

FINAL STUDY NOTES - THIS WEEK'S STUDY – 4/1-2/24 - (Genesis 1:1-25)

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Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 www.ptwente.com - Audio & notes from previous studies

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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OPENING PRAYER

(Genesis 1:1) – *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth!*

THE CREATION OF THE WORLD.

- **The first verse of the Bible is the foundational verse of the Bible.** If you really believe *Genesis 1:1*, you will not find it difficult to believe anything else recorded in the Bible. That is, if God really created all things, then He controls all things and can do all things.
- **Genesis 1:1 refutes all of man's false philosophies concerning the origin and meaning of the world.**
 - ✓ **It refutes atheism** because the universe was created by God.
 - ✓ **It refutes pantheism**, (nature religions such as Hindus and Buddhists) for God is far superior to that which He created.
 - ✓ **It refutes polytheism**, For one God created all things.
 - ✓ **It refutes materialism**, (material possessions superior to spiritual values) for matter had a beginning.
 - ✓ **It refutes dualism**, because God was alone when He created.
 - ✓ **It refutes humanism** because God, not man, is the ultimate reality.
 - ✓ **It refutes evolutionism** (1859), because God created all things.

ORIGIN - This topic has likely provoked more controversy and disagreement than any other!

- **What is our origin? Where did we come from? Why are we here and where are we going, when we die in these bodies.** And I think that's what's important in these last days.
- **As we look and simplify our origin, there are mainly two worldviews.**
- **One, *in the beginning God*, and the other one** is in the beginning, a big cosmic accident! Every person pretty much believes that: ***In the beginning God, created;*** or: **in the beginning Big Bang, a cosmic accident, which means we're all here, by chance!**
- **It is very important to understand origins because** the questions that all human being ask--Who am I? Where did I come from? Why am I here? What will happen to me when I die? -- Those questions and answers are all relative to our understanding of our origins!
- **Genesis! The word genesis means origin.** The Book of Genesis gives:
 - ✓ **The only true and reliable account of the origin** of all the basic entities of the universe and of life.
 - ✓ **Origin of the universe.**
 - ✓ **Origin of order and complexity.** Order and complexity never arise spontaneously.
 - ✓ **Origin of the solar system.** The Earth as well as the sun and moon, and even the planets and all the stars of heaven were likewise brought into existence by the Creator as told in Genesis.
 - ✓ **Origin of the atmosphere and hydrosphere.**
 - ✓ **Origin of life.** How living systems could have come into being from non-living chemicals.
 - ✓ **Origin of marriage.** The remarkable universal and stable institution of marriage and the whole in a monogamous, patriarchal, social culture, is likewise described in Genesis of having been ordained by the Creator. Polygamy, infanticide, matriarchy, promiscuity, divorce, abortion, homosexuality, and all other corruptions all developed later.
 - ✓ **Origin of evil.** Cause-and-effect reasoning accounts for the origin of the concepts of goodness, truth, beauty, love, and such things as fundamental attributes of the Creator Himself. The origin of physical and moral evils in the universe is explained in Genesis as a temporary intrusion into God's perfect world.
 - ✓ **Origin of language.** The gulf between the chattering of animals and the intelligent, abstract symbolic communication system of man is completely unbridgeable by any evolutionary process.
 - ✓ **Origin of Government.** The development of organized systems of human government, as described in Genesis, with man responsible not only for his own actions, but also for the multitude of, or for the maintenance of, orderly social structures through systems of laws and punishment.

(Gen 1:1-25) – The History of Creation – (vs. 1-31)!

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

(Joh 1:2) He was in the beginning with God.

- **The word Genesis means beginning.** Now the question arises, how long ago was that? It is obvious that the Bible does not give us a clear distinct answer.
- **The word created here is the Hebrew word *bara*.** It is used 54 times in 46 verses, and it is that capacity of God creating something out of nothing. It is a capacity that is exclusively God's. There are two other words that we'll be coming across, *asah* and *yatsar*, that are translated, made, or formed. They are the Hebrew words used for the assembling of existing materials. Only God has the power of creation – *bara*.

