

# THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S

SCHOOL OF CULTURAL RESTORATION  
LENT 2026 - PASTOR STEVE WILKINS



# THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S - SESSION #5

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **Review:**

- 1. The work is orderly.**
- 2. The work of creation is covenantal.**
- 3. The creation is symbolic.**
- 4. The creation reflects the nature of the Triune God.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **5. The creation is geocentric.**

**The earth is the covenantal center of the universe.**

**–All of God's purposes are centered around and focused upon the earth.**

**God created the earth first, before He made the sun, moon, other planets, and the galaxies**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **5. The creation is geocentric.**

**-All the heavenly bodies were placed in their places by God for the benefit of the earth.**

**-The earth is the centerpiece of the creation and redemptive history.**

# **THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S - SESSION #5**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **5. The creation is geocentric.**

**-God created the earth first**

**-All the heavenly bodies were placed in their places by God for the benefit of the earth.**

**-The earth is the centerpiece of the creation and redemptive history.**

**-The earth is the stage upon which God's purposes of salvation and the glorification of the entire creation are accomplished and carried out.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**Jesus became incarnate as a human being, a man made in the image of God (not some other, alien life-form).**

**There is no indication in the Bible that there is any intelligent life anywhere else in the universe.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**The sin that corrupted the creation was a sin committed by a man on the earth.**

**Adam's sin corrupted not only all his descendants but the entire universe.**

**If there are beings elsewhere, they too have been in some way, affected by Adam's fall.**

**And this means that they would need redemption and a Redeemer.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**Since there is only one Redeemer and Savior, one Mediator between God and man, (Jesus), this means that Jesus would have to become incarnate in each particular alien life form in order to be a substitute for them.**

**And, He would have to die over and over for each race of sinful creatures – in order for God's plan of glorifying the entire creation to be accomplished.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

So, we may reason this way:

**All the purposes of God are focused upon the earth and earthmen.**

- This is the only place that God's image-bearers live
- This is where those who are called and ordained to be God's "vice-regents" taking dominion over the entire creation live
- This is the stage upon which God's redemptive purposes were all accomplished.
- This is where the Son of God became incarnate, where He lived, suffered, died, and was resurrected.

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**Jesus has dealt fully and effectively with sin – and He did so**

- by becoming an earthling,**
- living under God's law that was revealed on the earth,**
- and dying for the sins of earthlings.**
- But His death secured redemption, cleansing, and glorification from the effects of sin, not only for earthlings but for the entire created universe.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**But given the fact of the vastness of creation – wouldn't the odds of finding intelligent life somewhere out there be fairly great?**

**No. Not if the Word of God gives us no reason logically to believe there is such a possibility.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**“So, what is going on? Why all the reports of aliens and UFOs? They must be real too many people testify to their existence.”**

**There are various explanations that have been suggested:**

- 1. These are unusual, “natural” phenomena.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**There are various explanations that have been suggested:**

**1. These are unusual, "natural" phenomena.**

**2. They are legitimate, real encounters with extra-terrestrial life forms. But there are facts that seem to undermine legitimacy:**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

- 2. They are legitimate, real encounters with extra-terrestrial life forms. But there are facts that seem to undermine legitimacy:**
- UFOs act/perform immaturely.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

- 2. They are legitimate, real encounters with extra-terrestrial life forms. But there are facts that seem to undermine legitimacy:**
- UFOs act/perform immaturely.**
  - UFOs usually appear in very remote places, where witnesses are few and concrete evidence is almost impossible to obtain**

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# THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S - SESSION #5

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- When the "aliens" communicate, they convey liberal "wokeisms," universalism, and humanistic heresies.

# THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S - SESSION #5

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# THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S - SESSION #5

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- When the “aliens” communicate, they convey liberal “wokeisms,” universalism, and humanistic heresies.
- So far, none of the aliens have agreed with the Bible
- UFOs often change shape and size and color, appearing and disappearing instantly
- All aliens look alike

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**There are various explanations that have been suggested:**

- 1. These are unusual, "natural" phenomena.**
- 2. They are legitimate, real encounters with extra-terrestrial life forms.**
- 3. They are manifestations of demonic deception.**

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **God warns about Satan's deceptions**

2 Thessalonians 2:9-11

“The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. <sup>11</sup> And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, <sup>12</sup> that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”)

