

Bi 115 – The Pentateuch

Genesis - Beginnings



February 5, 2015

Genesis - Beginnings 1:1-2:25

- I. The Creation of the World (1:1)
- II. Forming and Filling (1:2-31) →
- III. Day Seven, The Rest (2:1-3)
- IV. Partners in the Garden (2:4-25) →

I. The Creation of the World (1:1)

How do you connect Vs 2

²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Is Vs 2, the result of God's first action on the first day in Vs 1, and continued in Vs 3 ?

OR

Is Vs 2, a continuation of a Narration clause of Vs 1, defining what the world was like when God started in Vs 3 ?

Three Theories -

Verse	Theory 1	Theory 2	Theory 3
1	Original Creation,	Original Creation,	Superscription – Summary statement of everything developed in the following Vs.
2	Gap, of uncertain duration, during which the earth had become without form and Void	The state of the world as God has just created it,	The situation before creation, in contrast to the coming glory of the 7 days of creation...
3	God's second act of creation , or divine act of recreation	God's continuing act of creation, bringing ORDER	God's sequential act of creation, bringing ORDER out of chaos

II. Forming and Filling (Gn 1:2-31)

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- A. Formless & Empty (1:2)
- B. The Forming (1:3-13)
- C. The Filling (1:14-31)





II.B The Forming (Gn 1:3-13)

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1. Day one – Light (1:3-5)
2. Day two – Water and Sky (1:6-8)
3. Day three – Land & vegetation (1:9-13)

II.B.1 Day 1 – Light Genesis 1:3-5

- Light was separated from darkness.
- God only spoke “let there be light”.
- God has great power to speak it into existence. We do not know how!

SEPARATES
LIGHT
FROM
DARKNESS

II.B.2 Day two – Water and Sky Genesis 1:6-8

- Heavens separated from the waters below.
- There was nothing but water and God spoke and separated the water.
- Below the water was the seas and above the water was the sky.
- God knew that all of creation would need air to breath.

DAY 3

GATHERS
WATER
TO ONE
PLACE
AND LAND
APPEARS
ALONG WITH
VEGETATION

II.B.3 Day three – Land & vegetation Genesis 1:9-13

- The dry land separated from the seas and plants were sprouted from the earth.
- God collected the waters in one place to form oceans.
- God then spoke and made dry land.
- Then God formed plants and trees all with seeds to reproduce more plants of their same kind.

II.C The Filling (Gn 1:14-31)

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1. Day four – Lights (1:14-19)
2. Day five – Water & sky animals (1:20-23)
3. Day six – Land animals and Humans (1:24-31)
 - a. Animals created by their kinds (1:24-25)
 - b. Humans created (1:26-30)
 - i. *In the image of God* (1:26-27)
 - ii. *Manifest in dominion and relationship* (1:28)
 - iii. *Assigned Fruit and seeds as food* (1:29-30)
 - c. God declares all is good (1:31)

DAY 4

II.C.1 Day four – The Lights Genesis 1:14-19

CREATES
SUN TO RULE
THE DAY

AND MOON
TO RULE
THE NIGHT.

- The sun was formed for light in the day and the stars and the moon were formed for light in the night.
- Light was made on the first day but these were specific lights.
- These lights in the sky serve to mark off the seasons, the days and the years.

CREATES
STARS AND
OTHER
PLANETS.

II.C.2 Day 5 – Water & Sky Animals Genesis 1:20-23

- The sea creatures were formed to live in the seas and the birds were formed to live in the heavens.
- God waited until creation was right for the living creatures to live and breath.
- God made every kind of flying creature and ocean creature.
- God's first blessing was for the animals.



II.C.3.a – Land Animals

Genesis 1: 24-25

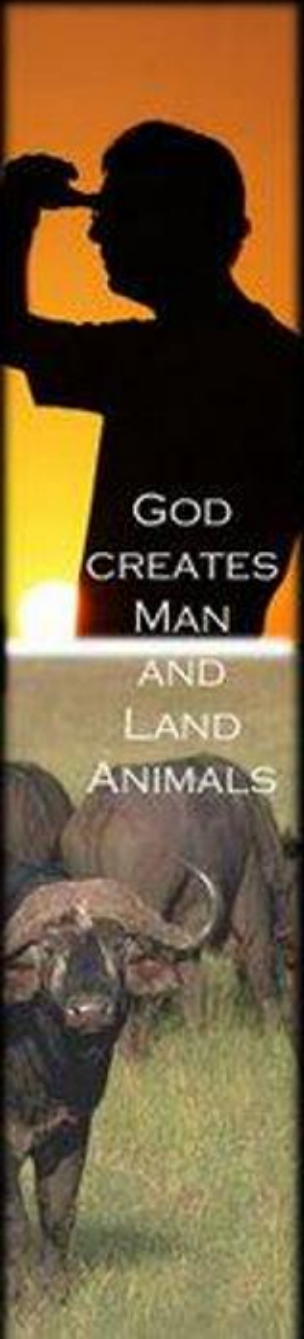
- All of the land creatures were formed.
- God was specific – livestock, creatures that move on the ground and wild animals.
- God saw that it was good.