- ***In the beginning God.*** This opening verse of the Bible is unique, the foundation of foundations, probably the first words, ever written down. Anyone who really believes *Gen 1:1* will have no difficulty believing the rest of Scripture. God, (*Elohim*) is eternal, existing before the universe, and is omnipotent, having created the universe. Therefore, nothing is impossible with God. He alone gives meaning to everything. There is no attempt made in this verse to *prove* God, in that it was recorded in the beginning when no one *doubted* God.
- ***created.*** No other source, whether in ancient paganism or modern naturalism, mentions the absolute origin of the universe. They all began with the space/time/matter universe, already existing in a primeval state of chaos, then attempt to speculate how it might have “evolved” into its present form. Modern evolutionism begins with particles of matter *evolving out of nothing* in a “big bang” and then developing through natural forces into complex systems. Pagan pantheism also begins with elementary matter in various forms evolving into complex systems by the forces of nature personified as different gods and goddesses. Significantly, the concept of the special creation of the universe of space and time itself, is found nowhere else in all religion or philosophy, ancient or modern, except here in *Gen 1:1*.
- **Verse one appropriately records the creation of space (“*the heavens*”), of time (“*in the beginning*”), and of matter (“*the earth*”),** the space/time/matter continuum which constitutes our physical cosmos. The Creator of this tri-universe is the triune God, *Elohim*, the compound unity Old Testament name for the divine “Godhead,” a name which is plural in form (“*im*” ending) but usually singular in meaning. The existence of a transcendent Creator and the necessity of a primeval special creation of the universe is confirmed by the most basic principles of nature discovered by scientists.
- **The law of causality, that no effect can be greater than its cause,** is basic in all scientific investigation and human experience. A universe comprising a display of intelligible and complex effects, including living systems and conscious personalities, is itself proof of an intelligent, complex, living, conscious Person as its Cause.
- **The laws of thermodynamics are the most universal and best-proved generalizations of science, applicable** to every process and system of any kind. The First Law stating that no matter/energy is now being created or destroyed, and the Second Law stating that all existing matter/energy is proceeding irreversibly toward ultimate equilibrium and cessation of all processes.
- ***God created: Inherent in the idea of God is that He is an intelligent designer.*** The designer is always greater than his design. Only an intelligent designer could create a just-right universe, not chance. Our universe is a just-right universe!

Gen 1:2 The earth was without form, and void (uninhabitable, “not yet”); ***and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering*** (like an eagle fluttering over its nest - *Deu 32:11*) ***over the face of the waters.***

(Deu 32:11a) As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up.

- ***the earth.*** During the last 175 years, in an attempt to accommodate the supposed evolutionary geological ages in Genesis, certain theologians postulated a long gap in time here between *Gen 1:1* and *Gen 1:2*, in which it was hoped these ages could be pigeon-holed and forgotten as far as Biblical exegesis was concerned. This Gap Theory was popularized by inclusion in the Schofield Study Bible, 1909.
- **This gap theory, however, requires a worldwide cataclysm at the end of the geological ages,** in order to account for the globally inundated and darkened earth described in *Gen 1:2*. The cataclysm, in turn, is hypothetically connected with the fall of Lucifer in heaven (*Isa 14:9-14*) and his expulsion to the earth (*Eze 28:12-15*), though such a cataclysm is not mentioned in Scripture. However the gap theory is self-defeating geologically., in addition to its obvious contradictions with other important and clear Bible passages; (***Gen 1:31a***) *Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.; (Exo 20:11) For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.)*
- **Critique of Gap Theory** - Recommended reading: ***UNFORMED AND UNFILLED***, Weston W. Fields, ISBN: 0-9641659-0-2 *Critique of the Gap Theory*
- **The geological age system, which is the necessary framework for modern evolutionism, is based entirely on the principle of uniformitarianism, a premise which precludes any such worldwide cataclysm,** and requires the interpreting of earth history by the extrapolation of present geological processes into the remote past.

