



# GENESIS CH. 1

Creation and Ordering



# CREATION AND ORDER: APPLICATION

Objectives for today:

- Read Genesis 1 passages that summarize Creation as a backdrop for discussion
- Provide different viewpoints or interpretations of Creation for your consideration
- Consider “slippery slope” questions or applications that will stimulate towards sharing Creation with others and leading to further engagement towards:
  - *The Gospel*
  - *Salvation*
  - *Faith and Science compatibility*



# Genesis 1:1-25

1In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

6Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” 7God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

9Then God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. 10God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. 11Then God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, *and* fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them”; and it was so. 12The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. 13There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

14Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; 15and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. 16God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made* the stars also. 17God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. 19There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

20Then God said, “Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens.” 21God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

22God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

24Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind”; and it was so. 25God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

# Genesis 1:1-25

## Points to Emphasize

1:1

### ■ God: Elohim

- *Plural in form*

■ If plural, how many? Who?

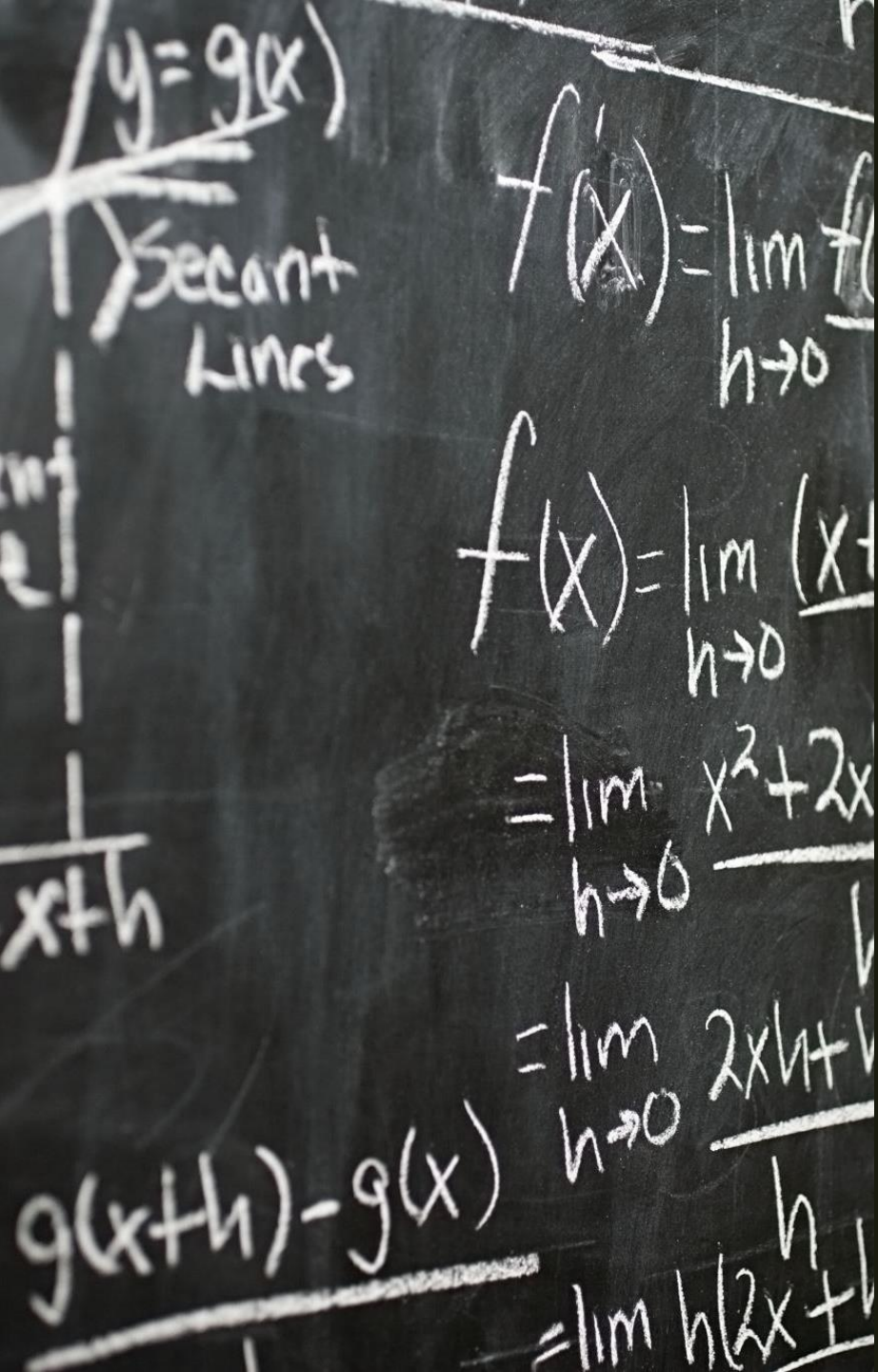
■ Moses' emphasis on monotheism

- *Why?*

- *1445 BC*

- *Denotes "majestic"*

*Acts 17:24*



# Genesis 1:1-25

## Points to Emphasize

1:1

Created:

*Bara: to create, shape, form*

It stresses God's sovereignty and power.

Psalm 148:5 "Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
For He commanded and they were created."

This form of created/bara is always used with God as the subject.

As Miss Newborn would instruct us: "Who created? God created."





# Genesis 1:1-25

## Points to Emphasize

1:1

The heavens and the earth

Or:

“In the beginning God created everything out of nothing.”

