

**Subject: *The God of Creation – Part 2***

**Scripture: *Genesis 1:1-25***

Last week we began a study of Genesis 1, and we learned that this first chapter is filled with references to God. It is one of the most God-centered chapters in the Bible. We notice that God is the one in control of all things: He created (vs. 1), moved (vs. 2), said (vs. 3), saw and divided (vs. 4), called or named (vs. 5), and said everything was good. Everything was created by God and for God. He is center of attention. Now that runs counter to what many people really believe. They think that everything revolves around them and their wants and needs, when it actually everything revolves around God.

***Romans 11:36*** *For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.*

God is the source, the sustainer, and the end of all things. What does God reveal about Himself in creation?

1. **GOD IS ETERNAL** – “In the beginning God”

2. **GOD IS SELF-EXISTENT** – He depends on nothing or no one else for His existence.

3. **GOD IS SELF-SUFFICIENT** – He did not need to create anything. He has no needs.

4. **GOD CREATED ALL THINGS**

A. God created by His sovereign choice – He was not obligated to create anything.

B. God created out of nothing – Artists paint pictures, but they must have paint. Contractors build buildings, but they must have materials. But God made everything without any pre-existing materials.

C. God created by His sovereign command – He spoke and it was done.

***Psalms 33:6, 9*** *By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.*

D. God created in an orderly way – day one, day two... (the entire universe)

E. God created by perfect wisdom – He is the Master Designer.

5. **GOD REVEALED THE DETAILS OF HIS CREATION** – He told Moses.

6. **GOD CREATED ALL THINGS FOR HIS GLORY AND PLEASURE**

If God thought it was important to reveal the details of creation, then it just stands to reason that we ought to look carefully at what He revealed.

**THE SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CREATION (Gen. 1:1-2)**

A. The beginning – everything had a beginning except God

- B. The Creator – the one true God created (Heb. *bara*, used of God’s creative work)
- C. The creation – the heaven and the earth (all things in the universe)
- D. The unfinished state of creation – “without form and void” – unformed and unfilled  
The means not finished in its shape and not inhabited by its creatures, but that changed quickly. “and darkness was on the face of the deep” – at first the earth’s surface was covered with water before the dry land appeared on day 3 (vs. 9).

***Psalm 24:1-2*** *The earth is the LORD’S; and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.*

- E. The Spirit of God moved upon (was hovering over) the waters – the words suggest an expectation that something is about to happen. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit were all involved in creation.

### **DAY ONE OF CREATION (Gen. 1:3-5)**

- A. God spoke and created light – He created instantly and without effort. God is sovereign and controls all things.
- B. God saw the light and it was good – everything God made was good

***James 1:17*** *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*

- C. God divided (separated) the light from the darkness – God created things differently and separated them one from the other. He is the author of order, not confusion. Someone said: “Order is the first law of heaven.” Soon after this God separated the waters above the firmament and the waters under the firmament; He separated the waters and the dry land. He separated the sun, moon, and stars. And on day 6 (Gen. 1:27) He created male and female, and separated them one from the other. He had a place for everything and everything in its place.
- D. God called (named) the light Day and the darkness Night

***Isaiah 5:20*** *Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!*

- E. God created all things in six literal 24-hour days – Day one of creation was a 24-hour day. When God spoke all things into existence it didn’t take millions of years for it to happen.

In our first message we briefly mentioned evolution as a false teaching about our universe. Evolution teaches that all things are produced by time and chance. To believe in evolution you have to believe that all things were created over a long period of time. There is also a view called “theistic evolution” that teaches God made all things, but He used the process of evolution over long periods of time to do it. Some believe the “days” of creation are not literal 24-hour days, but ages to make room for evolutionary changes. How do we know these were 24-hour days and not ages as some people believe and teach?

- 1) The plain meaning of scripture supports 24-hour days – The cardinal rule of Bible interpretation is this: if the plain sense makes sense seek no other sense. “The evening and the morning were the first day” – This is why the Jewish people

consider the start of every day at sundown. ***Psalms 55:17** Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.* If God used the word “day” to stand for an age or long period of time He would have said so.

- 2) The primary meaning of the word “day” (Heb. *yom*) is a 24-hour day – the Hebrew word *yom* is found more than 1,900 times in the OT, but only 65 times does it refer to a period of time rather than 24 hours.
- 3) When a numerical adjective such as “first, second...” is used with the Hebrew word for day it always refers to a literal 24-hour day
- 4) Other scripture refers to the six days of creation as literal 24-hour days.

***Exodus 20:8-11** <sup>8</sup> Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: <sup>10</sup> But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.*

To create everything in six 24-hour days was no problem for God, and it should be no problem for us to believe He did it.

***Hebrews 11:3** Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*

Genesis 1 and 2 reveal God’s great work of creation in six days. The rest of the Bible reveals God’s greater work of salvation that covers a long period of time. Salvation was planned in eternity before the foundation of the world. It was accomplished when Christ came into the world to die on the cross as the Lamb of God for the sins of the world. Salvation is applied by the Holy Spirit as He opens our heart to repent and believe the Gospel.

All of us can say, “God has created me,” but can you say, “God has saved me?” Just like creation, salvation is a special work that only God can do. And just like creation, the work of God in salvation is powerful, unmistakable and it brings Him glory.

***2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*