- **The concept of geological ages is based entirely on a uniformitarian explanation of the fossil beds and sedimentary rocks of the earth's crust, which would all have been destroyed by the postulated pre-Adamic cataclysm.** Thus, any attempt to ignore or explain away the supposed great age of the earth by appeal to the gap theory makes an unnecessary and abortive compromise with evolutionism, and displays a lack of understanding of the geological structures and processes to which evolutionists appeal in postulating their long ages.
- **The real answer to the geological ages is not an imaginary pre-Adamic cataclysm,** but the very real cataclysm of the Great Flood (Genesis chapters 6-9), which provides a much better explanation of the fossil beds and sedimentary rocks, eliminating all evidence of geological ages and confirming the Biblical doctrine of recent creation.
- **was without form, and void.** The verb "was" in *Gen 1:2* is the regular Hebrew verb of being (*hayetha*) and does not denote a change of state unless the context so requires. It only rarely is translated "became," as the gap theory postulates here. Neither does the phrase *tohu waw bohu* need to mean "ruined and desolated," as the gap theory requires. The King James translation "without form and void" is the proper meaning.
- **was upon the face of the deep.** The universe as first called into existence by *Elohim* was in elemental existence, still "unformed" and unenergized, not yet ready for habitation, "void." (*Psa 33:6-9; Pro 8:22-31; Isa 45:18; 2Pe 3:5*). It would not be perfect, finished, until the end of creation week, when God would pronounce it "very good" and "finished" (*Gen 1:31-2:3*). The "earth" material was suspended in a matrix of water (the "deep") completely static and therefore in "darkness."
- **And the Spirit ... moved.** However, this condition prevailed only momentarily. Then, the "Spirit" (*ruach*) of "God" (*Elohim*) proceeded to "move upon the face of the waters" (literally, "vibrate in the presence of the waters"). Waves of gravitational energy and waves of electro-magnetic energy began to pulse forth from the great "Breath" (another meaning of *ruach*) of God, the *Prime Mover* of the universe. The unformed "earth" material (*eretz*), as well as the "waters" permeating it (*shamayim*) quickly coalesced into spherical form under the new force of gravity, and the first material body (Planet Earth) had been formed at a point in space. (Henry Morris)

Gen 1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

- **The word, God, is Elohim. In the beginning God, Elohim.** In Hebrew, you know that the *im* is plural. God singular is *El*. God's plural is *Elohim*. In the beginning God created. Even there we have the indication of the trinity or the tri-unity of God: Father, Son, and Spirit. The Spirit shows up right in verse two. Actually, the Son is there in verse one, because all things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. So, when you read, "He created the heavens and the earth..." you have the Son involved. He, according to John, is the Creator, the agent of creation. (*Joh 1:3*) *All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*
- **God said. As the "Spirit" of God "moved" in verse 2, so now the Word of God speaks in verse 3!** The result is light, the energizing of the huge cosmos through the marvelous electro-magnetic force system which maintains all structures and processes in matter. These varied energies include not only visible light, but also all the short-wave radiations, ultra-violet, x-rays, etc. and the long-wave radiations, infra-red, radio waves, etc., as well as heat, sound, electricity, magnetism, molecular inter-actions.
- **Light, the most basic form of energy, is mentioned specifically, but its existence necessarily implies the activation of all forms of electro-magnetic energies.** Light was not created, since God Himself dwells in light. (*Rev 21:23*) *The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.* (*1Jn 1:5*) *This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.* On the other hand, He created darkness (*Isa 45:7*) *I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity (evil in KJV); I, the LORD, do all these things.'*
- **Some people have a problem thinking that God speaks light into existence on day one before the sun and moon were created on day four.** The existence of visible light prior to the establishment of the sun, moon and stars, verse 6, emphasizes the fact that light (energy) is more fundamental than light bearers or givers. God could just as easily, perhaps more easily, have created waves of light energy as He could construct material bodies in which processes function which generate light energy. The first is direct, since God *is* light!, the second indirect. For the creation of such light generators, bearers, holders, we will see that in *verse 14*, the fourth day of creation. How effective am I as a Christ bearer?

