



Genesis - Beginnings and Foundations

Chapter 1 B
Nov 17, 2024

Module 5, Room 1

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Nov 10, 2024 – Genesis – Beginnings – Ch 1 A*
- *Nov 17, 2024 – Genesis Ch 1 B*
 - *Nov 19, 2024 -Manor Lake - Daniel Ch 4*
- *Nov 24, 2024 – Genesis Ch 1 C*
- *Nov 27, 28 – Thanksgiving*
- *Dec 1, 2024 – Genesis*
- *Dec 8, 2024 – Carroll Springer teaching (vacation)*
- *Dec 15, 2024 – Genesis (We are back)*

Quick Update ...ICYMI

Middle East

- *Hostage Negotiations not progressing*
- *Israel is finishing up the mop up of Gaza and continuing to take Hamas Prisoners*
- *Other ME countries are adjusting to new US Leadership and Priorities*
- *Posturing is taking place in places like Turkey (Cut all ties w Israel), Saudi Arabia making a public talk of Palestinian Rights*
- *Lebanon still struggling for Peace with Israel*
- *Israel taking a hard stance with the UN on terrorists being employed and aided (UNRWA)*
- *Israel preparing for stronger US ties with New Administration*

US/World

- *New Trump Cabinet picks causing a stir among the Washington Establishment*
- *The new DOGE org is to cut waste and streamline efficiency, causing panic and resignations among the establishment bureaucrats.*
- *Watch for last-minute attempts to thwart the new administration by both Democrats and people who want to harm President-elect Trump himself.*
- *Get popcorn and get to your seats for the show in the first 100 days*

Thoughts about our current study... **QUICK REVIEW**



- *Genesis means "beginnings" or "origins"*
- *It is not just a book of the Bible, but an explanation of Life*
- *We can believe it or not believe it, but it is what it is, and we have to deal with it*
- *It is unique among books, and we need to understand what makes it that way*
- *We will take our time to go through this study. It is Important!*

Last week we began this study with...

A Discussion on God and the World He Made

- *Genesis Chapter 1 is the cornerstone of the whole foundation of the Bible*
- *Genesis 1:1 is the critical verse in understanding and accepting the Genesis Account*

The Beginning

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

*It is often said that belief in the Bible and its message can be clarified by understanding the first four words of Genesis. If one can believe these words are true, then everything else in the Bible can be believed as true. **Corollary***

Then, if you believe God was there before anything else, and you believe that God has the power to create from nothing, creating the Heavens and the Earth should be totally believable.

We added that Genesis provides answers for...

✓ The Origin of the Universe

✓ The Origin of Order and Complexity

✓ The Origin of the Solar System

✓ The Origin of the Atmosphere and Hydrosphere

✓ Origin of Life

✓ Origin of Man and Woman

✓ Origin of Marriage

✓ Origin of Evil

✓ Origin of Language

✓ Origin of Government

✓ Origins of Nations / Tribes

✓ Origin of Religion

✓ Origin of the Chosen People

✓ And many other things...

We will explore all these origins as we work our way through Genesis

We can get this detail in no other place

Assuming we believe Genesis 1:1

*These firm beliefs also can tell us what is **not true**...*

- *It refutes **Atheism** because the universe and everything in it was created by God*
- *It refutes **Pantheism**, for there is one God who is transcendent (above all) that He created*
- *It refutes **Polytheism**, for one God created all, not multiple Gods*
- *It refutes **Materialism**, for all matter had a beginning. It was not self-existent*
- *It refutes **Dualism**, God was alone when He created*
- *It refutes **Humanism**, God not man is the ultimate authority and reality*
- *It refutes **Evolutionism**, God Created all things*

All these philosophies are different ways of expressing the same unbelief

Genesis Verse 1 – Revealed

- **God** – The word rendered in English God, is the Hebrew Word **Elohim**. **This word stresses His Majesty and Omnipotence**. It is the Word for God in Genesis Chapter 1. The “IM” ending signifies the word is a plural representation of the Hebrew Word EL which is singular. This represents the 3 forms of God...Father, Son, and Spirit. It is used here as a singular word that testifies to the unity of God...a glimpse of the Trinity.
- **Created** – This is the Hebrew word “Bara” which is **only** used in the work of God. Man can make things or form them from other things but cannot create them in the same sense as God.
 - Romans 4:17 (KJV) ¹⁷ (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, **and calleth those things which be not as though they were.**)
 - Heb 11:3 ³ By faith we understand that the universe was **formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.**
- **In the Beginning** – the Hebrew Word **Bereshith**

