

*We exist to make disciples who delight in God and make Him known  
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

## ***The Creation of All Things***

***Genesis 1:2 - 2:3***

**Keywords:** Truth, Creation, Evolution,

**PowerPoint Presentation included:** Gen 1 2 - 2 3. pdf

**SermonAudio Blurb:** In this sermon we go from nothing to everything in six days. We witness the creative power and wisdom of God who establishes all that we know and countless things that we may never know about. This is not a sermon seeking to debunk evolution; rather it is a simple exposition of the text itself coming from the presupposition that the Bible is true.

### **I. Introduction.**

- A. Today we will go through the biblical account of creation.
  - 1. I gave three sermons to prepare us to go into the next eleven chapters of Genesis to see what is written and what are the many consequences to these chapters.
  - 2. To name a few: origins of all things; nature of humanity; gender roles; gender identity; marriage; population control; environmentalism; national identity; racism and racial identity; geology; capital punishment; origins of government; and language development.
  - 3. These are not small matters and most of them are quite important to events taking place in our nation at this time.
  - 4. It is not my desire to spend time trying to debunk or answer every possible question or objection to what is described in Genesis 1. There are many excellent resources to do that and we will give you some suggested reading via our FB page.
- B. The bible makes it clear from the beginning to the end that YHWH is the creator of all things and that there is but one God and all other gods are false and to be rejected.
  - 1. This is why Paul starts out his evangelistic speech in Athens with God as the creator of all things.
  - 2. It immediately clears the table of all other competing gods and beliefs.
  - 3. And it immediately creates tension, a good tension between the speaker and the listener.

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4. There are at least 100 references in the New Testament to various events that are recorded in Genesis 1-11. Jesus refers to this section of the bible 15 times.
- C. But this idea of God as creator is also woven throughout the bible in so many ways that are not obvious at first but it becomes clear as you think about it. It is similar to the biblical doctrines of election or the deity of Jesus Christ.
1. E.g. Exodus 5:2—Pharaoh’s challenge to Moses. “But Pharaoh said, ‘Who is YHWH that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know YHWH, and besides, I will not let Israel go.’”
  2. God’s answer is the plagues. Each of them are confronting one of the key gods of Egypt (Exodus 12:12, “For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; **and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am YHWH.**”
  3. God shows that He is the Lord over creation. He is the master of all the earth and the heavens.
- D. The Creation account here is also a protective fence against heresy for the ancient Israelites.
1. Remember, Moses wrote this book. Therefore it was after the Israelites’ time in Egypt. The Egyptians, along with the many neighboring people-groups, worshiped nature.
  2. Cf. Joshua 24:14, "Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.”
  3. They needed to be reminded, in a perfect way, that YHWH was not just one of many gods. He was not merely the god of the mountains or the valleys. He and He alone was God.
  4. The thinking of mankind, since the fall, has been to confuse God and Creation together in one way or another. YHWH was the God of Creation, not merely the God within Creation. This was why it was utterly forbidden to try to make any image of God—it was a horrid sin, for it sought to make God like His creation.
- E. With those introductory remarks, let’s look at Genesis 1 and the six days of creation.

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## II.    **The Six Days of Creation.**

### A.    Day one:

1.    Without form and void.
  - a.    Not an indication of God's judgement but rather it is the basic "stuff" of creation. From nothing came something.
  - b.    It is simply what the earth was like at the very beginning. From that point on, we see God giving it form and filling it (PowerPoint).
  - c.    Picture this like a potter taking a lump of clay and slapping it onto the potter's wheel.
2.    ". . . the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters."
  - a.    Speaks of the work of the Spirit within the work of creation.
  - b.    The phrase is actually hard to put into words. There is a tremendous amount of intensity and power and mystery involved.
  - c.    The point however, is that God was intensely interested in the work of creation. There was an intimate interaction involved.
3.    Light (vss. 3-5).
  - a.    Here we see the first word of creation. It comes in a standard 7 part formula.
    - (1)    First is "announcement" (God said).
    - (2)    Second is command, (let there be).
    - (3)    Third is fulfillment (it was so).
    - (4)    Fourth is execution (light, etc.).
    - (5)    Fifth is approval (it was good).
    - (6)    Sixth, is God then describing or naming the event (called it day).
    - (7)    Seventh, there was a numbered day (first day, etc.).
  - b.    "God said."
    - (1)    A very full term. Much more than God merely just talking.

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- (2) It is an expression of His sovereign rule. He is King and He is speaking His will and wish.
  - (3) And when He speaks He brings into existence what He wishes. It is a speech of authority, of omnipotence, of wisdom, and of certainty.
  - (4) What does He say? Let there be . . . It is a divine fiat. God has expressed His command and it simply is.
  - (5) Hear that well. It is not the beginning of something in an unformed, vague state. It is the simple creation of what He desires, as He desires. It is a finished, complete event.
  - (6) Oh beloved, let us tremble before this God. But let us learn to have great hope. It is this God Who is the God in Who we can hope, to Whom we can pray, and in Whom we can rest in.
  - (7) “Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You” (Jeremiah 32:17).
  - (8) “Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk in it, ‘I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, And I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations, to open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon, And those who dwell in darkness from the prison. I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images’” (Isaiah 42:5-8).
- c. But also see the Trinity at work here.
- (1) Matt Miller did a good job on this in his short series on the Word of God and I commend that to you if you cannot remember his teaching.
  - (2) The bible says that through the second person of the Trinity, the Son (or the Word), the Father created all things.