II.C.3.b.i – Humankind

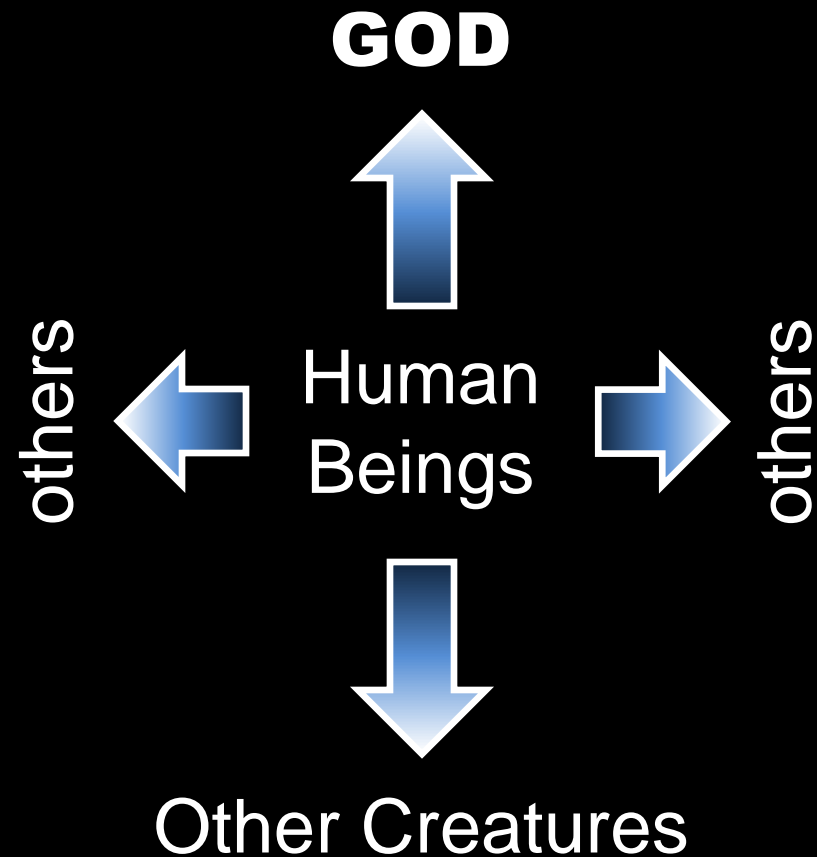
Genesis 1: 26-27

- Humankind was made – in the image of God. “imago dei”
- Male and female persons were made to have rule over the all of the creatures in the air, in the sea and on the earth.
- God is a God of order. Everything was in place before He created humankind.



The Creational Responsibilities of Humanity in the Image of God

- Man is uniquely created in God's image vs the animals who are after their kind.
- Man is in relationship to God, others, and the rest of creation .





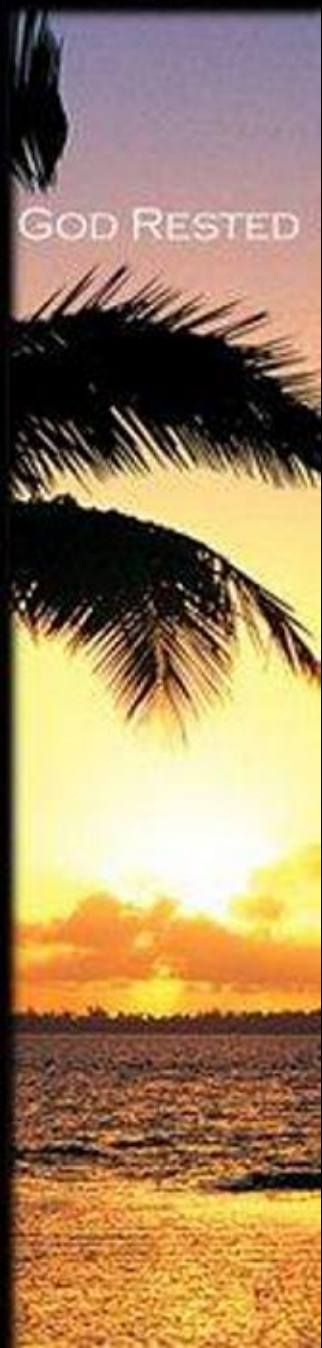
II.C.3.b.ii Manifest in rule and relationship Genesis 1: 28