So, what we see in these first words of Genesis

- *In the Beginning – before time, space, energy, and matter*
- *God – The majestic and omnipotent God (in plural form)*
- *Created – “Bara”. In only His way He created from nothing all things that were created. He created Time, Space, Matter, Energy, and then He created all the things that are made of and use these things.*
- *The Heaven and the Earth*
 - *Heaven is the Hebrew word **Shamayim** (plural, as in Heavens), and most nearly relates to our term “space” since neither the planets, earth, or Heaven in the sense we understand it, has not yet been created by God.*
 - *Earth – which is the Hebrew word **Erets**, which is often translated “ground” or “land”. It is a general term since the Earth has not been formed from the matter at this point. Understand, however, that water is created at this point too, as part of the matter.*

In Verse 1:1 we see that this is where God does His “bara” creation by creating both Space and Matter for both the Earth and Heavens to come

Genesis 1:2 What was it like then?

² **Now** the earth was **formless** and **empty**, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was **hovering** over the waters.

“Now” in NIV, **“And”** in KJV - means that this verse is sequential to the one before. The “earth” had no form and no defined space (empty).

Darkness which is the absence of light was over everything, but the Spirit of Elohim was hovering over the “face”-KJV of the waters.

*It is hard to picture this in our mind because there are no shapes, forms, or instances we understand that come to mind. **Face** here means presence. I think of it as a fog of matter and water and darkness. Or think of it as a blank canvas but with all the creation elements in it, ready for God to make everything.*

The Earth had no form and had no defined spaces, and no inhabitants. It was in its elemental forms in matter and water, but the Spirit of God was there, over His Creation.

GAP Theory of Time

- This theory tries to harmonize Biblical teaching with scientific theories of the age of the earth and animals.
- It allows millions or billions of years to occur between the verses in the first part of Genesis thus trying to accommodate the dinosaurs, early man, drift of continents, and species changes.
- This is a complex discussion, and Dr Morris handles it well in his commentary. It is a common thought in the church because it was part of the Scofield Bible so common in the 1950's.
- Just an example of one of the problems with it. It is a theory based on fossil records of dead animals and plants, but in the Bible, Death did not occur until after the Fall which brought sin and death into the world. This was not just for man, but also for creation. In the Bible record, creation happened Before the Fall, so there was no sin and death.
- I will not focus on this theory or defend it but will just stay with the Biblical Record. In Jewish years, we are in the year 5785

Today we Pick up at Gen 1:3-10

³ And God said, “Let there be **light**,” and there was light.

⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

⁵ God called the light “**day**,” and the darkness he called “**night**.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be a **vault between the waters to separate water from water**.”

⁷ So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so.

⁸ God called the vault “**sky**.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

⁹ And God said, “**Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear**.” And it was so.

¹⁰ God called the **dry ground** “**land**,” and the **gathered waters** he called “**seas**.” And God saw that it was good

Let's take these verses a few at a time...

Definitions and understanding of the actual words are important everywhere in the Bible, but critical in Genesis. We will also take notice of several patterns and “firsts” in these verses.

In Genesis 1:1-2 we see the first part of creation in the creation of matter, space, time, and energy(motion).

In v3, we see the beginnings of the first 6 days of creation, and we are introduced to some new concepts like day, evening, and night.

We also see the first time God Speaks

Gen 1:3-5 The First Day, the First Voice of God, The Power of God

³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

Day 1...

Definitions

- **LIGHT** -' אור ôwr, ore; a primitive root; to be (causative, make) luminous (literally and metaphorically):— break of day, glorious, kindle, (be, en-, give, show) light (-en, -ened), set on fire, shine. Means visible light...
- **DARKNESS** – Two words represent Darkness.. **Araphel** (Gen) and **Chosek**. Both mean a lack of light, but **Araphel** is darker, and gloomier. Both also indicate a state without God
- **NIGHT** – The time interval without Light, but with Darkness
- **EVENING** – The beginning of Night
- **MORNING** – The Beginning of the interval of light
- **DAY** – The time interval of Light and no Darkness Hebrew Word YOM, also the cycle of Night to Day. The Day began in the Evening and continued until the following Evening.
- **GOOD**- The Hebrew word translated as “good” in English is **tov**. The term rendered “very good” is **hennah tov**, which could be translated as “certainly good” or “surely good.” Good is a concept that God assessed his work and thought it met his desired functionality.

