

Chapter One

The Gospel of Our Beginning

Before the Lie.

Before the reaching.

Before shame. Before striving.

There was only Breath... Face to face... Adoration.

Triune hands moving through the dust—fingers trailing, shaping, forming.

Joy in the making. Love pressed into every curve.

The clay warmed beneath Their touch—alive with intention.

Nearer still.

Creation stilled. Heaven held its breath.

And then—Breath kissed dust—Ruach... whispered... exhaled.

You are very good. You bear Our image. Our likeness. Our life breath stirs within you. What is true in Us, now lives in you.

The first breath—drawn in wonder.

No fear. No distance.

Only union.

And the first sight—Love, face to face.

This is the Gospel!

The very good news starts here—in this love story between humanity and the Triune God.

Not at the cross.

Not after the Fall.

Here.

Face to face.

Breath meeting breath.

Life flowing into life.

The longing of Love taking form.

The desire of the Eternal One now seen and known.

Genesis unveils who we are.

A telling of beauty, wholeness, intention.

And the Triune God called it—*very good*.

But this was no casual pronouncement.

Not a passing word.

Not subject to change —

not something that could ever be undone.

He sees the end from the beginning.

And what He saw—He called *very good*.

The Greek echoes it—*kalos*.

Not—good enough.

Not—merely adequate.

Not—needing to become more.

Inherently good.

Beautiful. Noble. Unshakeable.

A goodness woven into the very nature of all He made.

And over creation, He spoke it.

And over humanity, He formed it in His own image and likeness—**goodness, breathed into being.**

The stars aligned, singing.

Trees and flowers flourishing in their design.

Creatures moving in fullness of purpose.

But for humanity, *‘very good’ wasn’t just an observation.*

It was a declaration of divine union.

We were not shaped merely to dwell within creation—

but to carry the very life of God Himself.

The Spirit breathed—and life awakened.

Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground.

What a moment!

We were not created with a flaw to be fixed.

We were formed for union—face to Face with the **Trinity**.

And in that moment—**adoration.**

Blessing spoken, life celebrated.

Not distant words, but joy poured out—**the delight of the Trinity resting upon humanity.**

The goodness spoken over us was no fragile thing.

Not dependent on behavior.

Not a moral standing that could be lost.

It was goodness woven into being.

Goodness in nature.

Goodness born of divine intent.

Goodness that cannot be undone.

The early church fathers saw it.

They dared to proclaim it.

Gregory of Nyssa: *“Man is a creature who has received the command to become God.”*

Irenaeus: *“The glory of God is man fully alive.”*

Athanasius: *“God became man so that man might become God.”*

Proclamations of the Gospel.

Truth known from the beginning—spoken boldly again.

And Peter too: *“We have become partakers of the divine nature.” (2 Peter 1:3-4)*

Not striving to become something we were not.

But awakening to who we have always been.

Not in essence but in shared life.

But then—the Lie.

A whisper.

A hiss.

You lack... you must grasp... you are not enough.

Adam and Eve believed it.
Not rebellion—deception.

They reached for what was already theirs.
And maybe you've heard that old whisper too—
You must do more. You must earn it. You must become...

But nothing truly changed in their nature.
And nothing changes yours.
Image and likeness remained.
The breath of the Triune God—still pulsing within.
The longing for union—still etched in humanity's being.

For the mystery of the Gospel, hidden for generations, is now revealed—Christ in you.

It did not become true after the cross.
It was the mystery of the very good news of humanity—hidden, unseen, yet always there.

The same old Lie, whispered again through religion:

“God shares His glory with no one.”

But the text says otherwise. Isaiah 42:8 speaks of idols, not humanity.

And Jesus Himself shattered this false notion when He prayed,
The glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one. (John 17:22)

Jesus was not guarding glory.
He was revealing the glory woven into our very being.

This is the scandal of the very good news.

We were never meant to live as lowly, broken, separated creatures.

We were created to share in divine life—from the beginning.

Not a Gospel of fixing what was broken—
but of revealing what has always been true.

Jesus proclaimed it.

Paul taught it.

The Spirit still bears witness to it.

You were created very good.

You were created for union.

You were created to radiate glory.

And nothing has changed.

The very breath of the Triune God lives in you.

This is the Gospel.