

## CHAPTER ONE

### OUTLINE

CREATION OF THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH (1:1-2)

CREATION WEEK (1:3-31)

*Day One—God Creates Light (1:3-5)*

*Day Two—Division of the Firmament (1:6-8)*

*Day Three—Land, Sea and Plants (1:9-13)*

*Day Four—Sun, Moon and Stars (1:14-19)*

*Day Five—Fish and Birds (1:20-23)*

*Day Six—Animals and Man (1:24-31)*

### CREATION OF THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH (1:1-2)

Verse 1:

General Statement about Creation

*“In the beginning”*

This is a reference to the beginning of created things, God never had a beginning, He has existed eternally.

*“God”*

The term used here is Elohim and it refers to the plurality of God, not in regards to number but majesty, power and glory.

*“Created”*

The Hebrew word is *bara* which means to create *ex-nihillo*—“out of nothing.”

*“The heaven and the earth”*

The heaven is a reference to the galaxies both seen and unseen and the earth is a reference to the planet. Paul spoke of the fact that there were three heavens (2 Cor. 12:2).

SOME THEOLOGIANS SEE A GAP BETWEEN GENESIS 1:1 and 1:2. THIS IS WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE GAP THEORY OR RUIN RECONSTRUCTION THEORY.

Verse 2:

The Condition of the Earth

*“And the earth was without form, and void”*

The earth was *tohu* (unformed) and *bohu* (unfilled).

*“and darkness was upon the face of the deep”*

“The deep” in the Bible is a reference to the sea or oceans (Isa. 51:10). This verse indicates that the world was a dark watery place.

*“And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”*

This is a reference to the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Trinity. He moved or hovered over the waters covering the earth. “Why did the Spirit move upon the face of the waters?” To show the Holy Spirit’s role in creation and God’s ownership control and power over the earth from the very beginning.

## CREATION WEEK (1:3-31)

Verses 3-5:

Day One—God Creates Light (1:3-5)

*“And God said”*

In this chapter we read the words “And God said, Let there be...” six times. When God spoke by this omnipotent fiat (decree) something came into existence. Psalm 33:9 says, “For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. The writer of Hebrews says, “through faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God (Heb. 11:3)

*“Let there be light: and there was light”*

This was not the sun, moon and stars because they were created on the fourth day. Scholars are not exactly sure what type of light this was, one suggestion that has been offered is the Shekinah Glory. The Bible says that God is light (1 Jn. 1:5) and here He is revealing His light to drive out the darkness. In the Book of Revelation we told, “And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof” (Rev. 21:23).

*“And God saw the light, that it was good.”*

This is one of several times in which He would call His creation good (4, 10, 12,18, 21, 25, 31). This suggests that if there had been a gap where sin entered and people died, it would have not been good.

*“and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light, Day, and the darkness he called Night,”*

It was in the Divine plan of God for there to be Day and Night on the earth. Here is another place where Creation has an explanation where evolution has none. The Day was created for man to work and the Night was created for him to rest.

*“And the evening and the morning were the first day.”*

It is interesting how scholars want to make these days long geological periods of time when the Hebrew literally reads, “And was evening and was morning—ONE DAY” (emphasis mine).

Jonathan D. Sarfati in his commentary on Genesis 1-11 puts it like this,

“Evening+morning=one day.”

Verses 6-8

Day Two—Division of the Firmament (1:6-8)

*“And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And 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. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.”*

Originally the earth was a watery terrain, surrounded by an atmospheric mass of water. The word “firmament” (Hebrew *raqia*) meaning expanse or immense space. God was calling for a divide between the heavenly waters and earthly waters. Again we turn to Sarfati who says, “Here we have the usual closing formula for the creation days: evening+morning+ordinal number+day...a second day.”

Verses 9-13

Day Three—Land, Sea and Vegetation

Land and Sea

*“And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.”*

Here God is separating the water from the land. It is believed that at one point the land on the earth was one massive piece of terrain. The psalmist spoke of this separation (Ps. 33:7-9)

Vegetation

*And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the third day.*

God spoke and the earth brought forth grass, the herb yielded seed and the fruit tree brought forth fruit. God created these fully developed with the capability to reproduce. The also Bible notes that these were created “after its kind.” God encoded the DNA within each one of these

elements to produce “after its kind.” This is a direct contradiction to evolution which says these things evolved from marine life.

Verses 14-19

Day Four—Sun, Moon and Stars

The Lights Are Created to Mark Time

*“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:”*

There are four points that jump out at us from this verse:

1. God created the lights to divide the day from the night (a 24-hour day).
2. These lights were to be for signs. This is not a reference to astrology but for “signs” that relate to weather (Matt. 16:2, 3), prophecy (Matt. 2:2; Lk. 21:25) and judgment (Joel 2:30, 31; Matt. 24:29) and navigational landmarks (Job 38:31-33).
3. They were to be for seasons—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night (Gen. 8:22).
4. They were to be for times. “Days” the time it takes for the earth to rotate on its axis and be exposed to the sun and moon. “Years” the time it takes for the earth to travel around the sun.

The Sun, Moon and Stars Created

*“And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And 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. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 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. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day”.*

The two great lights, the greater to rule the day, and the lesser to light to rule the night refer to the sun and moon. There are two opinions about the creation of these lights. Some say that God created them on the first day and caused them to appear on the fourth day. Others believe God created them on the fourth day. It was also on the fourth day that God created the stars.