- God gave man His blessing to have children and multiply.
- God assigned the rule – to rule over and care for all the things of God's creation



II.C.3.b.iii Assigned fruit and seeds as food **Genesis 1: 29-30**

- God gave fruits and seeds of the earth to mankind for food.
- God gave the green plants to the wild animals, the birds, and the small animals



II.C.3.c God declares all is GOOD

Genesis 1:31

- The work of creation was complete and God ceased. The creation was done.
- God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

Review – The Days of Creation

DAY 1

DAY 2

DAY 3

DAY 4

DAY 5

DAY 6

DAY 7

The Symmetry of Creation

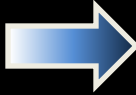

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

IV. Partners in the Garden (2:4-25)

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- A. The Creation of Adam (2:4-14) 
- B. The instruction of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (2:15-17)
- C. The Creation of Eve (2:18-23) 
- D. The Institution of Marriage (2:24-25)

Is it one, or is it two Creation Accounts ? ? ?

- In vs 2:4, there is a Tol'dot, an important structural indicator in the book of Genesis. There are eleven in total: 2:4, 5:1, 6:9, 10:1, 11:10, 11:27, 25:12, 25:19, 36:9, 37:2.
- It is a feminine noun from yalad (יָלַד) “to bear, to generate” and refers to what is “brought forth.” Often translated as “generations, histories, or descendants.”
- The name following the tol'dot is usually the starting point, not the central character of a narrative.
- So,
Chapter one, is an overview
Chapter two, is the details.



IV.A Creation of Adam (2:4-14)

IV.A. The Creation of Adam (2:4-14)

1. The primeval environment (2:4-6)
2. The creation of Man (2:7)
3. The Garden of Eden (2:8-14)

IV.C Creation of Eve (2:18-23)

IV.C. The Creation of Eve (2:18-23)

1. Not Good for Adam to be alone (2:18)
2. Adam reviews all the animals and finds none suitable for him (2:19-20)
3. God forms a rib into Eve, and presents her to Adam (2:21-23)
4. The Institution of Marriage (2:24-25)

Key elements in God's plan for Marriage:

God's plan for marriage includes . . .

1. Leaving
2. Cleaving
3. Becoming one flesh

Marriage is a God-ordained and blessed, permanent, one-flesh covenant relationship between
A man and a woman



Evolutionary Theories

- **Evolution:** This refers to the hypothesis that approximately 4,500,000,000 years ago lifeless chemicals in the sea, acted upon by sunlight, formed themselves into one or more simple-celled organisms, which have since developed by natural selection of favorable mutations into all living and extinct plants, and animals including Humans.
- **Theistic Evolution:** Many theists who accept the theory of evolution believe that this long and gradual process took place under the controlling direction of a supernatural Being. This view is sometimes promoted by theologians who desire to harmonize modern science with their belief in a creating God
- **Progressive Creationism:** This viewpoint holds that while God directly created the first life, and also major stages of life throughout geologic history, extensive evolution has taken place over vast periods of time within these major created groups of living beings.
- **Day-Age Theory:** According to this view, the six creative days of the Genesis account of creation were long ages (millions of years), not normal 24 hour days. This theory is closely linked with the evolutionary hypothesis which demands long periods of time for mutation and natural selection.

Evolutionary Theories - Objections

- Biblical evidence only allows for adaptation within a kind – never outside a kind
- Figurative usage of “day” (yom) does occur, but never when used with a number as in Gen 1:5,8,13,19,23, 31
- Genesis accounts with “yom” also describe it with evening and morning indicating normal days are in view.
- Evolutionary Hypothesis is founded on 2 presuppositions: (1) mutations) and (2) natural selection.
- No one can show one example of a mutation that ever increased a genetic complexity of a specie. Variations when evident represent a weakening.
- This contradicts the Second Law of Thermodynamics – which states things go from order, to greater random disorder.
- No transitional forms have every been discovered .