

INTRODUCTION

1. Please turn in your Bibles this morning to Genesis chapter 1.
2. We are looking at verses 6-8 which identifies “Day Two of Creation.”
3. Genesis 1:6-8 (NASB) says, “6 Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” 7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was

morning, a second day.”

4. In our last study together, I mentioned that the earth is not billions of years old but thousands.
5. To be specific it's 6000 years old.
6. James Ussher dates the creation at 4004 B.C.
7. Agreeing with Ussher, Bodie Hodge of Answers in Genesis gives this simple equation: 5 days + 2,000 years + 4,000 years = 6,000 years.¹
8. He says, “The age of the earth can be estimated by taking the first five days of creation (from earth’s creation to Adam), then following the genealogies from

¹ <https://answersingenesis.org/age-of-the-earth/how-old-is-the-earth/>

Adam to Abraham in Genesis 5 and 11, then adding in the time from Abraham to today.

9. Adam was created on day 6, so there were five days before him. If we add up the dates from Adam to Abraham, we get about 2,000 years, using the Masoretic Hebrew text of Genesis 5 and 11.3 Whether Christian or secular, most scholars would agree that Abraham lived about 2,000 B.C. (4,000 years ago).²
10. Other cultures also give an early date like Anglo-Saxons at 5200 B.C., British History at 5228 B.C. and Irish Chronology at 4000 B.C.

² Ibid., Hodge.

11. But in spite of the evidence for a young earth, not all Christians affirm this early age.
12. They have caved to modern science and billions of years.
13. The late Pastor and Bible teacher James Montgomery Boice was one who wrote in his commentary on Genesis: “We have to admit here [concerning those who take the six days of Creation as literal days] that the exegetical basis [the arguments from the words of Scripture] of the creationists is strong. In spite of the careful biblical and scientific research that has accumulated in support of the creationists’ view, there are problems that make the theory wrong to most (including many

evangelical) scientists. . . . Data from various disciplines point to a very old earth and even older universe.³

14. Unfortunately he's not alone.
15. Charles Hodge, who was a systematic theologian at Princeton seminary, who wrote many books and articles defending the truths of Christianity, including Biblical inerrancy said, "It is of course admitted that, taking this account [Genesis] by itself, it would be most natural to understand the word [day] in its ordinary sense; but if that sense brings the Mosaic account into conflict with facts, [millions of years] and another sense avoids such conflict, then it is obligatory on us to adopt that

³ Boice, James Montgomery, *Genesis: An Expository Commentary*, Zondervan Publishing House, Michigan, 1:57–62, 1982.

other."⁴

16. Gleason Archer, who was a defender of biblical inerrancy also caved to science when he said, "From a superficial reading, the impression received is that the entire creative process took place in six twenty-four hour days. If this was the true intent of the Hebrew author (a questionable deduction, as will be presently shown), this seems to run counter to modern scientific research, which indicates that the planet Earth was created several billion years ago."⁵

17. John MacArthur, who not only pastors Grace Community Church in California but is also the president of the Master's University and the Master's Seminary

⁴ Hodge, Charles, *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1997), 570–571.

⁵ Archer, Gleason L., *A Survey of Old Testament Introduction* (Chicago, IL: Moody, 1985), 187.

said “the Master’s College participates in the Christian College Coalition, 110 Christian colleges, of which five or six affirm the Genesis account.”⁶

18. So, pastors, educators, and Christian colleges have caved to billions of years. But they’re not alone.

19. Even Pope Francis said, “When we read about Creation in Genesis, we run the risk of imagining God was a magician, with a magic wand able to do everything. But that is not so. The Big Bang, which today we hold to be the origin of the world, does not contradict the intervention of the divine creator but, rather, requires it.”⁷

⁶ <https://www.gty.org/library/print/sermons-library/90-213>

⁷ <https://m.sunshinecoastdaily.com.au/news/pope-rules-big-bang-and-evolution-are-real/3123968/>

20. John Calvin also noted this as a problem in his day and said, “The folly of those is refuted who imagine that unformed matter existed from eternity; and who gather nothing else from the narration of Moses than that the world was furnished with new ornaments, and received a form of which it was before destitute. This indeed was formerly a common fable among heathens, who had received only an obscure report of the creation, and who, according to custom, adulterated the truth of God with strange figments; but for Christian men to labor (as Steuchus does) in maintaining this gross error is absurd and intolerable. Let this, then be maintained in the first place, that the world is not eternal but was created by

God.”⁸

21. Now those who have affirmed Genesis, and a six 24 hour day creation have suffered for their beliefs.

22. Dan Clark, who was a chemistry teacher at Jefferson High School in Indiana was reprimanded after he invited AIG speaker Geoff Stevens to address his class on “The Nature of Science Regarding Origins.”

