



A Study of the Book of GENESIS



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WEEK THREE

Creation

- *Genesis means “_____”*

In the Book of Genesis, we find the origin of all the basic entities of the universe and life:

- Origin of the Universe
- Origin of Order and Complexity
- Origin of Life
- Origin of our Solar System and Atmosphere
- Origin of Humankind
- Origin of Marriage

❖ **The Law of _____**: The Bible’s first mention of a concept is the simplest and clearest presentation; doctrines are then more fully developed on that foundation. So, to fully understand an important and complex theological concept, Bible students are advised to start with its “first mention.”

- *Important Initial Observations:*

- *The Bible makes no attempt to _____ that there is a God; it takes this fact as _____.*

The expression “and God said” occurs ___ times.

HOW DID THE UNIVERSE ORIGINATE?

Did God Create the Universe?

- _____ **Evolution**

It was Charles Darwin, however, who rightly captured the world's attention. His theory was developed to the degree that none of the others were. Perhaps even more importantly, it was supported by an impressive array of observations collected initially on the world-encircling tour of the HMS Beagle from 1831 to 1836. Darwin's theory may be arranged in these postulates and conclusions:

- 1) **Variation.** There are variations within individuals of the same species.
- 2) **Overproduction.** In most cases, more individuals are born to a species than can possibly survive to maturity.
 - ✓ **Conclusion:** struggle for existence. In order to survive individuals must compete with other members of the same species.
- 3) **Survival of the Fittest.** In a competitive environment, only those individuals best fitted to survive will survive.
- 4) **Inheritance of Favorable Characteristics.** Fit individuals pass their "good" characteristics to their descendants.
 - ✓ **Final Conclusion:** New species arise by the continued survival and reproduction of the individuals best suited to their particular environment.

❖ **The Driving Desire Behind Evolution:** *Humans become _____ with no accountability.*

❖ **A Brief Response to Evolution:** *Is it more logical, rational, and scientific to believe in evolution; or is it more logical, rational, and scientific to believe in creation?*

- **The Scientific Evidence:**

- **The Fossil Evidence:**

How Did God Create the Universe?

- _____ **Evolution**

Generally, they accept the scientific data urged in support of evolution. The main difference between the theistic evolutionists and the atheistic evolutionists is that the former believe that God, specifically the God of the Bible, is _____ the evolutionary process, while the latter attribute identical developments to chance.

- **The _____ Theory**

This understanding of the origins views the first verse of Genesis as an apparent continuation of the creation story with no interruption. However, between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2, there is a long but indeterminate period in which the _____ of an _____ world and

- _____ **Creationism**

Briefly stated, it says that God created the world directly and deliberately, that is, without leaving anything to “_____,” but that He did it over _____ of time that correspond roughly to the geological ages. Moreover, this creation is still going on. Progressive creationism attempts to show how current scientific theories of the origins of the universe and the formation of the earth match the revelation in Genesis.

- **____-____ Creationism**

This theory views the Genesis account as involving _____, suggests a relatively young earth (maximum age twelve thousand years), and explains the fossil record as having been formed by the great flood in Genesis 6, conceived as universal and of immensely destructive proportions.

When we try to give an answer to the question of how God created, we must beware, for we are entering somewhat alien territory (Job 38-41). It is much more a question of science (of which none of us are experts), and it is certainly not central to the Scripture’s message.

Why Did God Create the Universe?

STRATEGIC ORDER OF CREATION EVENTS <i>(Genesis 1)</i>			
DAY 1 (3-5)		DAY 4 (14-19)	
DAY 2 (6-8)		DAY 5 (20-23)	
DAY 3 (9-13)		DAY 6 (24-31)	

- ***Pressing Question:*** *Why Chapter 2 after Chapter 1? Are there TWO creation accounts?*

**KEY DISTINCTIVES
BETWEEN GOD'S CREATION OF NATURE & HUMANITY**

<i>GENESIS</i>	<u>CREATION</u>	<u>HUMANITY</u>
<i>1:11-12, 21, 24-25, 26-27</i>		
<i>1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24; 2:7</i>		
<i>1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24; 2:7</i>		
<i>What God Is Called</i>		

- *Some Critical Conclusions:*

1. God Created the _____.

➤ *John 1:3; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11; Hebrews 11:3*

2. God created the cosmos for _____, and He created humankind for _____.

3. God created humanity in “after His _____,” and He commanded them to “_____ the earth”.

4. God created _____ to fully display God’s creative work in humanity and his perfect plan for humanity.

5. His pronouncement of creation as very good means that the material is not essentially _____.

6. The story of God’s creation (Genesis 1-2) reveals God’s plan for our _____.

➤ *Genesis 2:2-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Hebrews 4:1-10*