

## **Genesis 1 : 1-5 & 22-25 – God Created a Good World**

Handfuls, TSK, HebrewLexicon, Notes, JFB, Calvin, Henry, Gill, Poole, GreekLexicon, INT, Delitzsch, Barnes, Pulpit, Gaebelein

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: In the book of Genesis, **you will see the creation of the universe**, you will learn about the **Sabbath, marriage, children, death, rain, art, and language**.

Those are important things. But more importantly, you will **learn how you were made, the purpose for which you were made, how you fell, and how fallen man can be redeemed by Jesus Christ**.

In fact, the New Testament, the Gospel, and salvation will make no sense unless you understand this book. So pay special attention.

**This book was written under the inspiration of God by Moses**. It is a truthful historical record. Moses wrote it a long time after creation and nothing he has written has been or can ever be disproved!

**The fact that some deny the authenticity and the historicity of the Genesis account does not change that it is truth**.

We know in our hearts, **by the Holy Spirit's work**, the Genesis account is true, and **scientific evidence supports its truthfulness by what is seen and what is not seen**.

(Examples: There are modern fish fossils on top of every mountain range. There is never a missing link between species.)

We begin today by looking at creation itself: **how it was done**, and how God **characterized** it as good-with no evolutionary accidents.

Our headings are:

**God of Creation**

**Goodness of Creation**

Our goals are: That you will **begin to understand the greatness and goodness of God**, and **your place and purpose in creation**.

**God of Creation**

1 In the beginning **God created the heavens and the earth**. 2 The earth was **without form, and void**; and **darkness was on the face of the deep**. And **the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters**. 3 Then **God said**, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4

And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

**1. The word “genesis” means “origin,” or “source.”**

**2. God the Father is the source of all creation; he is Creator of the world.**

**Creator comes from word “bara.”** This word is never used for anything man-made. God is Form-er (fashioner) of the earth.

**God, as the source of creation, is mentioned 32 times in the 31 verses on Genesis**

**1. The pronoun of God’s name is mentioned 43 times.**

**God is surely the center of the chapter.** So you actually learn more about God than of his creation.

**3. The Holy Spirit created the world.**

**The word for God in Genesis 1 is “elohim.”** Elohim is one person, but a plural word. “El” means strong, and “im” means “plural.” This is why you read: Let **us** make man in our image.

**The Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters for the purpose of showing that he was bringing order to a formless place.** He was showing domination – control.

Psalm 104:30 You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.

**4. The Son of God created the world.**

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. **3 All things were made through Him,** and without Him nothing was made that was made.

Colossians 1: 16 **For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth,** visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him and for Him.**

**Apostle Paul highlighted the purpose of creation in Colossians 1: For Christ!**  
Don’t ever forget that!

**5. The world – the universe- was without any form and was void; it was “tohu” and “bohu.”**

These expressions mean the universe was empty, and had no meaning.

God created the land and water at the beginning, but they were not “properly adorned.” The land was under the water. There was no separation of earth and sky.

**6. God created by his word, his authoritative and executive word, a word that “does!”**

You can also see the grand theme (that God created) in this chapter by the number of “ands” used. This goes against the rules of grammar, **but God is showing continuity.**

God spoke and things happened...over and over again!

**7. Some people who reject some of Moses’ teaching in Genesis 1, in order to allow for evolutionary changes, argue that there was a long gap between the formless creation (the time between verses 1 and 2).**

**This gap theory was popularized by Thomas Chalmers and Pink.**

It was more popularized by the Scotfield Reference Bible of 1917. (Scotfield is loved by the Pentecostals.)

But in fact, the Bible teaches God formed the world, not through an evolutionary process, but by his powerful word.

He did not form the world with simple things in a primordial slime, which then grew legs and crawled out from the water to the land...and later changed to man.

Hebrews 11:3 By faith we understand that the **worlds were framed by the word of God**, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

**There is another false theory that was more recently popularized. This theory states that since the sun was not made until the 4<sup>th</sup> day of creation, that the 1<sup>st</sup> three days were actually very long days – thousands or millions of years.**

Some used this theory to allow for evolutionary changes in creation.

5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

**8. But the Scripture teaches the days of creation were 24 hours, as God appealed to his days of creation when he gave the 24-hour Sabbath command.**

**Exodus 20:11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth**, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the **LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.**

And even more, **the days of creation had “morning and evening.”** So these were literal days.

