

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Current Book: *Genesis*

Scripture(s) for Today: Genesis 1:6-8 – Creation Day 2: A firmament; God divides the waters

Today's Message: ***"Mission Impassable!"***

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we learned of God's priority for the 1st literal day of creation – light! He commanded His light to shine out of darkness. Then, God separated His light from darkness to prepare for new life. Today, we will find the only creation day that God does not say something is **GOOD**. Why is that? You may need to set aside what you have been taught or believe again. For on this day, God divided the waters from the waters and made a firmament in their midst. It was a heavenly structure for the heavens and the earth, which are **NOW**. The Bible tells us to look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are **NOT** seen. (2 Cor 4:18) The Bible says Jesus Christ created all things in heaven and earth – visible and **INVISIBLE**! (Col 1:15) May God open your eyes to see the invisible...

LEARNING TOGETHER

1. The Text Gen 1:6-8

➤ **"Firmament" "And God called the firmament Heaven."**

- ✓ The word "*firmament*" is found 17 times in 15 verses in KJV.
- ✓ **Definition W1828:** "*firmament*" – an expanse; a wide extent; sky and heavens.
- ✓ In **Gen 1:20**, God will create birds to fly above the earth in the open "*firmament of heaven*."
- ✓ In **Gen 1:14**, God will create sun, moon and stars to be placed in the "*firmament of heaven*."
- ✓ In **2 Cor 12:2**, the Apostle Paul was caught up to the "*third heaven*." Where God dwells.
- ✓ The *third heaven* is also called, "*the heaven of heavens*." **Deut 10:14; 1 Ki 8:27; Neh 9:6**
- ✓ Therefore, there must be a *first* and *second heaven* – **BOTH** are included in the "*firmament*."

NOTE The firmament God "*made*" and called "*Heaven*" includes the 1st *Heaven* (earth's atmosphere) and 2nd *Heaven* (outer space). Thus, **Gen 2:1** says, "*the heavens*" rather what **Gen 1:1** calls, "*the heaven*" (different framework). The Bible says in **Heb 11:3** that through faith, we understand how God "*framed*" the "***worlds***"!

➤ **"Divided the waters" "under the firmament from the waters... above the firmament"**

- ✓ It is important to not miss the obvious – the "*waters*" are now on **both** sides of the firmament!
- ✓ The 1st "*waters*" are placed **UNDER** the *first heaven* – where the earth will soon be.
- ✓ The 2nd "*waters*" are placed **ABOVE** the *second heaven* – which is beyond outer space!
- ✓ God will focus on "*the waters UNDER the heaven*" on the 3rd Day of creation.

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- ✓ So, what about the “waters” that are **ABOVE** the firmament? Remember “*the deep*”?
- ✓ The Bible clearly teaches they were placed **BETWEEN** the *second* and the *third* heaven.
- ✓ **Ps148:4** “Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.”
- ✓ **Job 38:30** says, “The waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen.”
- ✓ **Ex 24:10** says, “And they saw the God... under his feet... as it were the body of heaven...”
- ✓ **Rev 4:6** says, “And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal...”
- ✓ **Jn 8:23** – “Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.”

NOTE A body of water (“*the deep*”) separates the *second* and *third* heaven. It is called a “*sea*” and forms an impassable barrier between the world of man (**below**) and the world of God (**above**). The only way through it is the Lord Jesus Christ! In OT, it is found in type in the temple – *the veil* between the holy place and the holy of holies.

➤ **Why is nothing declared to be “good” on the second day?**

- ✓ **Col 1:16** says all things were created by Jesus Christ – visible & **invisible** – *principalities/powers*!
- ✓ **Col 2:15** says Jesus Christ “*spoiled principalities and powers*” – after His sacrifice on the **cross**!
- ✓ **Eph 1:21** says Christ is “*in the heavenly places*” – **FAR ABOVE** – with “*all things under his feet*”!
- ✓ **Eph 3:10** says that “*the principalities and powers*” are to be found in “*heavenly places*”...
- ✓ **Eph 6:12** says we have an enemy we cannot see – “*rulers of darkness*” that live in **HIGH** places!
- ✓ **Isa 24:21** says, “And it shall come to pass **in that day**, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, AND the kings of the earth upon the earth.”
- ✓ **Mt 24:29, Mk 13:25, Lk 21:26** – Tribulation Period – “*the powers of heaven shall be shaken*”!
- ✓ **Dan 10:13, 20** – Spiritual rebels in the heavens – found “*fighting*” with God’s angelic hosts!
- ✓ **Job 41:31-32** – Leviathan = Satan (**Isa 27:1; Rev 12:9**) his domain = *the deep*, the *Second Heaven*

NOTE God’s seems to have omitted “good” because the *second heaven* (including outer space, solar systems, and innumerable stars) also contains the rulers of darkness including fallen angels and Satan which we cannot see because they are **INVISIBLE**!

2. The Lesson

Genesis Lesson 7: *An impassable barrier exists between God’s world and ours.*

➡ God made the heavenly framework for our world; access to God comes only by Christ!

So, how can you apply Creation Day 2 to your life today?

1. **FAITH** – God framed the world, detained *evil powers*, and restricted *access*. **Heb 11:3**
2. **FABLE** – Your *invisible* enemies want you to think they are a *fairy tale*. **Eph 6:12**
3. **FRUIT** – Your life is **visible** to *principalities and powers* in heavenly places. **Eph 3:10**