

Panorama Bible Study

The Plan of the Ages, Study 1

THE ORIGINAL CREATION

THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE TO THE CREATION OF MAN

1 **QUESTION:** Why is it important to read and study the Bible?

ANSWERS: (Romans 10:17) _____

(Psalm 138:2) _____

2 **QUESTION:** Why is FAITH important?

ANSWER: (Hebrews 11:6) _____

3 **QUESTION:** What is FAITH?

ANSWER: (Hebrews 11:1) _____

4 **QUESTION:** What does FAITH have to do with understanding creation?

ANSWER: (Hebrews 11:3) _____

5 **QUESTION:** Is there anything that can make the Word of God **USELESS** and have **NO POWER?**

ANSWER: (Mark 7:13) _____

IMPORTANT THE **3 KEYS** TO UNDERSTANDING THE SCRIPTURES:

Key 1: *Know* the Author (John 17:3) _____

Key 2: Be *filled* with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18) _____

Key 3: Let Scripture *interpret* Scripture (**Isaiah 28:10**) _____

(**Psalm 40:7**) _____

GENESIS

SIDEBAR Most branches of modern science were founded by **believers in creation**:

Physics—Newton, Faraday, Maxwell, Kelvin

Chemistry—Boyle, Dalton, Ramsay

Biology—Ray, Linnaeus, Mendel, Pasteur, Virchow, Agassiz

Geology—Steno, Woodward, Brewster, Buckland, Cuvier

Astronomy—Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Herschel, Maunder

Mathematics—Pascal, Leibnitz, Euler

1. Genesis 1:1 “In the **BEGINNING...**”

John 1:1 “In the **BEGINNING...**” Jesus is the Word of God. God spoke and creation began. **Colossians 1:15-17** makes it plain in speaking about Jesus Christ:

“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by **HIM** were **ALL** things **created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created **by HIM** (*Jesus*), and **FOR Him**: And He is before all things, and **by Him all things consist.**”

Revelation 1:8 “I am **Alpha** and Omega, the **BEGINNING** and the ending...”

Colossians 2:9 “For in **Him** (*Jesus*) dwelleth **all the fulness** of the **Godhead** **bodily.**”

I Timothy 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

2. Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning **GOD...**”

Elohim (Plural “Gods” but always used with a **SINGULAR** verb.) The **INFINITE** God cannot be conveyed in singularity—a “finite” and “quantitative” term. Infinity cannot be “quantified!!!” He is “I AM.” The “Everything” we need. He is inside of time and outside of time. He is everywhere. The Psalmist said if he made his bed in **HELL**, “behold Thou art there.” Elohim has revealed Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the Scriptures. The Eternal, Self-Existent One. He is the **Great Uncaused Cause** of creation.

The SHEMA: **Mark 12:29** and **Deut. 6:4** “Hear, O Israel: The **LORD** (*Jehovah, Yahweh, Adonai, Master, Supreme*) our God (*Elohim, plural*) is **ONE LORD.**”

3. Genesis 1:2 “earth was without form and void...” (Jeremiah 4:23**)**

Some scholars think something catastrophic happened after verse 1 which caused the earth to be without form and void—possibly Lucifer’s rebellion in Heaven which led to his being cast down to earth. **Ezekiel 28:13** speaks of Lucifer as having access to the Garden of Eden—almost as a supervisory or **DOMINION** position until he rebelled. However, that theory would require that the Garden of Eden be RECREATED which is **not** implied in Genesis 2. That posits the following question:

Since Ezekiel tells us that Lucifer had access to the Garden of Eden before he rebelled (that is, before “iniquity” was found in him, before he became Satan the adversary), could the beginning of Lucifer’s “iniquity” have been at the moment he sought to challenge God through the temptation of Adam and Eve? In **Isaiah 14:12-15** Lucifer says he “will be like the most High.” Could it have been more than Lucifer could bear when he heard God say that He was going to create man in His own image—in the image of God? Did the iniquity begin to “set in” within Lucifer and he decided to attempt to thwart what God was about to do in the creation of man?

