

SHEFFEY BIBLE COLLEGE — STUDENT HANDOUT

Course: Systematic Theology II

Instructor: _____

Chapter 15A — The Doctrine of Creation

I. THE DOCTRINE OF CREATION

Key Truth

God created all things out of nothing by His powerful word for His own glory.

Creation Ex Nihilo

- God created from nothing.
- Creation is not eternal.
- Creation depends upon God.

Key Scriptures

- Genesis 1:1
- Hebrews 11:3
- Psalm 33:6
- Psalm 33:9

Notes:

II. THE CREATION OF THE SPIRITUAL WORLD

Key Truth

God created both the visible and invisible realms.

Important Truths

- Angels are created beings.
- Angels are not eternal.
- Angels serve God's purposes.

Key Scripture

- Colossians 1:16
- Psalm 103:20

Notes:

III. THE CREATION OF MAN AND WOMAN

Key Truth

Human beings were directly created by God and uniquely bear His image.

Important Truths

- Adam was directly created.
- Eve was directly created.
- Humanity bears God's image.

Key Scriptures

- Genesis 2:7
- Genesis 2:21–22
- Genesis 1:27

Notes:

IV. THE CREATION OF TIME

Key Truth

Time itself is part of God's creation and exists under His sovereign rule.

Key Scripture

- Psalm 90:2

Notes:

V. THE WORK OF THE TRINITY IN CREATION

Key Truth

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit worked together in the creation of all things.

Father

- Planned creation

Son

- Created all things

Holy Spirit

- Active in creation

Key Scriptures

- Revelation 4:11
- John 1:3
- Colossians 1:16
- Genesis 1:2

Notes:

VI. GOD'S TRANSCENDENCE AND IMMANENCE

Key Truth

God is distinct from creation while actively present within creation.

Transcendence

- God is above creation.

Immanence

- God is present within creation.

Key Scriptures

- 1 Kings 8:27
- Acts 17:27–28

Notes:

VII. FALSE VIEWS OF CREATION

Key Truth

Biblical creation rejects every worldview that denies the Creator-creature distinction.

Materialism

Pantheism

Dualism

Deism

Notes:

VIII. THE PURPOSE OF CREATION

Key Truth

God created all things for His glory.

Key Scriptures

- Psalm 19:1

- Revelation 4:11

Notes:

IX. THE GOODNESS OF CREATION

Key Truth

Everything God originally created was good.

Key Scripture

- Genesis 1:31

Notes:

Discussion Questions

1. Why is the doctrine of creation out of nothing essential to a biblical understanding of God?
2. How do God's transcendence and immanence help us understand His relationship to creation?

THINGS TO KNOW (EXAM REVIEW)

1. Define creation ex nihilo.
2. Explain how God created the universe by His word.
3. Explain the biblical teaching regarding the creation of angels.
4. Explain the direct creation of Adam and Eve.
5. Explain what it means that humanity bears the image of God.
6. Explain the biblical teaching concerning the creation of time.
7. Describe the roles of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in creation.
8. Distinguish between God's transcendence and immanence.
9. Identify and explain materialism, pantheism, dualism, and deism.
10. Explain why creation exists for the glory of God and why it was originally good.

A question on the exam will ask if you completed the assigned reading.

Closing Summary

God created all things out of nothing for His glory. He created both the visible and invisible realms, made humanity in His image, and continues to sustain His creation. Believers should worship Him as Creator and understand all of life through the truth of His sovereign design.

ASSIGNMENT

Read Chapter 15 — Creation (Part 1 Review).