6 Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." 7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. 9 Then 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 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. 12 And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 13 So the evening and the morning were the third day. 14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; 15 "and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so. 16 Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. 17 God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 So the evening and the morning were the fourth day. 20 Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." 21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

**9. God created everything on earth; nothing was made without him; he did this without means and only by using his voice.**

## **10. Lessons:**

**a. Pictures of the Trinity appear right at the beginning, even evidenced by “Elohim,” the plural word for One God.** The Holy Spirit was Creator. The Son of God was Creator. The Father was Creator.

The Trinitarian God created the world.

**b. Those who reject God as Creator cannot prove any other way of creation.** There is nothing more plausible.

Further, science supports creation and a young earth.

Throwing in billions of years, like evolutionists do, is just a smokescreen.

Evolutionists must start with a blind faith (and a dead ball), while Christians start with a knowledgeable faith (and a living God)!

**c. Those who reject God as Creator often do so because acknowledging God as Creator means they must bow to him and they are not prepared to do so.** Don't get mad at them. Talk to them about sin, salvation, and service. When the heart bows, it is easier to acknowledge God as Creator.

**d. It is rather strange that most religions teach the world always existed and that God was formed later.** These religions are therefore atheistic.

They see a world that exists and think that it created itself. Don't be mad with them. They are blind.

## **Goodness of Creation**

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 So the evening and the morning were the fifth day. 24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so. 25 And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And **God saw that it was good.**

### **1. The universe, the plants, and the animals God created were good.**

**The orderliness of the earth and the order of created things were good.** The wise man Solomon recognized this.

Proverbs 3:19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens;

**God didn't have to pray for blessings** (like we do for our work) on his creation; God was able to effect change by desiring it.

**God saw everything was good and continued to be good.** This is the intention of the "tense." V25.

31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

**2. Then God made man, the highlight of his creation, and declared everything was "very good."**

**This was a notable increase in wonder! Man was formed, breathed into, and given a special commission.**

**3. The goal of creation is the glory of God, and we will see more of that next week.**

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times *things* that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'

#### **4. Lessons:**

**a. The fact that man was made distinct from animals meant man had a greater obligation to serve God.** So man had to worship.

(If someone personally spends time preparing a fancy home-cooked meal for you with all the trimmings, you would appreciate it better than one who sticks a frozen pizza in the oven.)

**Moreover, man was made in the image of God.** Man was **infinitely more blessed than animals.** Man was **handmade to dominate the world.**

**b. Even after man fell, God provided a way for man's return and continues to bless him so he can return to the creation mandate and have dominion in the earth...starting with having children.**

Psalm 128:3 Your **wife shall be like a fruitful vine** In the very heart of your house, Your children like olive plants All around your table.

**c. Weaknesses you see in creation are a consequence of the fall.** That animals eat people is because of the fall. That weeds grow more than wheat, is a consequence of

the fall. That men are cannibals, is a consequence of the fall. But even in a fallen world...

**d. Take time to study science.** Look at the most complex machine in human history—the human body—and see if man could replicate it, and if it did not have a Great Designer. Look at the human iris and see if it came from primordial slime. Take a look at plants and see the beauty, rather than the chaos of creation.

### **Conclusion:**

**There is an all-out offensive against Genesis 1.** Many think they have won and destroyed Bible history.

This is why on TV you hear: 2,500,000,000 years ago, this or that happened.

These men arrogantly state what cannot be proved and is patently false—and rob God of the glory due to his name and rob children of the instruction to worship God.

Sadly, many Christians have felt the need, probably because of their inability to reconcile Genesis with evolution, to rob God of his glorious praise that he deserves for his creation mastery.

They rob God of his glory by making up long gaps in the accounts of Genesis or long creation days in order to allow for the possibility of evolution.

God's own people are abandoning him to look "scientific."

But they are not scientific at all.

Brothers and sisters:

**1. Do not fear those who dismiss or misuse God's Word.**

But pray God will open their eyes so they will accept his word as truth, so they might accept God created the world by his powerful word in 6 days and all very good.

Shed a tear for them.

They can never serve God as they ought to.

They won't have a sense of his wonder.

**2. Because God is Creator of you and the world, both you and the world must work for God's glory.**

He governs what your marriage should be like, how your family is to be run, the kind of job you take, who your friends are, how you spend your money, and **how you are rescued from your fallen condition by Jesus.**

**3. Because Genesis is foundation to faith, make it clear to those who need the Gospel that the basis of your calling them to repentance is because God is their Creator and demands they repent.**

Don't avoid dealing with creation in evangelism. Creation is foundational to evangelism.

Finally, God will prove his words to be true and you will one day confess God is your Creator!

But isn't it better you do it now when you have a chance to live forever in the presence of the Lord, rather than be condemned for rejecting God in hell for eternity?

Ask God to show you his truth and accept that truth. End on the right side.