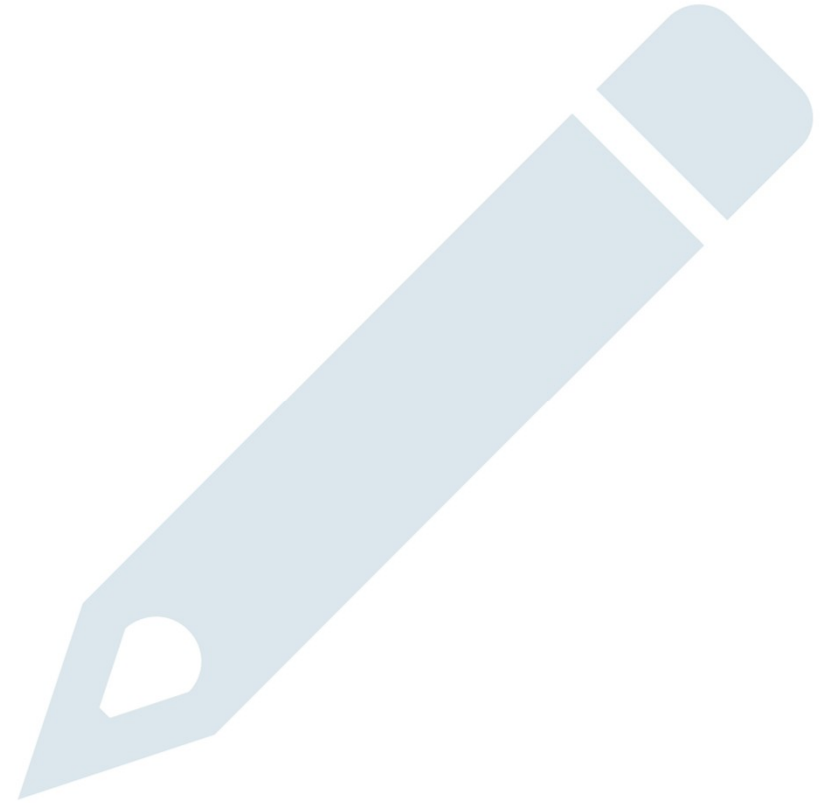




Repeated words or phrases



- 
- **Bara (created) only used in reference to God in the bible.**

- **Bara**

- to **create** out of nothing
- 1:12,21,27; 2:3,4.

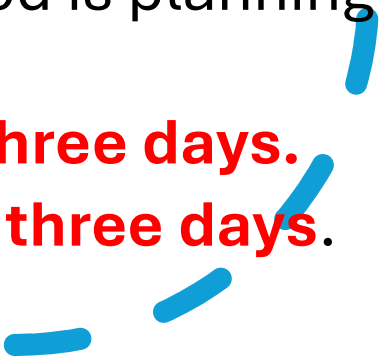
- **Asah**

- to **make** from something
- 1:7,16,25,26,31 ;2:2,18,19

- **Yatsar**

- to **form** or shape
 - 2:7,8,19
- 

- 
- **What does it mean when verse 2 says that the earth was formless and void?**

- **Tohu** means emptiness and chaos, waste and confusion
 - **Vohu** void or lack of inhabitants, unfilled space
 - Two words put together means utter desolation or chaotic void.
 - This set us up for what God is planning to do in creation.
 - **He forms in the first three days.**
 - **Then He fills the next three days.**
- 

Light Separated from darkness.

1st Day

God Forms

(Time is established--Day/Night)

2nd Day

God Forms

Waters separated by the expanse.