GOD SPOKE, and HE Spoke it into existence (who/what God spoke to is important)

Results were GOOD

God SAID, God SAW, and God CALLED (or named)

In Day 1, we see a pattern and also have Q's

- *Day or YOM in Hebrew has several meanings. The word can mean a physical day (ie 24 Hours), or it can mean a time period as in "Day of the Lord". It can also mean the time of daylight during a physical day. Far and away the most common usage is for 24 hours. When it is a time period it is called out as in the "Day of the Lord" and understood that way.*
- *The context of its use determines which definition applies. This presents another dilemma for Bible Students. As in the GAP Theory, this is a way to harmonize belief and science, and it is called the **Day-Age Theory***
- ***Day-Age Theory says the days in Genesis 1:3-31 (Days of Creation) are really Ages and not physical days.***
- ***An accurate and normal reading of Genesis does not indicate a time period, or it would have been worded differently, **in my view.*****
- ***Also note that at the End of Day 1, there is no life on the earth, and no fossils would be left to find***
- ***Pattern: And...God Creates...God examines...God proclaims...All in a Day with defined limits...morning, day, evening, night***

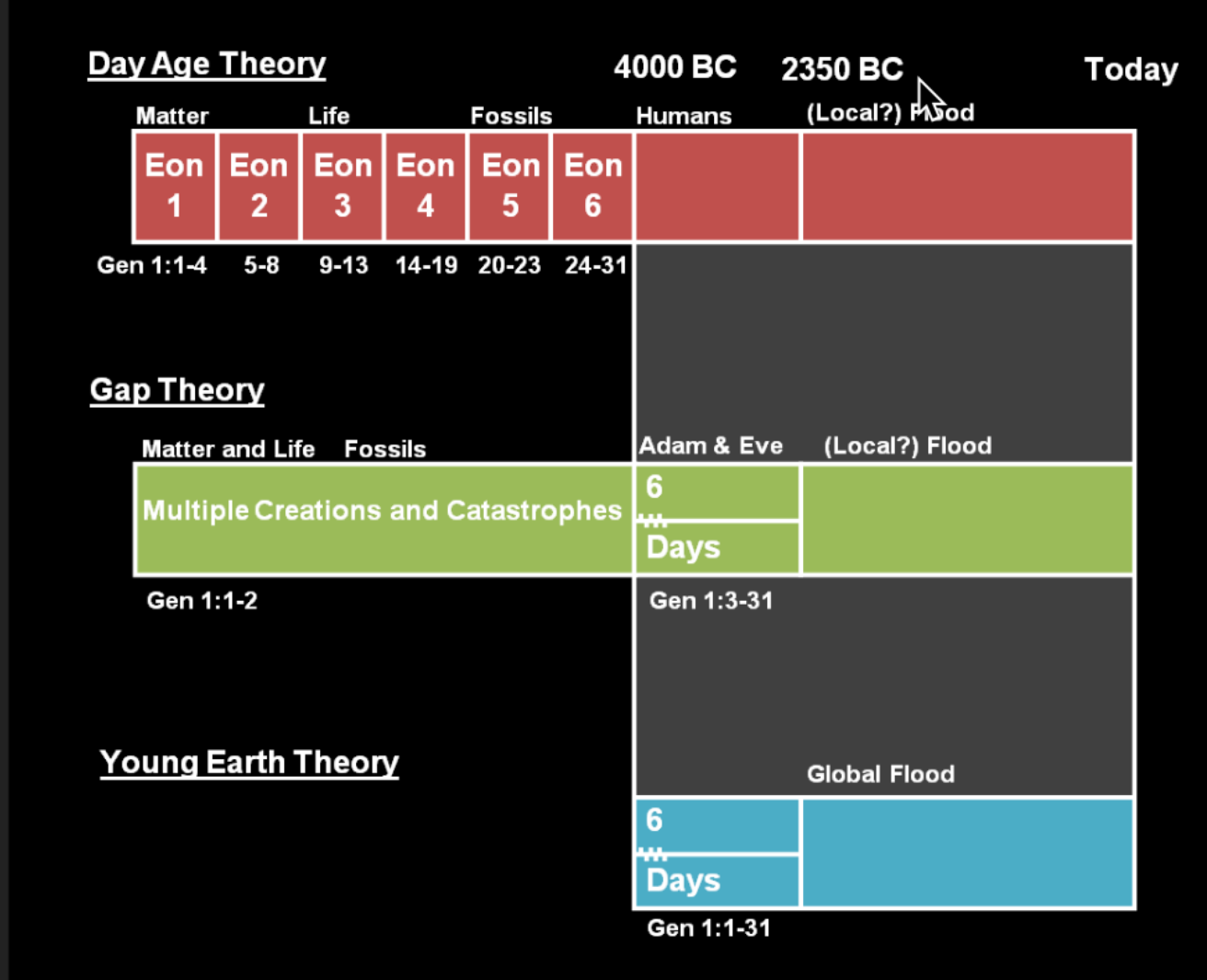
Who/What God Speaks to is Important

As we see God speaking let's decide who or what He is talking to

- *His Creation – Overall*
- *A Part of His Creation (Land, Earth, Water...)*
- *Himself*
- *Man*

I want to make an important point as we finish Day 6 about that. You try and figure it out...

