



God's Creation

A Generic Look at Genesis, Lesson #4

God speaks...and it so! God speaks...and things happen!

God speaks...and the heavens declare His glory!

God said it, I believe it, and His truth marches on! What

God says in our spirit energizes our faith!

Question: How many times have you been “at your wit’s end”...and God gives you an answer at just the right time...then peace enters in?

Tell us of the times God came through for you when it looked so bleak at the beginning of your problem?

God is a problem solver...and yet, is no respecter of persons.

Why do you think it is so hard for God’s most excellent and “very good” creation has such a hard time believing that He (God) created the universe and planet just exactly like His Word tells us?

CREATION BY GOD:

The first day of creation: light is created and divided from the darkness.

“Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.” Genesis 1:3-5

“Let there be light” – Did you know the first step from chaos to order is to bring light?

This is also the way God works in our life.

Remember last week when we read the 2nd verse of Genesis 1...and we realized that “the Spirit of God hovered (hovering) over the face of the waters” was the same way He works in our lives as He convicts us and gently prods us to recognize that we are sinners. The NKJV says “hovered” and the KJV says “moved”...meaning the Holy Spirit had a great responsibility in God’s creation and He has a great responsibility in helping us to know we are sinners and in need of a Savior. The Holy Spirit always points to Jesus and it is His responsibility to glorify Jesus, the Son...and the Son’s responsibility is to glorify the Father.

Paul now speaks via the Word of God about the light brought to us by the gospel:

“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. ⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake. ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

THEN GOD SAID:

God did not have to fashion light with His hands. It was enough for God to merely speak the words, “Light Be” and there was light.

Sometimes we try to play God and “say” things into existence...by our faith. Don’t try to do this unless you know without a doubt that the Spirit of God is doing it by the “faith of God”...not yours!

Yes...you can move mountains if it is the “will of God.” God is the One who can speak things into existence...not you!

When you pray, always be willing to give into the will of God. Why? Because we can trust Him!

BUT, CAN WE TRUST OURSELVES?

Remember... “I don’t know why I do things I know not to do and I don’t do things I should do”... “O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!” Romans 7:15-25 (summary of verses).

“THERE WAS LIGHT”....

Genesis tells us that light, day, and night each existed before the sun and the moon were created on the fourth day, Genesis 1:14-19.

- *This shows us that light is more than a physical substance; it also has a supernatural aspect.*

Note: In the new heavens and the new earth, there won't be any sun or moon. God Himself will be the light. Revelation 22:5.

- **The darkness God sent upon the Egyptians had a tangible quality to it, far beyond what we usually think of as being associated with darkness; it could be FELT.**

“Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward heaven so that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness that can be felt.” Exodus 10:21, NKJV

- ✓ This demonstrates a certain supernatural element, which can be related to light and darkness.

Don't get excited here, folks...just because you could feel goose bumps in the middle of night when you heard a sound as a young child, doesn't mean that the darkness you experienced was supernatural.

SO THE EVENING AND THE MORNING WERE THE FIRST DAY:

- Many wonder if this was a literal day (in the sense we think of a day) or if it was a geological age.
- Some say that God created the world in six days, and others say He created it in six vast geological ages.

Though there is disagreement among Christians on this, the most plain and simple meaning of the text is that He created in six days AS WE THINK OF DAYS.

“If the DAYS were not days at all, would God have allowed or permitted the word? Does He trade in inaccuracies, however edifying? The question hinges on the proper use of language.” (Kidner)

THE SECOND DAY OF CREATION: *God makes an atmospheric division.*

“Then God said, “Let there be a ^[2]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.” Genesis 1:6-8

LET THERE BE A FIRMAMENT: The idea of a firmament is of an expanse or space(NLT). The waters of the land are separated from the water vapor in the sky.

The Waters Which Were Above the Firmament: Here, the Bible recognizes the existence of water vapor in the sky.

Bear with me on this one (the following quote). There is much technological language that, at first, seems to be extremely boring to the average student of the Word. However, I think it is important.

(Don't throw rotten tomatoes at me!)...At least I can spell tomatoes!

A wonderful Bible scholar (Henry Morris) who believes the Bible means what it says and does not need to be examined by mere man with a tendency to not understand the supernatural says, "The waters above the firmament thus probably constituted a vast blanket of water vapor above the troposphere and possibly above the stratosphere as well, in the high temperature region now known as the ionosphere, and extending far into space."

Such a vapor blanket would greatly change the ecology of the earth, and Henry Morris suggests several effects of a vapor blanket.

- *It would serve as a global greenhouse, maintaining an essentially uniformly pleasant temperature all over the world.*
- *Without great temperature variations, there would be no significant winds, and the water-rain cycle could not form. There would be no rain as we know it today.*
- *There would be lush, tropical-like vegetation, all over the world, fed not by rain, but by a rich evaporation and condensation cycle, resulting in heavy dew or ground-fog.*
- *The vapor blanket would filter out ultraviolet radiation, cosmic rays, and other destructive energies bombarding the planet. These are known to be the cause of mutations, which decrease human longevity. Human and animal life spans would be greatly increased.*

NOTE: A vapor blanket would provide the necessary reservoir for a potential worldwide flood.

AND GOD CALLED THE FIRMAMENT HEAVEN:

This, of course, is the heaven that we see (the sky) and that space/expanse which is above the earth.

Merriam-Webster simply defines the firmament (heaven) as "the vault or arch of the sky; heavens."

We want to go to God's heaven (that which is beyond the sky).

How do you get there?

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die,"²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26