

Genesis 1 – Thursday, October 4th, 2007

- The Word Genesis means origin, or beginning. "Genesis is arguably the most important book in the Bible.
- Imagine how unspeakably difficult it would be to understand the whole of scripture without knowing its Beginning.
- If mankind would return to the truth of Genesis, perhaps the world in which we live would not be in such a state of peril!
- The book of Genesis contains virtually all of the important doctrines and teachings that are foundational to our faith in God.
- It reveals the origins of our universe, of life, man, marriage, evil, language, government, culture, nations, and religion.
- The scriptures are replete with declarations of the creation account we're about to look at in the first chapter of Genesis:

Psalm 19:1-2 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

Isaiah 40:26 Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

Psalm 147:4 He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

Psalm 90:1-2 1 LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. KJV

Psalm 8:3-4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?

Four Historic and Prophetic Facts in Genesis

Creation
The Fall
The Flood
The Dispersion of mankind establishing nations,

Four People in Genesis

Abraham
Isaac
Jacob
Joseph

- I thought Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. How did he write Genesis if he wasn't even alive at the time?
- There are indicators from the scriptures themselves that there were actual written records from the past that God had preserved.

"...it is probable that the Book of Genesis was written originally by actual eyewitnesses of the events reported therein. Probably the original narratives were recorded on tables of stone or clay, in common practice of early times, and then handed down from father to son, finally coming into the possession of Moses. Moses perhaps selected the appropriate sections for compilation, inserted his own editorial additions and comments, and provided smooth transitions from one document to the next, with the final result being the Book of Genesis as we have received it."
Henry M. Morris Founder of the Institute for Creation Research

- Jesus mentions Moses as writing the Pentateuch, (pent meaning 5), as they are called; "The First Five Books of Moses."
- Jesus, in referring to Moses, goes as far as saying if you don't believe in the Genesis account, you won't believe in Him.

John 5:46-47 46 If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. 47 But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?"

- Another important fact about the book of Genesis is that there are at least 165 passages in Genesis that are either directly quoted or clearly referred to in the New Testament.
- Many of the quotations from Genesis in the New Testament are quoted more than once. So there could be at least 200 quotations or allusions to Genesis in the New Testament.
- Now, let's get started with Genesis 1:1.

Verses 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

This one verse in verse one has God, in the beginning, creating the heavens and the earth. This one verse in verse one has man creating four theories that need to be addressed: 1- The Big Bang Theory 2-The Day/Age Theory 3-The Gap Theory 4-The Theistic Evolution Theory

"The only proper way to interpret Genesis 1 is not to 'interpret' it at all. That is, we accept the fact that it was meant to say exactly what it says."
Henry M. Morris

- **The Big Bang Theory** this theory believes that the creation of our universe began about 15 billion years ago with a massive explosion.
- One has jokingly quipped that God created the universe by saying bang, and heaven and earth were created.

Sir Isaac Newton had an accomplished artist make him a small scale model of our solar system which was to be put in a room in Newton's home. The assignment was finished and installed on a large table. The workman had done a very commendable job, simulating not only the various sizes of the planets and their relative proximities, but also so constructing the model that everything rotated and orbited when a crank was turned. A scientist friend of Newton's came by for a visit. Seeing the model, he was naturally intrigued, and proceeded to examine it with undisguised admiration for the high quality of the workmanship. "Oh My! What an exquisite thing this is!" Newton's friend exclaimed. "Who made it?" Paying little attention to him, Sir Isaac answered, "Nobody." Stopping his inspection, the visitor turned and said, "Oh? Evidently you did not understand my question. I asked who made this?" Newton, enjoying himself immensely no doubt, replied in a still more serious tone, "Nobody. There was this explosion and there it was."

Our complex solar system proves its intelligent design!

- If stars were any larger, they would send out too much light
- If stars were any smaller, they would not send out enough light

A Typical Galaxy contains billions of individual stars. Our galaxy alone (the Milky Way) contains 200 billion stars and our sun is just one star. That's just our galaxy; there are many other galaxies with many other shapes. The average distance between one galaxy and another is about 20 million trillion miles. Our closest galaxy is the Andromeda Galaxy, about 12 million trillion miles away. For every patch of sky the size of the moon, if you look very deep, there are about a million galaxies

The Gravitational Force

- If larger: the stars would be too hot and would burn up too quickly and too unevenly to support life
- If smaller: the stars would remain so cool that nuclear fusion would never ignite, and there would be no heat and light

The Polarity of the Water Molecule

- If greater: the heat of fusion & vaporization would be too great for life to exist
- If smaller: the heat of fusion and vaporization would be too small for life's existence; liquid water would become too inferior a solvent for life chemistry to proceed; ice would not float, leading to a runaway freeze-up

The Distance Between the Stars

- If larger: the heavy element density would be too thin for rocky planets to form - there would only be gaseous planets
- If smaller: planetary orbits would become destabilized

The Distance of our Sun

- If larger: we would freeze
- If smaller: we would fry
- Could all this happen by chance? Not a chance

- The Day/Age Theory – this theory believes the six days of creation were not literal days but over periods of time.
- This bogus theory can be quickly dismissed after one studies Genesis 1:1 thru 2:4, as we'll see in a moment.

The Gap Theory - Some believe that there was a gap between verses one and two. It's thought that Lucifer was cast down from heaven during this gap of time making the earth void, without form and dark. God wouldn't create void.