Other scholars maintain that the first verse is a general heading or initial declaration that God created it all. Then the following verses are commentary explaining creation in detail.

Regardless, the earth was an **EMPTY**, dark place with subterranean waters over which the Holy Spirit MOVED (literally **BROODED**). The Holy Spirit is introduced here as being the REGENERATING, CREATIVE God. Remember, the

angel Gabriel told Mary that the Holy Spirit would **OVERSHADOW** her to create **LIFE** within her womb. (Keep in mind the word “overshadow” when we study how God created man in His image.)

4. Genesis 1:3 “let there be **LIGHT**...”

LIGHT—both physical and spiritual.

This scripture caught the attention of Albert Einstein and led to his groundbreaking theory of Relativity:

$E=MC^2$ Energy equals Mass times the Speed of Light squared

(Light travels at 186,000 miles per second. In ONE second light can circle the earth nearly 7 ½ TIMES!!!)

God created **LIGHT first** because it was the “building block” of **ENERGY**.

John 1:4-9 Jesus is the True Light. The Spiritual Light—the Word of God. A physical body was prepared for Jesus in the womb of Mary, but as the Word of God, He is, was, and will always be Almighty God, the Creator. (**Revelation 1:8**)

God spoke “**Himself**” into His creation when He said, “Let there be light.” **1 Timothy 6:16** says that God **dwells** in the **LIGHT**. **1 John 1:5** says “God is **LIGHT**, and in Him is no darkness at all.” Because Colossians tells us that “by Him (Jesus) all things consist,” and because **Acts 17:28** states that “in Him we live, and move, and have our being,” we know that our very existence proclaims that **God is ALIVE AND WELL**, else neither we nor this universe would be here!!!

5. Genesis 1:4 Light was GOOD.

QUESTION: Why did God have to **DIVIDE** or **SEPARATE** the Light from the Darkness?

ANSWER: _____

6. Genesis 1:5 **Light** named **DAY** and the **darkness** named **NIGHT**. This records the **FIRST DAY**.

This is the first “day” of “TIME” as we know it.

God is not only recording **physical** creation, but we begin to see “pictures” of **spiritual** parallels that can only be apprehended through **physical creation**. For example, how could we understand **SPIRITUAL DARKNESS** without having experienced **PHYSICAL DARKNESS**?

Additionally, God did **NOT** have to create in “stages” or “days.” He could easily have instantaneously created! Therefore, just as He has revealed Himself throughout the Old Testament in a **PROGRESSIVE REVELATION**, we also begin to see a **“PROGRESSION”** in the **creation story**. It is somewhat like a **“CALENDAR”** that God will communicate throughout the scriptures—the use of **“Days,” “Weeks”** (for example, *Shavuot* which is the “Feast of Weeks,” also known as “Pentecost” instituted by God, given to Moses for His worship; and Daniel’s 70 “weeks” containing prophecy), and the number **7** as associated with **COMPLETION** and **“REST.”**

7. Genesis 1:6-8 Divided the waters to create the **Firmament** or canopy or atmosphere, Heaven. **SECOND DAY.**
8. Genesis 1:9-13 Gathering of the waters over the Earth to become **Seas** and the appearance of **dry land named Earth**. Vegetation (grass, herb yielding seed, fruit tree yielding fruit, **AFTER HIS KIND, WHOSE SEED IS IN ITSELF**—the **SEED** is the **DNA**, the **Genetic Code** which allows for variation but **NOT** a **change** in **KIND**. (Variations of monkeys, but monkeys **DO NOT** eventually become humans!)

THIRD DAY. The **“THIRD”** is associated with the **terrestrial**, with earth. Earth is the **THIRD** planet. Jesus will be **THREE** days in the tomb of the earth prior to His resurrection. “Three” is a signpost throughout many scriptures that the Plan of God is coming into the Earth.

9. Genesis 1:14-19 Light was already formed on Day 1. Here it seems that **physical LIGHT** is being “gathered” (much like the waters on earth were “gathered”) into **PHYSICAL LIGHTHOLDERS** to physically (naturally) **DIVIDE** day from night. For **SIGNS, SEASONS, DAYS, YEARS**. Greater light, the **SUN** (**Jesus** is called the **SUN of RIGHTEOUSNESS** in **Malachi 4:2**) **RULES** the **DAY**. Lesser light, the **MOON, RULES** the **NIGHT**. Again, spiritual applications to this physical creation. We are “children of the day”—the redeemed of the **SUN of Righteousness, Jesus**, **BUT** we, like the **MOON**, are to reflect the **SUN, Jesus**, in the **NIGHT**—in the spiritual darkness that is

upon the earth. We are to **RULE over the darkness**—have dominion over it. To further emphasize the **spiritual symbolism** of the **SUN** and the **MOON**, remember, Joseph had a dream that indicated his family’s **SPIRITUAL** influence in the Plan of the Ages. He saw the **SUN**, (father) the **MOON**, (mother) and the **STARS** (brothers) bow down to him. His own family knew very well the interpretation of that dream!!! They scolded him for it!

It also behooves us to remember the words of our Lord in the New Testament, **John 9:4**:

“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is **DAY**: the **NIGHT** cometh when no man can work.”

As the greatest **UNDERSTATEMENT** ever recorded, Genesis 1:16 states “He made the **STARS** also.” Trillions of stars in space—many too large for mortal minds to conceive of! **IF** it does, indeed, require millions of light years for the light to reach us from those stars farthest out, then the “**Days**” of **Genesis 1** may actually be the “**Generations**” of **Genesis 2**; and **Genesis 1**, while factually correct in the creation account, could be employing a “**literary framework**” when it denotes “**days**.”
FOURTH DAY.

10. Genesis 1:20 Seas bring forth water creatures. Fowls of the air created. (Remember, **FOWLS** of the air will be used as a symbol after the fall to symbolize attacks by the enemy to thwart the plan of God. **Genesis 15:11** and **Matthew 13:4**)
FIFTH DAY.

11. Genesis 1:24-31 Land creatures created. Again, the DNA, “after his kind.”

“Let **US** make man in **OUR** image, after **OUR** likeness...” **Plural** but changes to **SINGULAR** in verse 27: “So God created man in **HIS** own image...male and female created He them.” Again, an illustration of **ELOHIM** as **Father, Word, Holy Spirit** yet **ONE GOD**. (Monotheism)

QUESTION: What does it mean to be created in His **IMAGE**?

ANSWER: “Image” translates “shade or shadow,” “resemblance” or “representative figure.” *This is the same terminology used when the Holy Ghost **OVERSHADOWED** Mary for her to conceive Christ. We are spirit, soul, and body. **Triune** but **one being**—much like **God is revealed as triune but ONE being.**

Note: Before the **FALL**, God gave male and female an **EQUAL** charge: To **SUBDUE** and have **DOMINION** over **ALL of creation**. It would seem that in the beginning man was vegetarian—that the plant life contained sufficient nutrition to feed man and animals. No killing of animals till **after the FALL**. **SIXTH DAY**.

12. Genesis 2:1- It is **FINISHED**, associated with the **7th day**. God **doesn't** need to **REST**. He is establishing the usage of the **number 7** as being **associated with**

SANCTIFICATION, which means “setting apart.” It will become known as the Sabbath Day in the scriptures, which, in its spiritual fullness, represents **our REST** from **our labors** to **become righteous** because Jesus said, “**IT IS FINISHED.**” Jesus is our “**seventh day rest.**” He is our **SANCTIFICATION**. He has been “Set Apart” as acceptable/full payment in the courts of Heaven’s claims against our sins! The writer of New Testament **Hebrews 4:4-10** was given insight into this **7th day Sabbath** and its symbolism:

“For He spake in a certain place of the **seventh day** on this wise, And **God** did **rest** the **seventh day** from all his works...For he that is entered into His (Jesus’) rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His.”

13. Genesis 2:4 “**Generations** of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, **in the DAY** that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.” The word “**generations**” seems to indicate long increments of time and “**in the Day**” is clearly indicating a period of time that **encompasses all the SEVEN DAYS** of Genesis 1. This scripture could possibly indicate that the word **DAY** as used in Genesis 1 could have other meanings associated with **Day** in other scriptures, such as **2 Peter 3:8**:

“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that **one day** is with the Lord as a **thousand years**, and a **thousand years** as **one day.**”

14. Genesis 2:6 God’s pristine and perfect environment—His Divine Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber. The mist came up from the ground and watered it.

15. Genesis 2:7 When God **STOOPED**. He became intimately involved with creating man by using the dust—the clay. He formed Adam as a **POTTER** forms clay. God’s **BREATH** made Adam a **LIVING SOUL**. Remember, Jesus **BREATHED** on the disciples

and said, “Receive ye the Holy Ghost.” (John 20:22) Only God can give the Breath of God.

16. Genesis 2:8 The Garden of Eden, **PLANTED** by **GOD**, **EASTWARD**—the direction used repeatedly with entrance to Heaven (Eastern Gate), Jesus’ Second Coming (out of the East), etc. Geographically, thought to be near the tip end of the Persian Gulf between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, at or near the later city of Babylon. The Cradle of Civilization—Mesopotamia.

17. Genesis 2:9 **Two IMPORTANT TREES: Tree of LIFE** and **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**. **Tree of Life** is symbolic of **New Covenant**—**Calvary’s Cross** is our **Tree of Life**. It is further reinforced in the imagery of the book of Revelation where its fruits are for the “healing of the nations.”

QUESTION: If the Tree of **LIFE** symbolized the **NEW COVENANT** in Jesus Christ, what did the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil** symbolize?

ANSWER: _____

18. Genesis 2:16-17 May eat of all trees **EXCEPT** the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**, which brings **DEATH**.

19. Genesis 2:18-20 Not good for man to be alone. Adam names all the creatures—He is definitely **NO CAVEMAN**. He is in God’s image! Brilliant! In Luke’s genealogy he is called the “son of God.”

20. Genesis 2:21-23 Beautiful picture of the **MARRIAGE COVENANT**. This is a **SACRED, HOLY** event! God put Adam to sleep because **He was cutting covenant** with Adam and Eve in **MARRIAGE**, just as He did when he put **Abraham to sleep** to cut covenant with him in Genesis 15, the great Abrahamic Covenant! As was stated in the Genesis 1 creation account, in man God created them male and female. Woman was withdrawn from Adam as a rib. She is Eve, “Mother of all living.” She is a type of the **CHURCH**, drawn from Christ’s (our **Second Adam’s**) pierced rib cage. The church, the redeemed, the believers are collectively the “Mother of all living.” We are “spiritual Eve” because we carry the message of **LIFE** to those who are **dead in sins**.

21. Genesis 2:24-25 Man is to **CLEAVE** to his wife. They are to **be one**. Again, a beautiful picture of **Second Adam, Jesus, and us, his Bride**. He **CLEAVES** to us!!! His prayer was that **we be ONE with Him**.
22. Genesis 2:25 They were **NAKED** and **UNASHAMED!** Why? **NEWS FLASH!!!** Sexuality was God's idea! They were in covenant! Their "**NAKEDNESS**" was **COVERED** by God's **GLORY**. God's **Glory** is, even today, **ALL OVER a HOLY, CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE!** The **World and Hollywood** have got **NOTHING** that can even come close to the Christian marriage!

**SOOOO, all you HOLY CHRISTIAN MARRIED PEOPLE, GO AND ENJOY YOURSELVES!!!
AMEN!!! You can't find teaching like this just anywhere!**