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**If UFOs are demonic activity – here are some things we will continue to see in the future:**

- 1. Increasing acceptance of the legitimacy of UFOs and alien life**

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- 2. Increasing sightings which are confirmed by what appears to be more “credible” evidence, leading to more and more “sensational” claims**
- 3. More claims that contact with UFO/aliens is a “good” thing bringing technological advances, and increasing cultural knowledge, understanding, wisdom, love, and tolerance.**

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# **THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S - SESSION #5**

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3. More claims that contact with UFO/aliens is a “good” thing
4. Exaggerated claims of the benefits and help coming from alien cultures
5. **More calls for international “cooperation” between nations.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**We must forget the role NASA has played in the growth and popularity of UFO theology (and mythology).**

The two questions NASA claims to seek answers for (the "two ancient questions that we used to debate around the primitive campfire") are:

1. Where did we come from?
2. Are we alone?

**The Bible answers both of these questions.**

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **6. The work of creation is eschatological.**

Genesis 1:2 tells us 3 things about the original condition of the world:

1. It was "without form" – It was unstructured or "uninhabitable."

2. It was "void" – It was empty devoid of inhabitants. No life.

3. It was dark. No light.

Over all this, the Spirit of God "hovered" – the word refers to a **protective hovering**. Though the world was uninhabitable, it was not uncontrolled chaos.

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

Thus, the three-fold description of the world will be progressively remedied by the Word of God and the Spirit of God:

Creation begins in darkness, disorder, and void and ends in light, order, fullness, and holy rest.

The whole purpose of God is signified in the Creation week.  
What begins in darkness and lifelessness ends in light and life.

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**When God speaks "Let there be light" the darkness is immediately dispelled.**

**Light always overcomes the darkness (John 1:5).**

**Note: The new world emerges from the waters – and we do as well (we are brought to life and the world through the waters of our mothers' wombs).**

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**God's purpose is to fill the universe with His glory – to have earth conformed to heaven.**

**The heavens are distinguished from the earth in that they did not have to “mature.”**

**Heaven is created perfect as God's dwelling place – the place where He sits enthroned surrounded by myriads of holy angels. The creation account focuses upon the earth and how God makes it like heaven.**

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## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**The earth was "good" but it must be conformed to heaven itself.**

-God fills it with light,

-orders and structures it,

-and fills it with living beings with Man as the head.

**Man is given the job of taking dominion – leading in this great work of conforming earth to heaven.**

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**Heaven thus becomes the model for the earth.**

-The earth is to grow more and more heaven-like. We are commanded to pray that God's "kingdom come and His will be done on earth *as it is* in heaven."

-History is the process of this maturity.

-The creation week reveals the pattern of history to us.

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

**This purpose will be fulfilled by man as he worships and serves the Creator.**

**Man is created on the 6th day and thus, his first full day was the Sabbath – the day of holy rest and worship.**

**From the beginning, God instructs man that his life is dependent upon worship.**

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **7. Creation is the work of joy.**

**Each day God declares, "It was good"**

**Job 38:7**

**Prov. 8:30-31**

**"Then I was beside Him *as* a master craftsman; And I was daily *His* delight, Rejoicing always before Him, <sup>31</sup> Rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight *was* with the sons of men."**

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **Jonathan Edwards:**

“The great and universal end of God’s creating the world was to communicate Himself. God’s happiness, love, and delight in his own glorious divine perfections are of such an infinite intensity that, as a principle of being, he seeks to diffuse this joy and radiance *outside* of himself.”

### **Michael Reeves:**

“The very nature of the triune God is to be effusive, ebullient and bountiful; . . . [He] is not the sort of God who would call people to himself away from happiness in good things. Goodness and ultimate happiness are to be found with him, not apart from him.”

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

### **Psalm 65:8**

“And they who dwell in the ends of the earth stand in awe of Your signs; You make the dawn and the sunset shout for joy.”

### **Psalm 65:13**

“The meadows are clothed with flocks, And the valleys are covered with grain; They shout for joy, yes, they sing.”)

### **Psalm 96:12**

“Let the field exult, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy. Let the rivers clap their hands; Let the mountains sing together for joy”

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---

## *"The Characteristics of Creation" (2)*

God's song fills the creation with His goodness and joy so that the World (ManHome) becomes "a homely place" for His people.

### **Psalm 98:1**

*"Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach (draw near) You."*

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