(Space is established— Sky/Sea)

3rd Day

God Forms

Waters gathered, dry land appears

(habitable land with vegetation)

4th Day

God Fills

Sun, Moon, and stars fill and govern the day/night

5th Day

God Fills

Birds and fish fill the sky/sea

6th Day

God Fills

Animals and mankind fill the land and eat its vegetation

7th Day

God Rests

- **What is unique about the creation of humanity compared to the rest of creation? In what ways are humans like animals and in what ways are they different, as it is described in this chapter.**

- Everything necessary for man's survival was created first.
- 5th day the fish and birds are created and given a mandate to be fruitful, multiply and fill the waters in the seas and the birds multiply on the earth. 1:22
- 6th day the animals and man are created.
- Man is created at the very end.
 - They were made in God's image. V.26
 - They are to **rule** over all the other creatures. V.26
 - **Male and Female** He created them. V.27
 - Creation mandate to man is repeated twice. V.26 and 28.
 - Every plant was given food for all the animals and mankind alike. Vs.29-30

- **How does the text describe God's act of resting on the seventh day? What is emphasized about the seventh day compared to the others?**

- God blessed the 7th day and sanctified it.
- Qal – which means to be set apart or to declared it sacred.
- Because He rested from all the work of creating.

- **The bible does not tell us the age of the earth just like it doesn't tell us Jesus' height.**
- **Because it is irrelevant to the main point.**

Argument for literal 7 days

• Plain Reading of the Text

- Each day is described with the repeated phrase:
“And there was evening and there was morning, the first day... the second day...” (Gen 1:5, 8, 13, etc.).
- The natural reading of “evening” and “morning” points to a **regular, human day**, not symbolic eras.

• Hebrew Word “Yom”

- The Hebrew word יום(*yom*) can mean “day” in several senses (24 hours, daylight, age/period).
- However, when *yom* is:
- Modified by a number (“first day,” “second day”), or Paired with “evening” and “morning,”
 - It consistently refers elsewhere in Scripture to a **normal 24-hour day**.

• Exodus 20:11 – The Ten Commandments

- The Sabbath command is modeled on God's creation week: "For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and He rested on the seventh day."
- The weekly pattern Israel was to follow makes sense only if the "days" of creation were **ordinary days**, not undefined ages.

• **Early Jewish and Christian Understanding**

- Ancient Jewish interpreters and most early church fathers read Genesis 1 as literal days.
- The “non-literal” interpretations (e.g., allegory, ages) arose mainly later, especially in response to scientific challenges.

• Theological Themes of Work and Rest

- God's week establishes the human rhythm of **six days of labor and one day of rest** (Exod. 20:11; Deut. 5:12–15).
- This pattern would lose much of its force if the days were symbolic or indeterminate.

Argument Against literal 24 hours

- The Earth, Darkness and water are all created before the First Day.
 - Creation account starts on verse 3 but 1,2 describe earth, water and darkness before the first day of creation.
- The 7th day is not a 24 hour day.
- Day in Gen.1:5 is not 24 hours but 12 hours.
- Gen.2:4 is in reference to the period and not 24 hours.

• Colossians 1:16–20

- ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have **been created through Him and for Him.**
¹⁷ **He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.**
- ¹⁸ He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, ²⁰ and through Him to **reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.**

• Romans 8:19–22

-
- ¹⁹ For the anxious longing of the **creation waits eagerly** for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the **creation was subjected to futility**, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the **creation itself also will be set free** from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole **creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth** together until now.

Study Questions for Genesis 2:4-25

1. Verse 4 begins by stating that “this is the account of the heavens and earth when they were created.” How is the account of creation in chapter 1 different than the account of chapter 2?
2. How is the creation of man different than all the other creation? Try to describe as many differences as you are able to observe.
3. Genesis 1:27 it says that God created (bara) man. But in 2:7 it says that God formed (Yatsar) man. Bara means to create out of nothing and Yatsar means to form from something. What is the significance of using these two different terms when describing the creation of man?
4. Contrast to all the other things God created He says that it was not good for man to be alone. What does he mean by this? (2:18)
5. What was the creation mandate for the man described in 1:26-30? How was it carried out in 2:15-25?

Discussion Questions for Genesis 1-2:3 Study

1. What does the creation account teach us about God?
2. Romans 1 says that God left His imprint in all that He has created. Outside of God's power what else does creation declare about God?
3. When do you feel the most rested physically, spiritually, socially and emotionally? How does your idea of rest coincide with the teaching of Sabbath that God entered into?