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- (3) So when you see God speak, you should understand that the Father is the architect so to speak. The Son is bound up in the idea of God speaking. He does the actual creating. And the Holy Spirit energized the work.
- d. What is the first of the created acts? Light.
- (1) Notice that it is just light. We see no mention of stars and suns and such.
  - (2) Fascinating stuff, light is. What follows is just a little bit of what I learned in researching for this series.
  - (3) There is this thing called the electromagnetic spectrum which is made up of various types of radiation. We know two of them, light and heat. This spectrum permeates all of nature and its wavelengths are exceedingly broad, something around  $10^{25}$ . To understand how big that is I can only say that the number of seconds in 4 billion years is a mere  $10^{17}$ .
  - (4) So pretend you can imagine the length of that line of this spectrum. Then understand that there is a spot on that spectrum that is so thin we can't conceive of it in which photo chemistry to occur, which is what we need for life. And this is what we call light, the visual light we can see.
  - (5) This is what our sun does. It just happens to emit the radiation that is the exact range needed for life. And it always has done this. Understand the vastness of options of radiation that the sun could have ended up emitting if it was a process of random series of events over an untold length of time.
  - (6) Add to this the fact that light is made up of particles but it is also made up of waves. But not exactly so science calls them at a quantum level particle waves. And when light is examined at the atomic level it does not make sense and there is no real understanding on how it works at all.
  - (7) This all leads to what is called quantum tunneling that is too complex for me to remotely follow. But suffice it to say that it is necessary for life to exist. And part of what is involved is that light functions like a particle until it needs

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to function like a wave and then it becomes a wave.  
Science has no understanding of how this works but it does  
know that without this quality there would be no life.

(8) I commend to you the book *Children of Light* by Michael  
Denton to read more and be amazed.

e. “It was good.”

(1) The picture is of a great artist admiring his work. Notice  
what He calls good though. It was the light. It is, if you  
will, showing how God is given to approval of light rather  
than darkness.

(2) And again it helps us understand passages where the Bible  
calls us children of day, children of the light. That we are  
not to live in the time of darkness.

(3) And he calls it GOOD. He sees the result and says that it is  
fit for its purpose. And we see the character in God here as  
well, for Goodness is an essential part of God’s character  
and it shows itself in what He creates as well.

f. He separates — God gives light and darkness their own place.

g. He names.

(1) God then divinely identifies His creation. And here too we  
see His sovereignty.

(2) Throughout the Old Testament to name something is to  
assert your sovereign control over it.

h. Then there is evening and morning, one day.

(1) Here we have a clear statement of the length of time that  
took place. There is no reason from the bible itself to think  
that this means anything other than one day. Do not be  
swayed the massive amount of ink spilled trying to make it  
mean something other than a day.

(2) Even if you show that on occasion “Day” can mean much  
more than one day, it does not fit that He then emphasizes  
that there was an evening and morning.

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- (3) The only reason to seek to make this day to mean an extensive, undetermined length of time is the idea of evolution pressing in upon your world view.
- (4) By the way, it also shows his creation of time. Even before the creation of planets and the sun, there is a passage of time and He defines it himself.

## B. Day two:

1. Separation of the waters (6-8).
  - a. Firmament or expanse. Its purpose was to divide the water in the sky from the water in the sea.
  - b. It was called heaven. Not the abode of God but the sky.
  - c. And again, light interacting with the atmosphere is something that is incredibly unique.
  - d. It is worth noting that for everything we know and are still learning about the way our earth is made that the ocean needed to be first. It is the basis for everything else that follows, from the movement of the plates of the earth to the hydrological cycle.
  - e. But science has no idea how water came to be on earth.

## C. Day three:

1. Here there is no creation of new things. Rather it is merely organizing what exists.
2. He separates out the land. He causes vegetation to sprout. And this is all done in a proper order.
  - a. Water is an amazing thing. Without it soil would not exist. But because of the unique properties of water it is able to constantly replenish the soil through the breakdown of rock.
    - (1) The viscosity of water is just right so that it functions like a liquid sandpaper and causing erosion.
    - (2) This viscosity is not only important in the liquid state but also as ice. It is just right so that glaciers actually move over the solid surface of the earth. Ice is special because once it gets to a certain depth it is no longer brittle like we know of

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it, but it becomes more like a solid fluid that is able to move. Add to this that at the point of contact between the glacier and the ground there becomes a thin layer of liquid water which also aids in its movement.

