

Message 1  
GOD'S CREATION

**Genesis 1:1-25**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>But the earth became waste and emptiness, and darkness was on the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was brooding upon the surface of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, Let there be light; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. <sup>6</sup>And God said, Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters. <sup>7</sup>And God made the expanse and separated the waters which were under the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse, and it was so. <sup>8</sup>And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas; and God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>And God said, Let the earth sprout grass, herbs yielding seed, [and] fruit trees bearing fruit according to their kind with their seed in them upon the earth; and it was so. <sup>12</sup>And the earth brought forth grass, herbs yielding seed according to their kind, and trees bearing fruit with their seed in them according to their kind; and God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, Let there be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; <sup>15</sup>and let them be light-bearers in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth; and it was so. <sup>16</sup>And God made the two great light-bearers, the greater light-bearer to rule the day and the lesser light-bearer to rule the night, and the stars. <sup>17</sup>And God set them in the expanse of heaven to give light on the earth <sup>18</sup>and to rule over the day and over the night and to separate the light from the darkness, and God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living animals, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of heaven. <sup>21</sup>And God created the great sea creatures and every living animal that moves, with which the waters swarmed, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind; and God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth. <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, Let the earth bring forth living animals according to their kind, cattle and creeping things and animals of the earth according to their kind; and it was so. <sup>25</sup>And God made the animals of the earth according to their kind and the cattle according to their kind and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind, and God saw that it was good.

**I. Genesis is a book of life and is centered on Christ:**

- John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.  
John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live.  
John 5:39 You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that testify concerning Me.

**II. Genesis 1 and 2 reveal God's desire and purpose:**

- Eph. 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself.  
Eph. 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him.  
Rom. 1:20 For the invisible things of Him, both His eternal power and divine characteristics, have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, being perceived by the things made, so that they would be without excuse.  
Col. 2:9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

**III. God's original creation was in good order—Gen. 1:1:**

- Isa. 45:18 For thus says Jehovah, / Who created the heavens— / He is the God / Who formed the earth and made it; / He established it; / He did not create it waste, / But He formed it to be inhabited: / I am Jehovah and there is no one else.  
Job 38:4, 7 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?...When the morning stars sang together / And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

**IV. Satan rebelled and corrupted God's original creation:**

- Ezek. 28:14 You were the anointed cherub who covered the Ark; indeed I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.  
Ezek. 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.  
Ezek. 28:17a Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness.  
Isa. 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.

**V. God judged Satan—Gen. 1:2:**

- Ezek. 28:17b I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you.  
Isa. 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, / O Daystar, son of the dawn! / How you have been hewn down to earth, / You who made nations fall prostrate!

**VI. God's restored and further created through Christ as the Spirit, Word, and light—Gen. 1:2-8:**

- John 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him not one thing came into being which has come into being.

**VII. The dry land appeared—Gen. 1:9-10:**

- Col. 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.

### **VIII. Life was produced—Gen. 1:11-13, 20-25:**

#### **A. Grass, herbs, trees:**

- 1 Pet. 1:24 For “all flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass has withered, and the flower has fallen off.”
- John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

#### **B. Fish, birds, cattle, beast:**

- Matt. 4:19 And He said to them, Come after Me, and I will make you fishers of men.
- Isa. 40:31 Yet those who wait on Jehovah will renew their strength; / They will mount up with wings like eagles; / They will run and will not faint; / They will walk and will not become weary.
- 1 Sam. 6:7 So now take and prepare a new cart and two milch cows on which the yoke has never come, and tie the cows to the cart, and bring their calves home, away from them.
- Gen. 49:9 Judah is a young lion; / From the prey, my son, you have gone up. / He couches, he stretches out like a lion, / And like a lioness; who will rouse him up?

### **IX. Fourth day lights (sun, moon, stars)—Gen. 1:14-19:**

- Mal. 4:2 But unto you who fear My name will the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings, and you will go forth and leap about like well-fed calves.
- Gen. 37:9 And he had still another dream and told it to his brothers and said, Now I have had another dream: There were the sun and the moon and eleven stars, bowing down to me.
- Dan. 12:3 And those who have insight will shine like the shining of the heavenly expanse, and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars, forever and ever.

***Focus:*** *God’s heart’s desire and His eternal purpose as seen in creation is to manifest Himself through Christ growing in us as life.*

### **Ministry Excerpts:**

#### **THE CENTRAL THOUGHT**

Genesis is a book with Christ as the center, and Christ is life to the people whom He restored from the fall. Why does this book give us such a record of creation in the first two chapters? ...The first two chapters appear to be a record of creation, but this is superficial. The underlying thought is focused on life. These two chapters are a record of life. They are too simple and too brief to be an adequate account of creation. Genesis 1 and 2 were not intended by God to be a record of creation, but a revelation of life.