Gen 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good (1st time); and God divided the light from the darkness.

- **Divided the light from the darkness.** That these rays of light energy included the visible light spectrum is obvious by its division from the newly created “darkness.” Also, that most of this visible light emerged from one direction in space and, further, that the new spherical earth began now to rotate on its axis, is shown by the establishment of a cyclical succession of “Day” and “Night,” which has continued ever since.

Gen 1:5 God called the light Day (yom), and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day(day one, the first of days).

- **Day.** The use of “day,” is its “**first use**” in Scripture, and here it is specifically defined by God as “the light” in the cyclical succession of light and darkness which has, ever since, constituted a solar day. Since the same word is used in defining all later “yoms” as used for this “first” yom, it is incontrovertible proof that God intends us to know that the days of creation week were of the same duration as any natural solar day.
- **The word yom in the Old Testament almost always is used in this natural way, and is never used to mean** any other definite time period than a literal day, especially when it is combined with a number, such as, “first day”, with definite bounds, such as “evening and morning,” neither of which usages in the Old Testament allow non-literal meanings. It can be used symbolically or in the sense of indefinite time, such as, “the day of the Lord”, but such usage is always evident from the context. Thus the so-called **day-age theory**, by which the days of creation are assumed to correspond to the ages of geology, **is precluded by this definitive use of the word in its first occurrence!** Note that God Himself is defining it!!
- **evening and morning.** The use of “**evening and morning**” in that order is significant. As each day’s work was accomplished during the “light,” there was a cessation of God’s activity during the “darkness.” Consequently, there was nothing to report between evening and morning.” The beginning of the next day’s activity began with the next period of light, after the “morning,” or better, “dawning.” The literal sense of the formula after each day’s work is: “So the evening and the morning were the first day.”
- **At the time the law was given on Mt. Sinai, God said, (Exo 20:8-11)** “Remember the Sabbath day (yom), to keep it holy. [9] Six days you shall labor and do all your work, [10] but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. [11] For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. – This verse so summarizes the whole context of Gen 1:1!
- **God’s end run on all the philosophical discourses regarding creation in six 24 hour days! (Pro 8:8-9)** All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; Nothing crooked or perverse is in them. [9] They are all plain to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge.

Gen 1:6 Then God said, “Let there be a firmament (raqiya – expanse) in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.”

- The “**firmament**” is not a great dome in the sky, as liberals have interpreted it, but it is the atmospheric expanse established between the waters above and below. The Hebrew word, *raqiya*, means “expanse” or perhaps “*stretched out the heavens.*” (*Isa 45:12*) Since God specifically identified it with “Heaven,” it also can be understood simply as “space.” We note various words in describing the firmament. (*Isa 34:4*) rolled together as a scroll; (42:5, 12; 51:13) stretched them out; (51:6) Shall vanish away; (Rev. 6:14) departed as a scroll.
- **Thus, on the second day, God separated the primeval deep into two deeps, with a great space between.** The waters below the space retained the elemental earth materials which would be utilized on the second day to form the land and its plant cover. The waters above the firmament had apparently been transformed into the vapor state in order to be separated from the heavier materials and elevated above the atmosphere, where it could serve as a thermal blanket for the earth’s future inhabitants.
- **Outer space is not just emptiness and distance between planets.** Some outstanding, astonishing things, all of which tend to support *Gen 1:1*, are being discovered with respect to very dense, “black holes,” so solid that light cannot escape. These black holes may account for 90% or more of the density of outer space. A totally unusually and unbelievable discovery is that the black hole “zero-point” energy at absolute zero, is

that 1 cc of outer space has a most astonishing huge energy reservoir of more than the energy of 100 million suns over a 100 million years! Could this be the energy source that keeps the atoms from collapsing? (Chuck Missler Genesis Bible video commentary, 47 minutes into Session #3 of 24 videos)

- **A much easier explanation for my understanding is in (Col 1:16-17) For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. [17] And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist (held together!)**
- **Such a vapor canopy would have provided a highly efficient “greenhouse effect,”** providing a perennial spring-like climate for the entire earth. Water vapor both shields the earth against harmful radiations from space, also retaining and spreading incoming solar heat. A vapor canopy would thus provide an ideal environment for abundant animal and plant life and for longevity and comfort in human life. Water vapor is invisible, and thus would be translucent, allowing the stars to be seen through it. This would not be the case with a liquid water or ice canopy.