Graphics of the Two Gap Theories



Each Day of 6 days is an Age or Eon of millions of years

Between Gen 1:1 and 1:2 > Billions of Years

In 6 days, God Created it all

Day 2 – Gen 1:6-8

⁶ *And God said, “Let there be a **vault / firmament** between the waters to separate water from water.”*

⁷ *So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so.*

⁸ *God called the vault “**sky (or Heaven)**” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.*

Note: *After Day 1, the earth is no longer formless, but it is still void of life. It is beginning to be prepared for life.*

*Also, not mentioned in Genesis 1, but in **Job 38:4-7** the Bible tells us that the **Angels** were present when the foundations of the earth were laid. So... Day one early, they were created when the Heavens were created.*

Sky or HEAVEN in KJV is the same word (Shamayim) used in Gen 1:1 and it means the general term for the regions above the earth (atmosphere)

God Spoke and...

- The world of matter began to move up with a separation or vault that appeared between what was separated up and what was separated down.
- The space for our Earth with its Atmosphere, land, and water vapor are beginning to form. Can you imagine the energy and power it takes to do this?
- Now we have all the matter needed, and God has spoken Light into existence and separated it from darkness, and created day, night, and time ...what we call the unit of time "a Day". You can infer that since the Days are cyclical and repeatable, that the Earth is rotating but where is the Sun and the moon?
- Day 2 - God creates the basics of what will be the earth, and the atmosphere prepared for life.

Day 3- Gen 1:9-13

⁹ *And God **said**, “Let the **water** under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so.*

¹⁰ *God **called** the dry ground “**land**,” and the gathered waters he **called** “**seas**.” And God **saw** that it was good.*

¹¹ *Then God **said**, “Let the **land** produce vegetation: **seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.”** And it was so.*

¹² *The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. **And God saw that it was good.***

¹³ *And there was evening, and there was morning—the **third day**.*

So much to discuss on this 3rd Day

- *The THIRD act of Separation*
 - *Light from Darkness*
 - *Separation of the Firmament/Heaven from Earth*
 - *Now Separation of the Water and the Land from the earth portion of the firmament*
- *God SPOKE to the **WATER**, and it separated, and NAMED the Land EARTH, the Seas, the Shores from the Earth's Firmament and SAW that it was GOOD*
- *God SPOKE to the **LAND** and into existence the plants, and trees, and created them as seed - bearing to permit sustainable growth and replication of them.*
- *He also created them in separate “kinds” and set the renewal within “kinds”*
- *If you ever studied botany or any farming, you know the importance to humans this part of creation for our atmosphere, food, lumber, and fruits and the beauty of nature*
- *God SAW that it was all GOOD, the 3rd Day*

Day 4 – Gen 1:14-19. The Sun and Moon

¹⁴ And God **said**, “Let there be **lights** in the **vault** of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as **signs** to mark sacred times, and days and years,

¹⁵ **and** let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so.

¹⁶ God made **two great lights**—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. **He also made the stars.**

¹⁷ God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth,

¹⁸ to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. **And God saw that it was good.**

¹⁹ And there was evening, and there was morning—**the fourth day**

God spoke to His Creation in General

The Sun and the Moon Created and Placed

- *Notice that the “lights” were created as **Signs**, to mark **appointed times...and days and years**. This was their primary purpose for creation. They were a measurement of Time for the Earth.*
 - *God placed them in the “vault” above the earth created the previous day.*
 - *Confirmation that they are rotational as they define the “day” and “years”*
- *THEN, they were to provide light on the earth during the Day and Night. These two lights were now the light that made daylight and governed the day, and moonlight that governed the Night.*
- *God reflected on His Creation, and it was GOOD*
- *Evening and Morning – the 4th Day*

Next Week, we will begin Genesis with Day 5

- *Thank God for answered Prayers for ourselves and our country*
- *Pray for Israel, and the Peace of Jerusalem*
- *Pray for First Redeemer Pastors, staff, teachers, and all who lead*
- *Pray for your family and friends inside and outside the church.
Pray for healing for those in grief and recovery.*
- *Be thankful that God has placed you **in this day and time** and
commit **your** will ...to doing **His** Will.*
- *Pray for those who don't know the Lord to come to Him*
- *Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to fill the land*