23. Without mentioning “religion,” and covering with masking tape any mention of “God” or “God’s Word” on all of his overhead transparencies, Geoff demonstrated “operational” science to the students by conducting an

⁸ Calvin, John. Genesis. electronic ed. N. p., 1998. Print. Calvin’s Commentaries.

experiment on making hydrogen.

24. He also discussed the current findings of “information science,” which show that coded information (such as is contained in our DNA) cannot arise from matter by itself. Geoff also explained that natural selection, by definition, cannot generate new information, but only gets rid of existing information.

25. He concluded that, when it comes to origins, since no one can know for sure what happened in the past, one must accept either a purely naturalistic explanation, which is not substantiated by true science, or a supernatural explanation.

26. Later that month, the school superintendent, Ed Eiler, issued a formal letter of reprimand to the teacher of the class, Dan Clark, accusing him of introducing “religion” to his classes.
27. In the letter, Eiler stated, “you invited a guest speaker into your classroom who addressed subjects not within the guidelines of the adopted curriculum”⁹ and instructed him to “refrain from any and all attempts to promote your personal religious beliefs to students during the instructional day,” as any distribution of materials pertaining to religion, creationism, or special creation is “clearly disruptive to the educational function of the school and as such constitutes just cause for serious

⁹ Naomi Reese, Reprimanded Jeff teacher resigns, accepts position at Frontier, August 16, 2001, http://www.lafayettejc.com/news20010816/20010816local_news997975298.shtml.

disciplinary measures.”¹⁰

28. Another case occurred in Minnesota (USA) when a science teacher named Rodney LeVake was demoted for critiquing evolution in his class.¹¹
29. He took his case to the Supreme Court and two years later they refused to hear it.¹²
30. LeVake’s only “crime” was simply to expose his students to some of the scientific flaws in evolution.
31. He did not even teach creation but merely brought up problems with

¹⁰ Naomi Reese, LSC board may discuss creationism, August 13, 2001, http://www.lafayettejc.com/news20010812/200108130local_news997711351.shtml.

¹¹ <https://answersingenesis.org/public-school/christian-teachers/muzzled-in-minnesota/>

¹² <https://answersingenesis.org/public-school/christian-teachers/supreme-court-dont-teach-evolution-difficulties/>

evolution.

32. His punishment was removal from his high-school biology classroom (to teach the “safer” subject of general science).¹³
33. There are many cases like these.
34. If you believe in Genesis you are punished, ostracized, demoted or even fired!
35. Why?
36. Because to believe in Genesis is to believe in God.
37. To reject Genesis and accept billions of years means you have caved to science and you have made science the

¹³ <https://answersingenesis.org/public-school/christian-teachers/supreme-court-dont-teach-evolution-difficulties/>

authoritative source for origins not the Bible.

38. A plain reading of Genesis tells us about the origin of the universe.
39. It tells us “The eternal God, at some point in the past, created out of nothing, without preexisting material, the universe as it is now in six solar days.
40. He captures creation on the sixth day by creating man in His own image.
41. That is intelligent, with personality, with self-consciousness and cognition, or the ability to think and reason.
42. This creation occurred in six days. The seventh day it was over, and God rested

from creating.

43. It occurred about 6000 years ago, and the entire creation was mature and aged at the instant of its creation.
44. At the time of creation, death did not exist.
45. In fact, no corrupting influence of any kind existed.
46. And that's why God looked at His creation and said, "It is very good."
47. There was no death.
48. There was no corrupting influence.

49. Therefore, there couldn't have been any animals dying, any plants dying.
50. There couldn't have been any kind of natural selection process going on.
51. There couldn't have been any survival of the fittest because everything survived in that perfect creation.
52. Death and corruption entered the creation for the first time when Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God.
53. Then came death and then came corruption.
54. But that is described in chapter 3 and has nothing to do with the six days of

creation.

55. Later on, after the fall, the surface of the now-cursed earth was reshaped drastically by a worldwide flood.
56. It was so deep that it completely covered the mountains all over the face of the earth.
57. It was that cataclysmic world flood that drastically reshaped the surface of the earth, which also deposited fossil beds all over the globe.
58. That flood wiped out all humanity, with the exception of eight people and the animals in Noah's ark.

59. They alone were the survivors.”¹⁴
60. That is Genesis 1-9 in a nutshell.
61. But there is one book that settles the truthfulness of Genesis.
62. It is unarguable.
63. It is authoritative.
64. It is unchallenged in its truthfulness.
65. What book am I talking about? The New Testament.
66. It was not written by any scientist and not even by a Christian scientist.