Gen 1:7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.

- **The waters which were above the firmament** are clearly not the clouds or the vapor which now float in the atmosphere. The Hebrew word *al*, definitely requires the meaning “above.” Furthermore, the absence of rain (Gen 2:5) and the rainbow (Gen 9:13) is not only explained but required by a vapor canopy, differing from that presently. Furthermore, these waters extending far out into space eventually condensed and fell back to the earth at the time of the Great Flood, providing the source of the worldwide rainstorm that contributed to the Flood.

Gen 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

- **God called the firmament Heaven. So, in the atmosphere, the Bible does refer to three heavens.** The first heaven is that atmosphere around the earth, which surrounds the earth, the atmosphere going up into the stratosphere. The second heaven is the stellar heaven, the universe itself. And God placed the stars and all in the heavens. The third heaven is the dwelling place of God, wherever that may be, and I do not believe that it is way out in the Andromeda Galaxy. I believe that the third heaven is very close to the earth, but in a whole different molecular structure.
- **Now in the creating of this firmament, the atmosphere, God placed originally a tremendous volume of water in the atmosphere, suspended it.** We do know that water can be suspended in the atmosphere, tremendous volumes of water. Sometimes when the clouds come over and are cooled too quickly, that volume of water falls heavily on a particular area and we have tremendous floods.
- **God's whole system is so marvelous, the rain cycle or water cycle, raining down 1.5 trillion tons of water per day!** Think of the engineering processes that God figured out in creating, first of all, the gases that make the water, the hydrogen and oxygen, H₂O. Both of them are lighter gases than our atmosphere itself. The atmosphere is seventy-nine parts of nitrogen to twenty parts of oxygen, and one percent of freon and neon, and some other of the gases, but basically a nitrogen-oxygen atmosphere.

Gen 1:9 Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

- **It would appear here that originally the land surfaces were all together.** It would indicate in the book of Genesis, and we'll get there as we go through that, that the earth was divided. (***1Ch 1:19a***) *To Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided;* that was the time that this great continental, not drift, but splitting took place.
- **Let the dry land appear dry land.** The work of the third day began with the laying of the foundations of the earth by the power of God's spoken Word. (***Job 38:4***) *"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. (Pro 8:29) When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the waters would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth. (Psa 33:7) He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in storehouses.*
- **The waters “under the heavens” apparently still contained all the material elements of the earth** in solution or suspension until the energizing Word initiated a vast complex string of chemical and physical reactions, to precipitate, combine and sort, all the rock materials and metals comprising the solid earth. The

“earth” (*eretz*) thus formed was the same “earth” which had initially been “without form.” The same word *eretz* is used in (*Gen 1:1,2,10*), but it was now “dry land,” no longer mixed in the initial watery matrix.

Gen 1:10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. (2nd time);

- ***He called Seas.*** How did Moses know when only he had to deal with the Mediterranean Sea, known to them as the Great Sea and they thought that was it? We talk about the seven seas, the major seas, plural.
- ***Seas.*** As the solid materials precipitated and then moved down and around under the forces of gravity, internal heat, and other electro-magnetic energies (not to mention the outflowing energy of the divine Word), great basins opened up to receive and store the waters. Some of these waters were trapped and stored in the “great deep” (*Gen 7:11*), subterranean chambers beneath the earth’s crust. Others accumulated in surface basins. However, all were evidently interconnected through a network of subterranean channels, so that they were both singular and plural—gathered together into “one place,” yet called “*Seas*.”
- ***Thus were established the primeval continents and primeval oceans.*** We do not now know the original geography, however, since all was cataclysmically changed at the time of the great Flood. We can infer that the topography was gently rolling and the waterways were relatively shallow and narrow, since all was “*very good*” and was made for man’s enjoyment and utilization (*Gen 1:26-28,31*).

