

UNIVERSAL HISTORY

UNDERSTANDING OUR WORLD ACCORDING TO GENESIS 1-11

H U M A N I T Y

Genesis 1:26 - 2:20

Genesis 1-11 is the “universal history” of everyone.





Genesis 1-11 is the “universal story” of everyone

It tells the main story of not only what happened but of the world we live in today.

Genesis 1¹ 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. ² And God said, "let there be light," and there was light.

While darkness and chaos described the earth, the Spirit of God hovered right above it

Darkness and chaos always describes a world without God

The Spirit of God always hovers above the darkness and chaos

God then speaks "light" and it pierces the darkness.

God's creative word brings order to the chaos and light into the darkness.

The Order of Creation Genesis 1:3 - 31

ONE

LIGHT

separation of light and darkness

TWO

WATERS

separation of skies from ocean

THREE

LAND

separation of oceans from the land
plants to fill the land

LIGHTS

creation of sun and moon

FOUR

WATERS

filling of the skies and ocean with creatures

FIVE

LAND

filling of the land with creatures
creation of humanity to multiply, fill
and steward the land

SIX

What does the order of Creation Genesis 1:3 - 31 tell us?

God is in control

The world God designed
is one of order, not
chaos, and it is good

God creates humanity as
separate from animals and
creation, in His own image,
and gives us a role in
stewarding the world He's
created

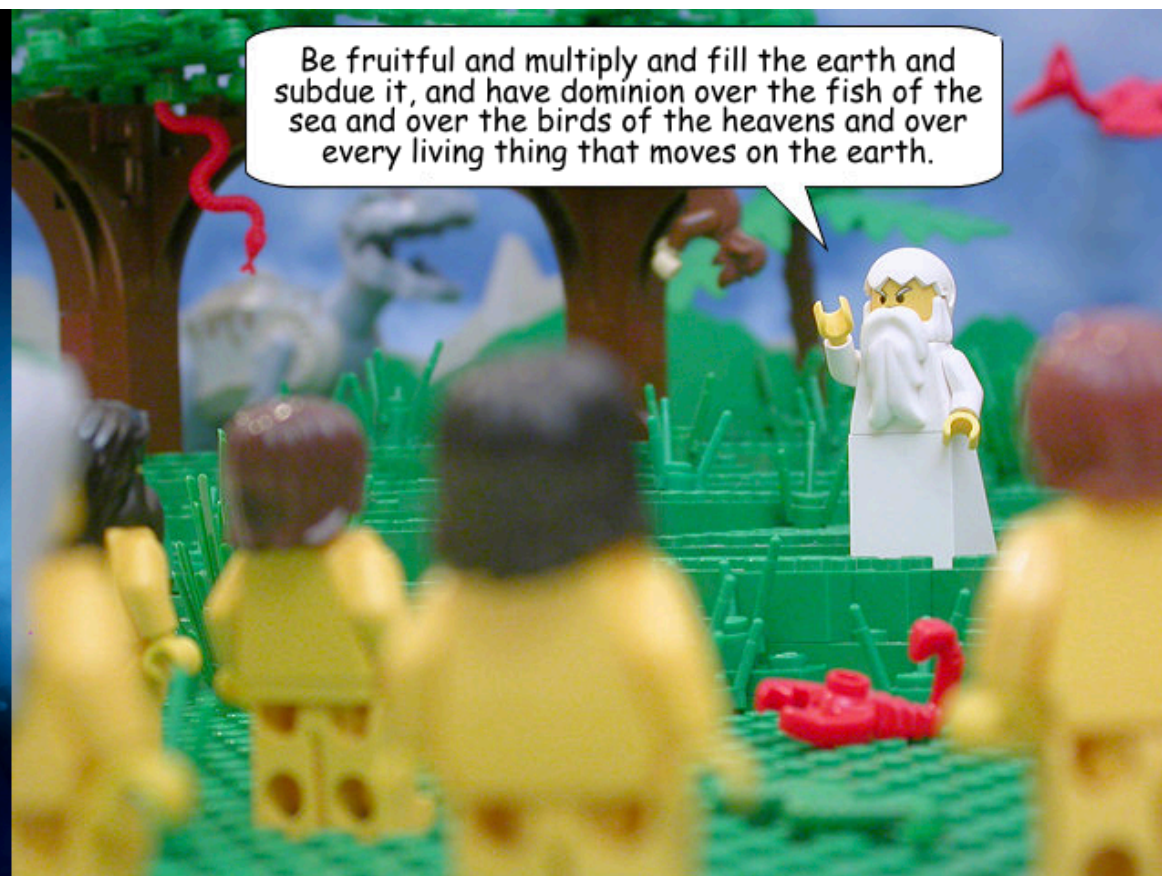
Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."



Genesis 1 ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."



Genesis 1²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.



Genesis 1 ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."



Genesis 1 ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.



Genesis 1 ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.



Genesis 2 ¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.



Genesis 2 ⁵ When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up – for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground –



7 then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground



and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life



and the man became a living creature.



Genesis 2 ⁸ And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food.



Genesis 2 ¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.



Genesis 2 ¹⁹ Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens



and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.

Human beings are created specially in His image

God created human beings

God created humanity in a fundamentally different manner from the rest of creation: specially and personally

Human beings are created in the image of God and have God's breath/spirit within them

Humans are a great contradiction: being formed of the dust of the earth and having God's breath within us

Genesis 1 ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man (humans) in our image, after our likeness ... ²⁷ So God created man (humans) in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 2 ⁷ then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Human beings are created specially in His image

truths

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implications

While we can learn a lot about the human body from animals, we cannot derive our morality from them, only from God

Because every human being is made in God's image, each person must be treated with dignity, respect and as our equals

When I get downcast about myself, another person or things that humans do, I remind myself that God's spirit is in them and that he is brooding over them, too

We are given to privilege of being "co-creators" with God

we work with God to speak and create light and order in a world of darkness and chaos

We are called to have dominion over the earth

But we're also called to work it and keep it.

Genesis 1²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 2¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 2¹⁹ Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.

Creation Care at the Frontiers of Mission

Reaching the Least of these in a changing world
April 6-7, 2018 Pasadena, California



**Ruth Padilla
DeBorst**
Provost: Centro de
Estudios Teológicos



Ed Brown
Director and CEO
of Care of Creation.



**Katharine
Hayhoe**
Atmospheric
Scientist



Peter Harris
Co-founder A Rocha
International



Lowell Bliss
Director of Eden Vigil

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We are called to have dominion over the earth

But we're also called to work it and keep it.

God rests but leaves the story of creation unfinished so Adam and Eve can write it with Him

Co-authoring is our calling: speaking and creating light in darkness and chaos

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What stories does God want to write with you?

We are called to have dominion over the earth

But we're also called to work it and keep it.

God rests but leaves His creation unfinished so Adam and Eve can co-create with Him

Working with God to speak and create light and order is our calling

I am in chaos and I want to come into God's design

I will not be intimidated by darkness and chaos

I will pray and speak words of life in the places God's placed me

I will ask God specifically who to minister to now