¹⁴ <https://www.gty.org/library/print/sermons-library/90-213>

67. It was not written by theologians or a theologian.
68. It was written by simple men, who were given the words to write by God.
69. If you go to the New Testament, you will find there is an affirmation of a six-day creation.
70. There is an affirmation of divine fiat, or instantaneous creation.
71. There is an affirmation of man being made in the image of God, an affirmation of Adam being created and then Eve.

72. There is an affirmation of the fall there in very specific terms.
73. There is an affirmation of the flood there in very specific terms.
74. There is an affirmation of Noah and the surviving family of Noah.
75. All of the Genesis record is very carefully referred to by the inspired New Testament.
76. In the New Testament the Genesis account of creation is stated as fact.
77. In Matthew 13:35 (NASB), Matthew said of Jesus after He spoke to the crowd in parables, “This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: “I will open

My mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world.”

78. “Since the foundation of the world” indicates there was a point in time when the world was founded.
79. In Mark 13:19 (NASB) Jesus used a similar phrase when He said, “For those days will be a time of tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will.”
80. Again there is a phrase that indicates a time when everything began.
81. John 1:3 cancels the creation of anything by chance or by some random

processes when it says, “All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.”

82. Everything was made by God and the NT continues to make that point. It’s a fact.

83. After the apostles had been persecuted and reported everything to their companions, Acts 4:24 (NASB) says, “And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, “O Lord, it is You who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them.””

84. Who made “the heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them”? The

Lord!

85. In Acts 14:15, after the Lyconians tried to worship Paul and Barnabas, Paul said to them, “Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.”
86. 2 Corinthians 4:6 (NASB) says, “For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.”

87. The first part of the verse is describing what happened on the first day of creation.
88. Hebrews 1:10 (NASB) says, “And, “You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Your hands.””
89. Hebrews 11:3 (NASB) says, “By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.”
90. In Matthew 19:4 (NASB) when speaking on divorce Jesus said, “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female.”

91. This is speaking of mankind being the direct result of the creative act of God.
92. Paul said in Acts 17:26 (NASB), “He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation.”
93. As you can see the NT speaks of the creation account and refers to God as the Creator not chance or random processes.
94. Now as we come to Genesis we see the creation account.
95. We see what was created on each day.

96. And a day is referred to here as a 24 hour solar day.
97. It's not billions of years.
98. On day one, Genesis 1:1-2 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
99. Then verse 2, "the earth was formless and void"...desolate and uninhabited."
100. Remember, that's what we told you that means.
101. It was desolate and uninhabited.
102. It hadn't yet been shaped or inhabited by any living thing.

103. And it was completely engulfed with darkness.
104. “The earth”...it says...”was covered with the deep, covered with the water.”
105. “The darkness was over the surface of the deep,” which is an Old Testament word for the ocean, “and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.”
106. So what you had on day one, is God creates time, space, and matter out of nothing.
107. And you have this tohu and bohu, this unformed, unshaped and uninhabited mass of these elements.

108. And this earth that He has created is covered with water completely and then surrounded by darkness.
109. And then on day one, verse 3, “God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.” So God created light.
110. God “saw the light that it was good, and separated the light from the darkness. God called the light day, the darkness He called night, and there was evening and there was morning, one day.”
111. So, on the first day God created the essential elements of time, space, and matter. God then added light. He fixed the light/dark cycle in the permanent day/night continuum of 24-hour solar days.¹⁵

¹⁵ <https://www.gty.org/library/print/sermons-library/90-213>

112. That's why it says in verse 5 there was evening and there was morning.
113. And somebody says, "Well, the sun hasn't been created, or the moon."
114. That's fine.
115. God could still cycle the light any way He wanted until He attached that light to the heavenly bodies, which He does, as we'll see later on.
116. So, basically, the first day the elements are created and they're left in a shapeless and uninhabited form and surrounded by darkness.
117. Then light is created and there's a mingling of light and darkness in the

normal 24-hour cycle and that's day one.

118. Now let's look at day two.

119. God continued to shape those elements into a habitable environment for the life that He would create.

120. Genesis 1:6-8 (NASB) Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

121. “Then” indicates another creative act by God.
122. And as on day one, He speaks and instantaneously creates.
123. What does He create on day two?
124. The “expanse.”
125. What is that?
126. Verse 8 says, “God called the expanse heaven.”
127. So on day two, God separated heaven from earth.

128. When we get to day three, He separates the water on earth from dry land.
129. So day one, day two, day three is a series of separations.
130. Before God can create life He has to separate light from darkness and create the continuum of light and dark in the 24 hour solar day.
131. He has to separate the heaven from earth, which He does on day two.
132. Then He has to separate the water that is now completely engulfing on day one and two.
133. He has to separate that from the dry land so there's a place for the fish of the

sea and the land life on dry land.