Gen 1:11 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.

- ***Let the earth bring forth grass.*** The ability of the earth to begin immediately producing abundant plant life everywhere, on the very same day as the forming of the land surfaces, shows that the upper portion of the soil crust was rich and fertile in chemical nutrients, retaining adequate moisture to sustain the lush vegetation. This fact illustrates an important principle. True creation necessarily involves the theory of a “creation of functioning maturity.” The soil did not gradually form over hundreds of years by rock weathering and other modern uniformitarian processes. It was readied instantaneously by God’s divine fiat. The plants did not develop from seeds; rather the herb was formed “*that yields seed*.” Similarly, “*the fruit tree that yields fruit*,” not requiring several years of growth as do modern fruit trees.
- ***The “seed” which God designed guaranteed reproduction of each plant “according to its kind.”*** This phrase, repeated nine more times in (*Gen 1:1-31*) after this first occurrence, obviously precludes transmutation of one kind into another. The “seed” was programmed for stable reproduction of each kind, through a remarkable system known today as the “genetic code,” the complex information program in the DNA molecule. This system allows wide “horizontal” variation within the kind, but no “vertical” evolution from one kind into a more complex kind. It is significant that, despite widespread belief in evolution, no scientist has yet documented a single instance of true vertical evolution occurring today! The modern taxonomic equivalent of “kind” is probably broader than the “species” in many cases, since the latter term is an arbitrary man-made category. That is, the many varieties of dogs are all part of the created “dog kind,” just as all tribes and nations of men constitute one “mankind” (*Act 17:25,26*).

Gen 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (3rd time)

- ***So the bringing forth the botanical kingdom.*** Now, the interesting thing about it is that they bear seeds according to their kind. If there were any chance to prove the evolutionary theory, you could prove it every year when the farmers plant billions of wheat seeds. The day one of those grains of wheat turns into an apricot tree, you have a classic demonstration of a transmutation. Now mutations within a species, sure, they take place all the time.. There are a lot of changes within a specie; you have all kinds of dogs, all kinds of cats, but when you put your two Samoans out in the yard to breed and they produce a Persian kitty, you’ve got transmutation and valid proof for the evolutionary theory.
- ***grass.*** It should also be noted that plant life, in all its forms, was created before animal life, thus contradicting the order postulated by evolutionists. There are over twenty such contradictions between the order of creation in Genesis and that of the evolutionary theory.

Gen 1:13 *So the evening and the morning were the third day.*

Gen 1:14 *Then God said, "Let there be lights (light holders or bearers) in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years;*

- **lights.** On the first day, God had said: “Let there be light” (*or*). Now He says: “Let there be lights” (*ma-or*). Light energy was activated first, but now great masses of material (part of the “earth” elements created on the first day) were gathered together in one of the firmaments, or spaces, of the cosmos—the space beyond the waters above the space adjacent to the earth. These great bodies were set burning in complex chemical and nuclear reactions, to serve henceforth as “light-bearers” for the earth.
- **signs.** The Hebrew word for “signs” is the same word (*oth*) as used for Cain’s “mark” (*Gen 4:15*) and for Noah’s “sign” (meaning the rainbow—*Gen 9:12*). Evidently the stars were arranged by God to “signify” something to those on the earth, not just scattered evenly or randomly around in space. God even named the stars and their constellations (*Job 38:31-32*) “*Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, Or loose the belt of Orion? [32] Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season? Or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs?*”
- **seasons.** The establishment of “seasons, not simply religious seasons, but actual climatological seasons,” indicates that the earth was formed with an axial inclination from the beginning, for this is the basic cause of its seasons.

