### The Journey

Series 01: Creation

### Week 04: What God Creating Says about God

\*We are indebted to Ethnos360 for providing the basis of these lessons\*

#### **Review (Where We Have Been)**

**Lesson 1: The Bible is God's message to ALL people** 

It's About God, Inspired by God, Preserved by God

**Lesson 2: The Bible Reveals What God is Like** 

He is Eternal, Triune, Independent, Spirit, Present Everywhere, Highest Authority Lesson 3: God Creates Angels, Heavens, and Earth

God is eternal; therefore, speaks with authority about the beginning of all things, including **invisible** and **visible**.

Last week, we left off with God ready to create the *visible things*...

"Although there was no life on earth, the Spirit of God was there, poised, waiting and prepared to release all the tremendous creative power of God to bring all things into being. The Spirit of God was ready to create all that God had planned." – Firm Foundations

Genesis 1:1 (ESV) In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

#### **BIG Idea**

Today, we will explore the grand demonstration of God's handiwork through His creation of the heavens and the earth.

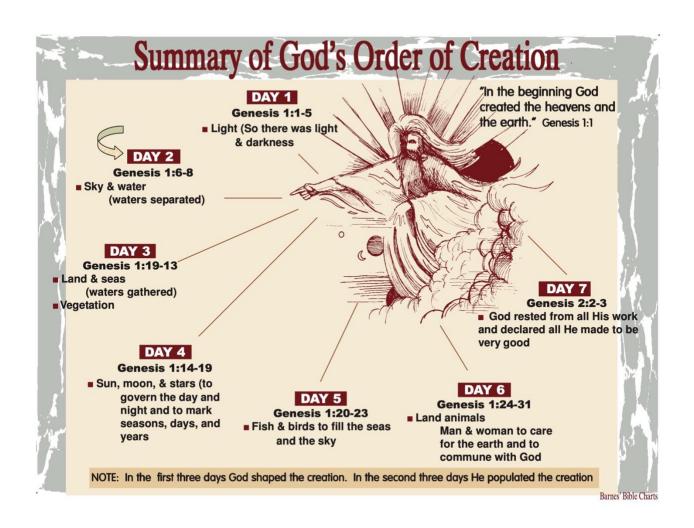
We will learn that...

### God is the Great, All-Powerful Designer.

### **Lesson Purpose(s)**

#### To Show...

- God's creation was purposeful (nothing was left to chance)
- God's creation displays His power and majesty
- God's creation manifests His love for creativity, diversity, and beauty



### **Information (What We Need to Know)**

As the Great Designer, God simply used spoken word to create out of nothing.

We will see that each time He performed an act of creation He *spoke* with supreme authority, and it was made *instantly* and *perfectly*.

Genesis 1:3 (ESV) And God said...

God's Order of Creation...

Day 1: Light

Genesis 1:3 (ESV) And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

• God provided the light (sun and moon weren't created until the 4<sup>th</sup> day; God will be the light in the future, new heavens/earth)

**Revelation 21:23 (ESV)** And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

- God powered the light (out of nothing)
- God orchestrated the light (knowledge is on display)
- God demonstrated lovingkindness with the light (He didn't need it, but planned it for humans, who would *need* and *enjoy* it)
- God divided the light and darkness

Day 2: Sky and Water (Atmosphere) – what we see when we look up

Genesis 1:6 (ESV) And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 7 And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. 8 And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

"The *expanse* could possibly have been a canopy of water vapor that acted to make the earth like a hothouse, provided uniform temperature, inhibited mass air movements, caused mist to fall, and filtered out ultraviolet rays, thus extending life." – John MacArthur

In anticipation of humans, God created a perfect atmosphere for them to dwell.

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# Day 3: Land, Sea, and Plant Life (most likely, with age)

- God caused, by the power of His spoken word, some water to recede and the dry land was exposed (sea was formed)
  - Genesis 1:9 (ESV) And 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 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.
- Genesis 1:11 (ESV) And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. 12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.
  - ✓ Plant life yield seeds that produce more like the original
  - $\checkmark$  The plants and trees we see today descend from the ones created on the  $3^{rd}$  day
  - ✓ There would be no thorns or weeds; fruit and vegetables would not spoil; no plants were poisonous (because evil was not present)
  - ✓ God created plant life for our *needs* and *enjoyment*

## Day 4: Sun, Moon, and Stars

Genesis 1:14 (ESV) And 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, 15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. 16 And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. 17 And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

- The sun, moon, stars, and heavenly bodies were <u>fully functioning</u> and <u>in order</u> when God spoke them into existence (it normally take the sun's light around 8 minutes to reach the earth, but it happened immediately)
- God has kept the great spheres of the universe in place for thousands of years "We can see only a minute part of the endless reaches of the universe, yet God created even the most remote galaxies and stars. Bearing in mind that they are many light years apart, how was it possible for God to place each galaxy and star in its position? *Because God is present everywhere*." Firm Foundations

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### Day 5: Marine Life and Birds

Genesis 1:20 (ESV) And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." 21 So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, 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 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

- The diversity and beauty of these creatures are vast, demonstrating God's love for design and variety (so much yet to be discovered in the oceans)
- "The DNA of each organism was created and programmed by God so it can only guide in the reproduction of the same kind. Although great variations within each 'kind' are possible, the evolution of new 'kinds' is impossible." Henry Morris

### Day 6: Animals

Genesis 1:24 (ESV) And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. 25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

- God created a vast number and variety of animals "God created each kind with unique characteristics and with the capability of reproducing only other animals of its own species."- Firm Foundations
- All that God created He declared good

# **Application (What We Need to Do)**

## What does God creating say about God?

- All created things reflect His character (all-powerful, all-knowing, perfect, order)

  Romans 1:20 (ESV) For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.
- Creation reflects the work of a Master Designer

  Psalm 19:1 (ESV) The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- God helps us get to know what He is like through seeing how He created all things "God, the Creator, the One who was there before the beginning, holds us responsible to accept His record of how He created all things."- Firm Foundations

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