134. So the universe is made ready for life in the first three days.

135. Light from dark, heaven from earth, dry land from water.

136. So on...

LESSON

I. Day One (vv.1-5)

A. God Creates Everything Out of Nothing (v.1) (ex nihilo)

B. God Creates the Earth without Form (v.2) (its covered with water and

darkness)

- C. God Creates By Divine Fiat (v.3) (He speaks)
- D. God Creates the Light (vv.3-5) (which He calls “day” and the darkness which He calls “night”)

II. Day Two (vv.6-8)

- A. God Creates the Expanse (v.6)

Genesis 1:6 (NASB) Then God said,
“Let there be an expanse in the midst of
the waters, and let it separate the
waters from the waters.”

1. On day one the earth was covered
with water

2. On day two, God creates an expanse and separated the water into two places
- B. He Put the Expanse in Between and Some Water was Above and Some Remained on the Earth
1. The Hebrew word for “expanse” is *raqia* which means “spread out thinness”
 2. The word is derived etymologically from *רקע* to “stamp, spread” (Ezek 6:11; Isa 42:5). In Exod 39:3 it means “to spread by hammering.” (piel). Job 37:18 speaks of the skies being “spread out hard as a molten mirror.” The noun is rare outside Gen 1.

Ezek.1:22 and Dan.12:3 describe the expanse as shiny.

Such comments may suggest that the expanse or firmament was viewed as a glass dome over the earth.¹⁶

C. God Separates the Expanse (v.7)

Genesis 1:7 (NASB) God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so.

So God cuts the water and it rises or expands creating in between space

¹⁶ Wenham, Gordon J. Genesis 1–15. Vol. 1. Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 1998. Print. Word Biblical Commentary.

D. God Names the Expanse (v.8)

Genesis 1:8 (NASB) God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

1. “Heaven” is the Hebrew word shamayim which literally means “sky” or “skies”
2. It refers to the universe and the space above us
3. Verses 14-15, 17, and 20 describes the “expanse” as the place where the luminaries were set and the sky where the birds are observed.

4. This is the atmospheric heaven
5. This is what we see when we look up
6. Going back to the water that was placed above, some believe it was “a vapor canopy”
7. Henry Morris says, “A vapor canopy seems more likely, however, both because of the inferred manner of its formation and because it would have to be transparent in order for the heavenly bodies to “give light upon the earth” and to “be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years” (Genesis 1:14, 15). Water vapor, even in vast amounts, is invisible, whereas clouds, fog, and so forth, are composed of minute

droplets of liquid water and are therefore opaque. Furthermore, a vapor canopy could be more easily maintained aloft and would serve much more effectively as a marvelous sustainer of vigorous life conditions on the earth.”¹⁷

8. This is the view of Whitcomb and Morris, that the waters above the expanse, the waters above heaven were...were like a vapor that just engulfed the whole earth and created a kind of a hothouse environment. And that’s, they suggest, why animals lived so long and plants lived so long. You had animals living long enough to become dinosaurs. You had people

¹⁷ Morris, Henry M. The Genesis Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary on the Book of Beginnings. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1976. Print.

living long enough to become like Methuselah, 900-plus years old because they were shielded from ultra-violet light because of this water canopy. And then at the flood, that canopy burst loose and drowned the earth, along with the tectonic cataclysm that occurred underneath the earth that broke up the basic elements of the earth and created the post-flood environment.¹⁸

CONCLUSION

1. Henry Morris believes the water vapor will be in the millennial reign of Christ.
2. He says, “Although the waters above the firmament were condensed and precipitated in the Flood, they will

¹⁸ <https://www.gty.org/library/print/sermons-library/90-213>

apparently be restored in the millennial earth and in the new earth which God will create. Psalm 148:4, 6 speaks of the “waters that be above the heavens” which, like the stars, will be established “forever and ever.”¹⁹

3. So God creates the expanse or firmament to separate the waters
4. He calls the expanse “heaven”
5. What a marvelous, omnipotent God we serve!
6. He spoke and it was created!
7. Psalms 104:1-3 (NASB) Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and

¹⁹ Ibid., Morris.

majesty, 2 Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak, stretching out heaven like a tent curtain. 3 He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters; He makes the clouds His chariot; He walks upon the wings of the wind.”

8. This is the Eternal Creator God!
9. Do you know Him?
10. The Bible says you can know Him if you're willing to surrender your life to Him.
11. Luke 9:23-25 (NASB) And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. 24 For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he

is the one who will save it. 25 For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?

12. Let's pray.