Isaiah 45:18 For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the LORD, and there is no other. NKJV

- The Theistic Evolution theory is the belief that God used the natural process of evolution in His creation.
- This theory will also be quickly dismissed as we'll see in a moment.

Verses 2-5 (Day 1) - 2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

- In Hebrew created is "bara" meaning to create out of nothing. God takes nothing, and not only makes something He can make anything.
- Notice that the evening and the morning were the first day. To this day this is how the Jews consider it a day, from darkness to light.
- Isn't that how it is? Our lives are without form and void, in darkness, then we see His light and He separates the darkness from the light.

- 🌍 The first five verses seemingly have a message of salvation: darkness to light, emptiness to fulfillment, waste to worth.
- 🌍 God separates the light from the darkness, as He separates us from the darkness of this world.

- First it's a message of salvation
- Then it's an illustration of sanctification

Verses 6-8 (Day 2) - 6 Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. "7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

- We're told that there was a water canopy of sorts surrounding the atmosphere. It's been likened unto a greenhouse over the earth.
- The global climate was literally perfect which explains why fossils of tropical vegetation are found in the Arctic Circle.
- It also explains why man could live nine hundred years before the flood, then.

- 🌍 It's believed that this water canopy would have been like a vapor blanket, shielding the earth, which would greatly change the earth's climate.
- 🌍 Without great temperature variations, there would be no winds, and the water-rain cycle could not form - there would be no such thing as rain.
- 🌍 This vapor blanket would filter out ultraviolet radiation, cosmic rays, and other destructive energies that bombard the planet. These are known to be the cause of mutations which decrease human longevity.

This vapor blanket would provide the necessary reservoir for a potential world-wide flood (Morris)

Verses 9-13 (Day 3) - 9 Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land

appear"; and it was so. 10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. 12 And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 13 So the evening and the morning were the third day.

- Science says; "there can't be light without the sun, and the sun hasn't been created yet. It gets created on the fourth day, this is still day three.
- No here on day three, trees and vegetation is created on the third day, how can that be, the sun doesn't get created until tomorrow on the fourth day.
- Good thing it's only going to be in 24 hours, or one literal day and not over an age or period of time!!!!

"When science and the Bible differ, science has obviously misinterpreted its data."

Henry M. Morris

- There's something else here that we would be remiss to miss.

"On the first day, light was created. On the second day, the atmosphere was created. On the third day, life is created. Why does life appear on the third day? Because Jesus – the Way, the Truth, the Life – rose on the third day." Jon Coursen Application Commentary p4

Verses 14-19 (Day 4) - 14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; 15 and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so. 16 Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. 17 God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

- On this day, God creates the sun and the moon. The sun is the giver of the light. However the moon is only a reflector of the Sun's light.
- One has likened this to what Jesus said about us being the light. We, like the moon reflect the light from the Sun, unless we're eclipsed.
- Just as an eclipse can separate the earth from the sun, so too can sin separate us from the Son.
- The degree to which the Sun is eclipsed is the degree to which the darkness blinds.
- So God creates the Sun, Moon and Stars on Day 4.

- It's believed that the stars in the heavens that were to "be for signs and seasons, and for days and years," as we read in verse 14 would have included what we call the Zodiac.
- Some believe that the constellations and the sequence of the zodiac are a message of God's plan of redemption.
- Astrology is a Satanic corruption of what God creates.

Let me hasten to say that today we have the Bible which provides a clear message of God's plan of redemption. Although stars continue to "declare the glory of God" and are useful in our calendar system, the Bible does not tell us to search the stars for detailed messages. Actually warnings are given against this since constellation symbols can have many possible interpretations.

Constellation	Picture	Interpretations
Virgo	Virgin	Virgin Mary
Libra	Scales	Sin must be paid for
Scorpius	Scorpion	Sin brings death
Sagittarius	archer	Demonism
Capricorn	Goat-fish	Earth corruption
Aquarius	Water-pour	Noah's flood
Pisces	Fish	God's remnant
Aries	Ram	Sacrifice
Taurus	Bull	Resurrection
Gemini	Twins	Christ's dual nature
Cancer	Crab	Gathering of redeemed
Leo	Lion	The King

Verses 20-25 (Day 5) - 20 Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens. "21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth. "23 So the evening and the morning were the fifth day. 24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so. 25 And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

- So God creates living creatures after their kind. So in other words, the cow was created to breed a cow after its own kind.
- It is for this reason that theistic evolution is false. Living creatures didn't evolve into other living creatures over time. God created each different species "after its kind." Cows breed cows not cats.
- Man did not evolve from animals. Science says "It's from a cosmic goo to the zoo to you!" Man is distinct from animals in a myriad of ways.

Only Man:

- ☺ Has a natural countenance that looks upward
- ☺ Has such a variety of facial expressions
- ☺ Has a sense of shame that expresses itself in a blush
- ☺ Speaks in an intelligible language
- ☺ Possesses personality, morality and spirituality

- ☺ Possesses knowledge, feelings and a will
- ☺ Has a conscience
- ☺ Can make a moral judgment
- ☺ Can communicate with God on a spiritual level

I've never seen an animal pray before he eats, have you?

Verses 26-31 (Day 6) - 26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." 29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. 30 Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

- Notice it says; "let 'us' make man in 'our' image? Why is it in the plural not in the singular? Because this God as the Trinity.

- God in the Hebrew is; "Elohim." El is singular, but Elohim refers to three or more. God created us in His image, triune in nature: body-soul-spirit.