

The Book of Genesis | The Beginning, and Creation

II. THE SIX-DAYS OF CREATION (Genesis 1:3-31)

A. Created in Six Literal Days

1. When one carefully looks at Genesis 1, it is clear from Genesis 1:3 to Genesis 1:31 God created everything in six 24-hr. days.
 - a. There was an evening and a morning (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31)
 - b. The Lord further showed that these were literal days by telling us the purpose for which He created the sun, moon, and stars—so we could tell time: literal years, seasons, and days (Genesis 1:14-19)
 - c. In fact, the Lord tells the Israelites to work six-days and to rest upon the seventh, because He created in six days (Exodus 20:8-11)
2. Reinforced in the Old and New Testaments
 - a. By the Lord concerning the Sabbath day (Exodus 31:13-17)
 - b. By various apostles (Matthew 12:1-2; John 5:11)
 - c. By Christ Himself (Matthew 12:5)
 - d. By Paul concerning the Sabbath (Hebrews 4:4)

B. Day One (Genesis 1:3-5)

1. We are told that “God said” exactly (10) ten times in Genesis one. These ten sayings of God might be called the first Ten Commandments.
2. The creation of light (Genesis 1:3; Isaiah 45:7).
 - a. Light was created three days before the natural sources were created, such as the sun (Genesis 1:14-16).
 - b. God knows that light exists apart from its natural sources.
 - c. He knows the way light dwells (Job 38:19) and understands the difference between the light and the sun (Psalm 74:16).
 - d. Does this passage describe/records the original creation of light?
 - (1) God is light (1 John 1:5)
 - (2) God covers Himself with light (Psalm 104:2)
 - (3) God commands light to shine out of darkness (2 Corinthians 4:6)
 - e. In conclusion, light has existed as long as God has existed because God is light, Therefore, light is eternal as is God, What God did in Genesis 1:3 was to bring light back into a world filled with darkness because sin and its consequential destruction. As God brought light into the darkened universe by His absolute command, so God brings light into every darkened soul that calls on Him through the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Divisions between light and darkness (Genesis 1:4)
4. The naming of Day and Night (Genesis 1:5) – it is of interest to note that when something is given a name in scripture, that name is initially capitalized in scripture.

C. Day Two (Genesis 1:6-8)

1. The significance of the phrase “Let there be...”.
 - a. The usage
 - (1) “Let” – 14 times in Genesis chapter 1

- (2) “Let there be” – 3 times in Genesis chapter 1
 - (a) “Let there be light” (v. 3)
 - (b) “Let there be a firmament” (v. 6)
 - (c) “Let there be lights in the firmament” (v. 14)
- b. The definition
 - (1) To allow to pass; to permit
 - (2) From scripture – 13 times in 11 verses
 - (a) Creation week (Genesis 1:3, 6, 14)
 - (b) Abram and Lot (Genesis 13:8)
 - (c) An oath made between Abimelech and Isaac (Genesis 26:28)
 - (d) Gideon in proving God (Judges 6:39)
 - (e) In Daniel’s lament for Saul and Jonathan (2 Samuel 1:21)
 - (f) In search for a nurse/maid for king David (1 Kings 1:2)
 - (g) In search of the records of the kings (Ezra 5:17)
 - (h) In the search for a new queen for the king (Esther 2:2)
 - (i) In reference to the enemy of David (Psalm 109:12)
- c. The relevance
 - (1) This likely demonstrates the ease by which the Lord God creates.
 - (2) Done by His stretched out arm (Jeremiah 32:17)
 - (a) The arm of the Lord is revealed (Isaiah 53:1)
 - (b) His holy arm is made bare (Isaiah 52:10)
 - (3) Done by His word (Psalm 33:6, 9)
 - (a) His word, he spoke – “And God said” (Genesis 1:3)
 - (b) His Word (John 1:1)
 - (4) Done at His Command (Psalm 148:5) (See: Psalm 148:1-4)
2. The making of the firmament (Genesis 1:6)
 - a. Of the 17 times the word firmament is used in the Bible, over half of the times are found in Genesis chapter 1.
 - b. *Firmament* means an expanse or expansion of space. It refers to the heavens that include our atmosphere and outer space (See also Psalm 19:1; Daniel 12:3)
3. The division of the waters from the waters (Genesis 1:7)
4. The naming of the firmament Heaven (Genesis 1:8)
5. The second day is a day of division.
 - a. It divides God’s Heaven from Earth.
 - b. It is the only one of the six days of creation in which God never says or saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:8; cp. Genesis 1:4-5, 12-13, 18-19, 21-23, 31)
6. The three heavens (Genesis 1:7-8)
 - a. The first heaven is the atmospheric heaven where the birds fly and is called the “open firmament of heaven” (Genesis 1:20)
 - b. The second heaven is the starry heaven, outer space, and is called here the “firmament of heaven” (Genesis 1:4).
 - c. The third heaven is where God dwells and here simply called “heaven” (Genesis 1:1).