- b. There is the miracle of surface tension as well. This helps water break rock down into soil and the necessary minerals and nutrients for life. But then, that same surface tension enables dirt/soil to retain water so that plants can live.
- c. Then in turn the water is the driving force of the plates of the earth so that through their interaction and movement all of the minerals and such are pulled back into the magma of the earth and then pushed up through volcanic action back to be turned into soil by water. This is all necessary for the health of the oceans and the health of the surface of the ground.
- d. Then there is the way water functions when it freezes.
  - (1) It is the only element know (except for one called Gallium) that expands when it freezes. This is important because it causes ice to float on water. If it froze like everything else, from the bottom up then nothing could survive winter.
  - (2) But when water freezes it also acts as a retainer of heat surprisingly enough. As it freezes it gives off heat. But it doesn't release it into the atmosphere where it would be lost, but it goes into the liquid water right below it, keeping that water from freezing easily.
  - (3) In fact, water can only turn into ice to a certain depth or thickness. Because it is a great insulator, after a few yards of thickness it will not allow the water below it to freeze.
  - (4) I commend to you the book *The Wonder of Water* by Michael Denton to learn more.
- e. All of this started by divine command. Just as He commanded the stars and planets of billions of galaxies to begin to move and spin and exist, so too down to the small of particles. Each doing its job for its Creator.



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3. Again, we see God bringing form out of formlessness. Land didn't just happen. It was designed by God. Water > Ground > Plants > Animals > and then Man to rule over it all.

## D. Day four:

1. Creation of the universe (14-19).
  - a. Contradicts that the universe came into existence first. It was the earth that was made, then everything else. All those galaxies came into being after this world.
  - b. Much space given to this subject. Why?
  - c. There is probably a greater purpose than merely talking about it.
    - (1) It shows that the planets, sun, etc. are creations of God. They are not gods themselves. A very common belief in the time of Moses.
    - (2) The moon and sun merely are used by God to give light. Nothing more. Very opposite of the views of Moses' time.
    - (3) And even to this day, the stars are given an aspect of deity. They can control our destinies. But again, here we see them rightly. They simply exist as creations of God.
    - (4) They were created for the purpose of showing the passage of time (14). They served to help man celebrate times and celebrations and feasts.

## E. Day five and day six.

1. Creation of creatures of the water and air (20-23).
2. Creation of land creatures (24-25).
  - a. Notice that it does not tell us how many animals or what they all looked like. Most likely we have here the core species from which the huge variety we know came about.
    - (1) Example would be the fact that dogs are all just dogs, only through selective breeding do we end up with the massive differences in the breeds.

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- (2) We also know that there were many animals that once existed but no longer. Examples are the woolly mammoth or the saber-tooth tiger.
- (3) Dinosaurs are made here.
- b. And all of them ate plants (29-30).
  - (1) Remember this as you see nature play itself out today.
  - (2) It is not correct to say that a lion kills and eats a zebra because God made them that way.
  - (3) It was not part of the original creation. Instead it is a constant reminder of the reality of Adam's sin. Death and destruction entered into the entire framework of creation through God's curse upon man.
- c. And so God again expresses His approval over His handiwork. But the highest form of His creation is yet to come.
- 3. Creation of Man (vs. 26-31).
  - a. I want to focus on the creation of Adam and Eve in a sermon all by itself so I will only make some quick observations.
  - b. It is key to see that mankind is completely distinct from the world of animals. Humans are a unique creation with unique qualities and a unique position in the universe.
  - c. In evolutionary thinking, humanity is the current highest form of animal.
  - d. In the bible all of creation is created for humanity but in evolution we are often viewed as interlopers who are destroying the world.
  - e. Humans are not only uniquely created we are also bearers of God's image.
  - f. After the creation of Adam and Eve God now declares that all that exists is "very good."

## III. **Conclusion.**

- A. The "rest of God" (2:1-3)

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1. This rest is not a cessation of activity for the bible is clear that God is active in creation in every possible way.
  2. But it is a cessation of His creative work of making the universe.
  3. The seventh day, which would be our Saturday, became a holy day. One that was used to remind Israel that on that day God stopped His work of creation and that they were to stop their work as well as a model.
  4. But in Hebrews 4 we find that the rest is picturing something even greater than a day of rest in a week. It is the picture of when God makes all things new again and all who love Him and believe in Him and follow Him shall enter into an eternity of true, abiding rest.
- B. God is a God of order.
1. As I thought of this, I thought of us spiritually. Before we were saved, truly there was nothing but darkness. There was no real form to our lives. We were just making it through life. Then God enters our darkness and out of formlessness and purposelessness, He begins to bring order in it.
  2. And this order out of chaos is a constant point in the Bible. God is a god of order, not chaos. Therefore the plants propagate according to their own kind. They do not evolve into new species. They stay within whatever confines God has given them. We now know that it is called DNA.
  3. Beloved, things are the way they are because God has decreed it to be so. He is the rule maker. He is the standard.
- C. God cares and provides for His creation.
1. Everything in this chapter we see how God shows us what it looks like to care for the world we live in.
  2. There is the awareness that everything has needs and He provides what is needed. As vice-regents of creation this is our task as well as image-bearers of our Maker.

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### Small Group Questions

- Simply discuss this sermon as to what stood out to those who heard it and what are some implications that may come from accepting the text as it is written.
- What questions were raised in your mind as you listened?