



S1E5: Seven days That Made the World

Part 2 of 3 looking at Act 1: Creation

AIM OF GENESIS 1

- Primary aim is identity of God and his purposes in creation, not in-depth scientific inquiry
- But I do believe literal views of Genesis are fully compatible with legitimate science (but not a materialistic, evolutionary worldview)
- Can be both factually true but focused on a greater point

GENESIS 1:1

- God is the one that has eternally existed before all else
- “empty, formless, void, waters, chaos” – Hebrew euphemisms, literary language to describe nothingness
- Creation account is going to contrast reality before creation and after
- Empty, chaotic, formlessness turned into ordered, formed, and inhabited with life

LITERARY STRUCTURE OF THE DAYS

Problem (v2)	Forming/Preparation (days 1-3)	Filling/Population (days 4-6)
DARKNESS	A light (day) B darkness (night)	4a sun 4b moon, stars
WATERY ABYSS	A firmament B waters above/below	5a birds 5b fish
FORMLESS EARTH	A earth from sea B vegetation	6a land Animals 6b humans

CREATION

- God establishing his sovereignty over all created matter
- Order, design, purpose, structure
- Order, Purpose, Coherence, Beauty: “It is good.”
- Humanity made in the image of God
- Creation is good, both physical world and mankind
- A demonstration of God’s nature, an expression of his love

KEY VERSE

26 Then God said, “Let us make human beingsⁱⁿ in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all...the animals...” 27 So God created human beingsⁱⁿ in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.” 29 Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food.” (Genesis 1:26-29)

PURPOSES FOR CREATION MANKIND

- DOMINION – “be fruitful and multiple, fill the earth and subdue it”
 - rule, authority, God’s regent
 - image of God = authority of the king to rule
- WORK “put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it”
 - provision, stewardship, productivity, creativity
 - work reflects the creative, life-giving work of the Creator
 - God’s work brings life, our work helps sustain that life from God
- RELATIONSHIP – “not good for man to be alone”
 - Creation of Eve – why the whole naming the animals thing?
 - Man distinct from creatures; Adam recognizing one who is like himself
 - 2 complementary beings required to reflect image of God in mankind; one gender or pairs of identical things with identical functions can’t do it

KINGDOM CREATED

- Everything that is needed for life to flourish and expand
- Expectation is that we reflect God’s image with expanding the world with life, work, beauty, and enjoyment
- “As the human race lives together in right relationships of mutual blessing with each other in the world, all creation will see the presence in the character of the Divine King who has brought life out of chaos.” – Dr. Bill Arnold