Gen 1:15 *and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so.*

Gen 1:16 *Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also.*

- **At this point, we see God bringing the earth into a relationship with the sun and the moon,** in order that the earth might draw the energy from the sun; perhaps, bringing the earth into a fixed orbit around the sun. We do find, up until this point, there have been evenings and mornings, both day one, two, three and four, which would indicate the earth’s rotation upon its axis. This is probably the fourth day of creation, not an account of the actual creation of the sun and the moon, but only the establishing of the order: for *in the beginning God made the heavens and the earth.*
- **So establishing the earth and its relationship to the sun, which happens to be just about the right distance** in order to support all of the life forms that we know upon the earth. If the sun were a few million miles further away, we would have some real problems with a great ice age. If it were a little closer, we could have some great problems with greater desert areas. So God placing it at just about the right distance in order that we get the right amount of heat, the right amount of energy from the sun to support life forms that God has placed and will be placing upon the earth. Spinning the earth in its orbit and then, placing the earth in its orbit around the sun, which it completes every 365 days, nine hours, fifty-six minutes, and nine and 4/100ths of a second, if you are interested.
- **Then placing the sun in its orbit through our Milky Way Galaxy, He set a tabernacle for the sun,** which is as a strong man going out to run a race, nothing hid from the heat thereof, its circuit is to the ends of the heavens. The orbit of the sun through the Milky Way Galaxy. The sun travels at some 600,000 miles per hour, so it’s making quite a journey through our vast Milky Way Galaxy. The earth’s orbit around the sun, tilted at a twenty-three and a third-degree tilt, gives us the various seasons of the year, all designed, all of God.
- **the stars also.** These stars were scattered in tremendous numbers throughout the infinite recesses of the heavens. The light energy emanating from them would henceforth traverse space to “give light on the earth,” providing patterns and movements which would also enable man to keep records of time and history. In order to serve these purposes, however, light energy trails would need to be established already in place in space between each star and earth. Thus, men would have been able to see stars billions of light-years away at the very moment of their formation, in accordance with the principle of mature creation, or creation of apparent age.

Gen 1:17 *God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth,*

Gen 1:18 *and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. (4th time)*

Gen 1:19 So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

- ***to give light on the earth.*** The establishment of the sun and moon in their light-giving functions for the earth half-way through creation week is obviously inconsistent with the day-age theory. This is compounded by the fact that plant life on the earth was made one day before the sun, a situation which would be absurdly impossible if this “day” was an “age.” Furthermore, these “lights” were to be used to measure days and years. This is the plural (*yamin*) of the Hebrew “day” (*yom*). They were also to “*rule over the day and over the night,*” and all this was done on the fourth day. This repeated use of the same word, *day (yom)* in the passage requires the meaning in each case to be the same. The fourth “*day*” was thus obviously a solar day like all the rest.

Gen 1:20 Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens."

- ***across the face of the firmament.*** Both the “*lights*, verse 15, and the “*birds*” are said to be in the “*firmament of the heavens.*” However, the *birds* were to across the face (*pene*) firmament of the heavens. Thus, the birds fly only in the lower reaches of the vast spaces of the heavens. Or, it may be that there are two different “firmaments of heaven.”