Look into these chapters. First, it mentions that God created the universe, and that the universe was ruined, becoming waste, empty, and full of darkness. Then, the Spirit of God came in to brood in order to produce life. Following the Spirit of life came the light, also for producing life. After this, the air was made to divide the waters of death. Then the land emerged out of the death waters. The land appeared for the purpose of generating life, and immediately every kind

of plant life was produced. Then came the animal life in the water, the animal life in the air, and the animal life on the earth, and, eventually, the human life. Following the human life is the divine life, indicated by the tree of life. Thus, we can see that these two chapters, strictly speaking, are not a record of creation, but of life.

### **God's Desire and Purpose**

God's creation not only fulfills His desire and accomplishes His purpose, but also reveals His desire in the universe and manifests His purpose in eternity. Anything we make expresses our desire. Although we may not say much, the thing we make manifests our purpose. When God created the heavens, the earth with so many items, and eventually man in His own image and with authority over all created things, He surely had a purpose. By His creation we can see that God had a desire and a purpose.

There are two aspects of God's purpose in His creation. Firstly, God's purpose in His creation is to glorify the Son of God (Col. 1:15-19). Although we do not find the term the Son of God or the name Christ in Genesis 1 and 2, we learn from Romans 5:14 that Adam was a pre-figure of Christ. Adam, created in the image of God, was a type of Christ. In Adam we can see something of Christ. God's purpose in His creation is to glorify His Son, Jesus Christ.

Secondly, creation manifests God Himself. By the heavens and the earth we can realize something of God and by man we can see something of God. God is manifested in man, especially through His Son, Christ. Christ is the embodiment of God (Col. 2:9). When Christ is glorified in man in the midst of God's creation, God is also manifested. (*Life-study of Genesis*, msg. 1, pp. 7-9)

### **The Plant Life Was Generated**

When we received Christ into us, Christ appeared out of the death water within us. Christ appeared and now we have life, the generating of life. We are saved and we have life. At the time we were saved, we received life, but the life within us was very low. This is signified in the record of Genesis by the life of the grass, the life of the herbs, and the life of the fruit trees.

When you became a Christian, you received life, but that life in you was very low. Perhaps the life within you is similar to grass: it is life and it grows; yet it is the lowest life. Even when compared with the other plant life, grass is quite low. Although last week you might have been like the grass, today you have grown a little higher and you have become the herb yielding the seed. I hope after two months, you will be a tree bringing forth fruit. How would you liken yourself—to the grass, the herb, or the trees? Suppose the Lord Himself would ask you, "How about you? Are you like the grass or the herb or the tree?" Today you may be an herb, but after a certain period of time perhaps you will be likened to a fruit-bearing tree. But when you become a tree, don't become satisfied. This is not the last verse of chapter 1; it is something which happened on the third day.

### **The Living Creatures in the Water Were Generated**

The fish in the sea live in salt water. As a rule, salt water doesn't grow anything; it kills, allowing nearly no plants to grow. Salt water kills life. Fish, however, can live in salt water. The water may be salty, but the fish will never be salty, unless they are dead. This is quite meaningful.... We Christians who have the life of Christ can live in this dark, evil society. ...Life repels every kind of salt from the dead sea. This life can survive in any death situation. In the midst of an environment of death, this life can still survive. This is good; yet there is more.

### **The Living Creatures in the Air Were Generated**

After the fish, the birds, the fowl in the air, were created on the fifth day (Gen. 1:20-23). This is the higher life with the lower consciousness. The bird life is higher than the fish life. Fish can live in the death waters, but birds can transcend them. After you become a fish, you must grow until you are a bird. When your classmates come to you and say, “Let us go to the movies,” you will soar. No one can touch you—you will be transcendent. You will not only repel the salt, but you will transcend it.

### **The Living Creatures on the Earth Were Generated**

On the sixth day the higher life with the higher consciousness came into existence (Gen. 1:24-25). This higher life can accomplish something on the earth. Genesis 49:9 speaks about the lion, likening Judah to a lion which can do many things. First Samuel 6:7, 12a tells about two cows which were used to carry the cart with the ark. These verses show that both the beasts and the cattle can accomplish something on this earth. Their consciousness is higher than the fish, even higher than the bird, and they can do something on this earth. This is the third step of the growth of life.

### **The Light Bearers Appeared**

On the fourth day, there was no growth of life, but the appearance of the stronger, more solid lights (Gen. 1:14-17). Although light came in on the first day, it was not that solid, not that strong. On the fourth day, not only the lights came, but also the light bearers—the sun, the moon, and the stars. These are lights which are stronger, more solid, and more available. This is the first requirement for the growth of life. ...After we have grown in life from the grass to the tree, we should not be satisfied, for that was only the third day, not the end. We must go on to the fourth day to enjoy Christ as the sunrise, to enjoy the church as the bright moon, and to enjoy so many good saints as the shining stars, that we may grow in life. (*Life-study of Genesis*, msg. 4, pp. 38-40, 42-43)