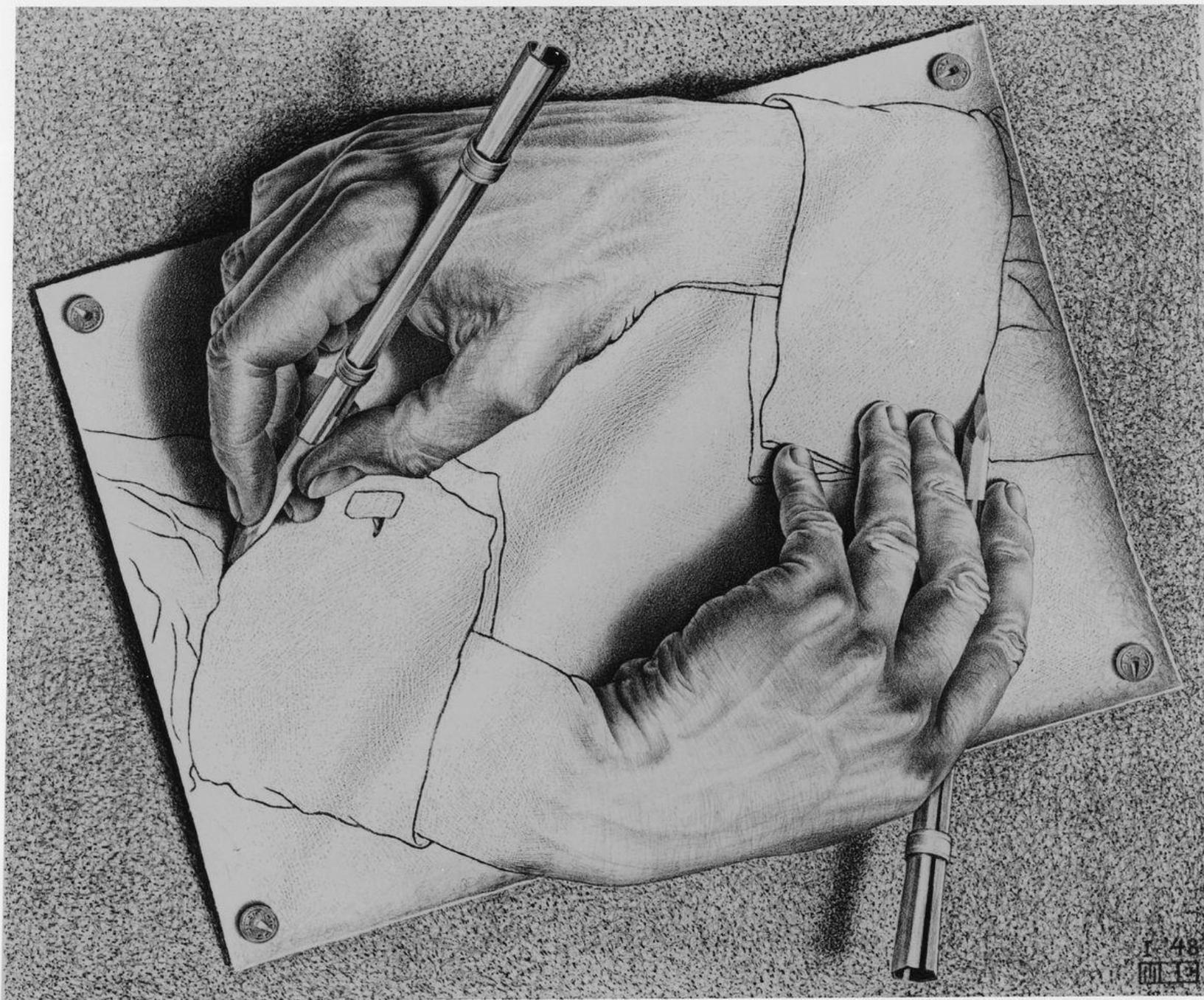
**WHAT IS THE BIBLE
TO YOU?**

COMPETING PERCEPTIONS OF THE BIBLE

A human word about God.

or

God's word to humans.



WHAT THE BIBLE IS!

A human word about God.

and

God's word to humans.

**In the beginning, God created
the heaven and the earth.**

Genesis 1:1

Wow!

Isn't it awesome that
God made a good
world.

What does it mean to
know the creator
God?

How?

How did God make
everything?

How long did it take?

Was it really seven
days?

Where was the Garden
of Eden?

How can snakes talk?

**In the beginning, God created
the heaven and the earth.**

Genesis 1:1

Wow!

Eastern World View

**Concrete
Corporate
Story
Religious
Meaning
Paradox**

How?

Western World View

**Abstract
Individual
Thesis
Scientific
Explanation
Syllogism**

The Bible was written by ancient eastern Hebrews.

It is not a contemporary textbook.

It was not written in English.

It does not answer every question.

It tells the story of God's interaction
with humanity

It brings readers into a more intimate
relationship with God.

The Bible many different kinds of literary devices

1/3 of the Bible is fairly complex Hebrew
Narrative

Beautiful Intricately Designed Stories

Ruth

Jonah

The Garden of Eden

An example of narrative literary technique in the Bible The Story of Achan

Judges 7:21

I saw among the spoil a **beautiful** mantle from Shinar, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, then **I** coveted them and **took** them. They now lie **hidden** in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath.”

1 Samuel 11:2-4

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that **he saw** from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very **beautiful**. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get **(and took)** her, and she came to him, and he lay with her.

Genesis 16:2-3

Sarai said to Abram, “You **see** that the Lord has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave-girl; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. [What’s going on in Abram’s mind]

So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram’s wife, **took** Hagar the Egyptian, her slave-girl, and **gave** her **to her husband** Abram as a wife.

Genesis 3:6

So when the woman **saw** that the tree was **good** for food, and that it was **a delight** to the eyes, and that the tree was to be **desired** [read beautiful] to make one wise, she **took** of its fruit and ate; and she also **gave some to her husband**, who was with her, and he ate.

In Genesis 1 & 2

What did God see?

Everything in creation

And it was good!

What was not good?

Genesis 2:18

It is not good that man should be alone!

What happens every time people
take what they deem to be good?

The Bible many different kinds of literary devices

1/3 of the Bible is Hebrew Poetry

The Song of Deborah
Most of the Prophetic Writing
Much of the Psalms

The Bible many different kinds of literary devices

1/3 of the Bible is Hebrew Expositor
Writing
Gospel
Mail
Hebrew Apocalyptic

The Arc that Unifies the Bible