***Gen 1:21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good!* (5th time)**

- **Not only the infinite variety of God’s creation, but I marvel at what we call instinct that God has placed within the animal kingdom;** the great sea monster that make their way through the vast oceans. The instincts of these great sea monsters, and of course, the salmon with that instinct to return to the place of its birth wherever it hatched, and that drive and instinct to return and to lay its eggs and so forth. And how it will follow, having gone out into the oceans, come back up the rivers, up the streams, the instinct that is there to bring it right back to the place from whence it started.
- **Then again with the birds, those very instincts that God creates in them.** Who taught the swallow how to build a nest? How to take the mud, or the dirt and then sweep down in the water get some water to make the mud and then put it up there under the eaves and make his little nest? Who taught him how to design and create that nest?
- The **golden plover** lives in the Aleutian Islands and in Hawaii. It goes to the Aleutians Islands in the springtime to mate and to have their offspring. And then come fall, when it gets pretty cold up in the Aleutians, they head for Hawaii, 2,000 miles away. Before they get ready to fly to Hawaii they really start gorging themselves because there are no stops on the way, non-stop flight. How are they able to navigate across the water from the Aleutians to Hawaii? Do they navigate by the stars? What do they do if it’s stormy and cloudy the whole way? What is their guidance principles? What have they got stored up here that takes them on a path, even if they are in strong winds that will blow them one hundred miles off course, which would be disastrous. Yet they are able to adjust and they always come flying into Hawaii. You say, “Well, they’ve been there before.” True. However, when the parents take off for Hawaii the children aren’t yet strong enough to make the flight. The parents usually take off a couple of weeks before the kids! Then the children all take off and they have never been there. There is no way to explain this by an evolutionary process. So that marvelous genius evidenced in creation, the works of God.
- **God created great sea creatures.** It is significant that the word “create” (*bara*) is applied to the introduction of animal life, but not to plant life. Plants are highly complex replicating chemical systems, as are animals, with reproductive programs based in the remarkable DNA molecule in both cases. However, animals possess another entity—that of consciousness—which plants do not possess, and this required a second act of true creation (the first was in *Gen 1:1*, the creation of the basic space/mass/time universe). Such “consciousness” is the essential meaning of the Hebrew word *nephesh*, commonly translated “*soul*, meaning *breathing creature*. In *Gen 1:20* (its first occurrence) translated “*living creatures,*” and then again in *Gen 1:21* “*living creatures.*” In *Gen 2:7*, referring to man, it is rendered “*living being.*” Thus, both men and animals possess the specially-created consciousness, *nephesh*.

Gen 1:22 *And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."*

Gen 1:23 *So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.*

- And they obeyed Him. We find the fish all over the place.
- *Let birds multiply.* You may even have some little sparrows multiplying under the eaves of your houses!

Gen 1:24 *Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so.*

- Again, we see the establishment of the specie and the reproduction according to the species.
- **Let the earth bring forth living creatures. The land animals were brought forth** (no need for a further act of creation, since the *nephesh* principle had already been created) in the early part of the sixth day. There was a natural three-fold categorization, no correlation with the arbitrary classification system used by modern biologists, consisting of cattle (tame animals), beasts of the earth (large non-domesticable animals) and creepers (small animals that crawl or creep close to the ground). The reversal of the sequence in (*Gen 1:24-25*) indicates that all were formed simultaneously. The bodies of these animals, like that of man (*Gen 2:7*) were all formed from the basic elements of the earth.
- **And it was so. Note the logical order of God's formation of things.** On the first day, He made the earth's atmosphere and hydrosphere, on the second day its crust and life sphere. On the central day of the week, the heavenly astrosphere was formed. Then, on the fifth day living creatures were formed for earth's atmosphere and hydrosphere, and on the sixth day for its lithosphere and biosphere. On the first day God had created and energized His elemental universe; on the last day, God blessed and sanctified His completed universe!

Gen 1:25 *And God made the beast of the earth, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (6th time)*

- **What a variety in creation in creating all of the creeping things.** For example, there are over a hundred different kinds of beetles. Again, variety--I love it. The infinite variety of God's creation, each one after its own kind. "*And God saw that it was good.*"
- **According to its kind! occurs repeatedly, stressing the reproductive integrity of each land animal kind**, of the same sort as that of each plant kind (*Gen 1:11-12*) and each air animal and water animal (*Gen 1:21*). All of these reproductive systems are programmed in terms of the biochemical genetic code, utilizing the basic elements of the earth. Both plants and animals are formed from the created *eretz* ("earth"). Only animals were created as *nephesh* ("soul" or consciousness).

SUMMARY:

- **"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth!" How wonderful and awesome He is!**

CLOSING SONG:

THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD *Maltbie Babcock Franklin Shepherd Dallas Christian Choir (2:09/2:12)*

1 This is my Father's world, And to my list'ning ears All nature sings, and round me rings

The music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought

Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise, The morning light, the lily white,

Declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;

In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

3 This is my Father's world: Oh, let me ne'er forget That though the wrong seems oft so strong,

God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world, The battle is not done:

Jesus who died shall be satisfied, And earth and Heav'n be one.

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Genesis Chapters 1-2!

CLOSING PRAYER: