



“The Battle for the Beginning”

Genesis 1 & 2

October 13, 2013

Three questions to consider:

1. Why does it matter what you believe about creation?
2. How did God create the universe?
3. What exactly did God do during that first week of history?

Question 1: Why does it matter what you believe about creation? (Gen 1:1)

A. In this very first verse, we are all faced with a choice:

1. Either we believe that God created the heavens and the earth
2. Or He did not.

B. If God is behind creation then it gives meaning to life and it means that there is a purpose for our existence.

C. Out of your belief concerning creation comes the starting point for your entire world-view.

Question 2: How did God create the universe?

- A. God created the heavens and the earth by divine fiat that is, by divine decree. (Ps 33:6, Heb 11:3)
- B. Orthodox Christianity upholds that God created everything out of nothing and He accomplished this by His spoken Word.

Question 3: What exactly did God do during the first week of history?

Day 1 (Gen 1:2-5)

- A. In the first moments of creation, the earth was uninhabited and without form.
- B. It all began in total darkness, and to that darkness God called forth light.

Days 2-3 (Gen 1:6-13)

A. As God was creating this perfect environment for us to live in, He did so by way of three separations:

1. On day One, God separated the light from the darkness, the day from the night.
2. On day Two, God created the sky by separating the waters in the heavens above from the waters on the earth below. In so doing, He created an atmosphere—a place for man to breathe.
3. On day Three, the waters on the earth were collected into seas, and thus separated from the dry land, giving man a place to plant his feet. (Job 38:3-4)

Days 4 and 5 (Gen 1:14-23; Ps 8:3-4)

- A. On this fourth day, God created the sun, the moon and the stars.
- B. On the fifth day, God filled the skies with birds and the waters with fish.

Day 6 (Gen 1:24-31)

A. What does it mean that we were created in the image of God? It means that God was, in essence, the pattern from which He designed man.

1. Moral similarities: We were all born with an inner sense of right and wrong.
2. Spiritual similarities: We all have a spirit and when that spirit is regenerated through the new birth we can have a living relationship with God.
3. Mental similarities: We have the ability to reason and think logically.
4. Relational similarities: As God is relational within the Godhead (Father, Son and Spirit) so are we relational with others and particularly in marriage.
5. Physical similarities: God is spirit. However, like God we can see, speak, touch, smell and taste, and thus enjoy His creation as He does, even though He does so in a far greater sense.

Day 7 (Gen 2:1-3)

A. God rested: This simply means that He ceased His creative work.

B. The 7th day God declared holy. It was to be a day to be set aside especially for God. (Rom 1:21)

God's Plan (1 Pet 1:18-21)

1. Redemption is available to us through faith in Jesus' death and resurrection.

2. Paradise will be found once again.

3. God is going to re-create this earth and make it like brand new. (Rom 8:20)

4. It is only through Jesus that the gate has been opened that leads down the narrow road to the tree of life. (Rev 22:1-3)

5. You must place your trust in Jesus Christ and enter through the narrow gate.
(Jn 1:12; Rom 10:13)