# Creation and Order

Table 1: Outline of Genesis 1

<b>Problem (vs. 2)</b>	<b>Preparation (days 1-3)</b>	<b>Population (days 4-6)</b>
Darkness	1a Creation of light(Day) b Separation from Darkness (Night)	4a Creation of Sun b Creation of Moon, Stars
Watery Abyss	2a Creation of Firmament b Separation of Waters above from Waters below	5a Creation of Birds b Creation of Fish
Formless Earth	3a Separation of Earth from Sea b Creation of Vegetation	6a Creation of Land Animals b Creation of Humans

# Differing Views of Creation: Just so you know . . .

How long did it take God to create everything?

Three views for your consideration/edification but not discussion!



# From BioLogos

<https://biologos.org/common-questions/how-long-are-the-days-of-genesis-1>

- According to the **calendar day view**, Genesis 1 is a straightforward historical narrative, in the modern journalistic sense. The repeating formula “there was evening, and there was morning—the first day,” and so on for six days (see 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, and 31)—refers to six 24-hour periods. This conclusion, combined with a summation of years given in biblical genealogies, lead most advocates of this view to believe that God created the material universe in one ordinary week between six and ten thousand years ago. Those who hold this view are known as young-earth creationists.

# From BioLogos

<https://biologos.org/common-questions/how-long-are-the-days-of-genesis-1>

- Those who hold to the **day-age view** argue that each “day” in Genesis 1 represents an extended period of time. The days of Genesis 1 may be millions of years long and even overlap with one another. Advocates of this view tend to accept the scientific evidence for the great age of the universe; they are called old-earth or progressive creationists.



# Differing Views of Creation . . .

For a thousand years in Your sight  
Are like yesterday when it passes by,  
Or as a watch in the night.

Psalm 90:4

But do not let this one fact escape your  
notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is  
like a thousand years, and  
a thousand years like one day.

II Peter 3:8

# From BioLogos

<https://biologos.org/common-questions/how-long-are-the-days-of-genesis-1>

- Others prefer a **literary view** (not to be confused with “literal,” though that word, in its technical sense, is the origin of “literary”). Literary views prioritize the literary features, theological themes, and cultural context of the creation account.
- Note emphasis on “literary” view

**26**Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

**27**God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. **28**God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

**29**Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; **30**and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, *I have given* every green plant for food”; and it was so.

**31**God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.



# Genesis 1:26-31


“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness . . . .’”

Us/Our:

- NOT God and His Angels
  - *Man is not made in the image of angels*
- NOT some members of His court
  - *Angels did not participate in creation*

# Genesis 1:26-31

- The third possibility is that God is speaking as a Trinity, of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. According to Scripture as a whole, the full Trinity was present at creation. Genesis 1:2 describes the Spirit of God hovering over the waters, and John 1:1-3 reveals that the Word, Christ, was active in the creation of all things.



# Genesis 1:26-31

“... in Our image, according to  
Our likeness.”

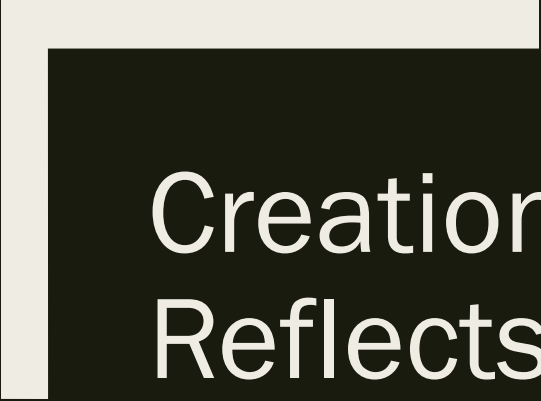
What does God look like?

Can man “look like” God?

# Genesis 1:26-31

"Rather, this seems to support the idea that God endowed humans with a certain kind of awareness, one which animals and birds and fish were not given.

In other words, humans would possess the capacity for reason, morality, language, personality, and purpose. In particular, the ability to use morality and spirituality are unique to human beings among God's creations on earth. Like God, we would possess the capacity to experience and understand love, truth, and beauty."



# Creation Reflects Who God Is And Who We Can Be

To clarify: “who we can be” does not imply we can be “God” or a “god.”

For man to be “in God’s image”:

- Personal
- Rational; with intelligence and will
- Creative
- Ruling over the world God has made
- Morally admirable



# The “slippery slope” wrap up

**IF** we believe God created “everything” from “nothing” (do you?), and


**IF** we are made in God’s image (are you?),

Then **HOW** does Genesis 1 answer you and your unsaved friends’ questions regarding:

“Who am I?”

“Where did I come from?”

“What is the meaning of life?”



# THE “SLIPPERY SLOPE” WRAP UP

I am out of time, so  
you have to answer  
those questions  
yourself!

# Some references for you

- Answers in Genesis: [https://answersingenesis.org/answers/magazine/v1-n1/get-answers/?gad\\_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwxeyxBhC7ARIsAC7dS38RBeEsh64sNmaifPU3jIITR8Q222IOe\\_XI6LisLOrWBnGm44T23iMaAr-yEALw\\_wcB](https://answersingenesis.org/answers/magazine/v1-n1/get-answers/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwxeyxBhC7ARIsAC7dS38RBeEsh64sNmaifPU3jIITR8Q222IOe_XI6LisLOrWBnGm44T23iMaAr-yEALw_wcB)
- BioLogos: <https://biologos.org>
- Is Genesis History? <https://isgenesishistory.com/>