

Lesson 1: Creation

Text: Genesis 1 & 2



"Growing In The Word": Lesson Text & Discussion

Read Genesis 1:1-5. God was the powerful Creator who was there before the world was ever created. He brought everything into being just by His spoken word! Count the number of times it says in chapter 1, "Then God *said*..." In the very first verse of the Bible, we see the five elements of the universe: **time** (In the beginning), **force** (God), **energy** (created), **space** (the heavens), and **matter** (and the earth). The first recorded words of God are, "Let there be light." What did God call the light? (Day) What did God call the darkness? (Night) On the first day of creation, God created light.

Read Genesis 1:6-8. These verses talk about dividing the waters. What does that mean? The water on the earth is found in places like our oceans, seas, and rivers, but there is water in the air as well. If you have ever studied the water cycle in school, you learned about how sunlight evaporates water on the earth. The water doesn't just disappear but is stored in the clouds. When the clouds get too full of water, we have rain and the water falls back to earth again. God separated the waters on the earth from the waters in the sky with a firmament that he stretched out all the way around the earth. The firmament is the atmosphere or the air we breathe. The firmament was called "the heavens". We often refer to it as the sky. On the second day of creation, God created the firmament or air we breathe.

Read Genesis 1:9-13. Notice that every tree and herb and plant were to bring forth fruit and seeds according to its own kind. That means an apple tree wouldn't bear pears, a pear tree would bear pears, and you wouldn't see a cucumber plant growing green beans! How does God start referring to His creation? (He calls it good.) On the third day of creation, God created the dry land and all vegetation (green things!).

Read Genesis 1:14-19. What were the reasons God made the sun, moon, and stars? (Day and night, signs and seasons, days and years, and for light.) The greater light was the (sun) and it was to shine in the day, and the lesser light was the (moon) which was to shine at night. On the fourth day of creation, God created the sun, moon, and the stars.

Read Genesis 1:20-23. On the fifth day, God created every creature that lives in the seas and that flies in the skies. This would include flying dinosaurs like the pteradactyls and the mighty leviathan (which lived in the water) that we read about in Job chapter 41 and Psalm 104:25, 26. Also included on this day would be anything with wings such as bats and even insects. An easy way to remember this day is: Fish and Fowl on day Five.

Read Genesis 1:24-25. Day six saw God creating all of the land animals – even the dinosaurs. All of the animals were to reproduce after their own kind, just like the plants. In other words, giraffes had baby giraffes – not baby rhinos!

Read Genesis 1:26. God was not alone during the creation process. Notice that He uses the pronouns "Us" and "Our". Who was with Him? God is in three persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit. You might have heard this called the Trinity or the Godhead. God was going to make man in His own image and let man have dominion (or authority) over all living things on the earth. The animals were not created equal to man, rather, man was created to be superior to or over all other living things on the earth.

Read Genesis 1:27-28. Man and woman were also created on the sixth day, but we don't read about the details of how they were created until we get to chapter 2. God commands them to “*be fruitful and multiply*” which means, have children! He wants people to multiply and fill the earth and man will have dominion over all of the animals and birds and fish.

Read Genesis 1:29-30. What did God instruct man, woman, and animals to eat? (Vegetation – no meat-eating yet!)

Read Genesis 1:31. God saw everything He had created and declared it to be very good. His creation was perfection.

Read Genesis 2:1-3. God created the universe, the world, and everything in it in six literal twenty-four hour days. What did He do on the seventh day? (He rested.) This did not mean He was tired, but rather He had finished His work. God blessed this seventh day and sanctified it. What does sanctified mean? (Set apart)

Read Genesis 2:4-6. In the very beginning, before the flood of Noah, there was no rain on the earth. So, how did the plants grow? (God caused a mist to come up from the ground to water the earth.)

Read Genesis 2:7. This verse tells us *how* God made man back in chapter 1, verse 27. What was man formed from? (The dust of the earth) God formed man out of the dust of the earth and breathed the breath of life into him.

Read Genesis 2:8-14. God provided everything for man including a perfect and beautiful first home, the garden of Eden. What was located in the middle of this garden? (The tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.) A river also flowed through the garden of Eden and split into 4 separate riverheads. What were the names of these 4 rivers? (Pishon, Gihon, Hiddekel, Euphrates)

Read Genesis 2:15-17. God gave the man work to do. It was not back-breaking work by any means, but it was a job that gave him responsibility and something productive to do each day. What was his job? (To look after or tend the garden and to keep it) God told the man that every tree that was created was provided to him for food...except just one. Which tree was forbidden to man and why? (The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was forbidden. If he ate of it, he would die.) God had given man everything he needed and could want. The creation was beautiful and satisfying. This one tree was placed in the garden and forbidden because God has always given man a choice. Man can choose to obey the Lord, or he will choose to disobey Him.

Read Genesis 2:18-20. These events are taking place on the sixth day of creation when the Lord created man, woman, and all of the land animals. They are just being explained in more detail in this chapter. As God was in the process of creating everything, He kept referring to His creation as good. What does He see that is *not* good? (The fact that man is alone.) God knows that Adam needs someone who is suitable for him, but He wants Adam to realize it too. God gives Adam another job to do. What is it? (Naming the animals) Would you have liked this job? Adam must have been pretty creative to think up all of those wonderful names of animals! As animal after animal walks by him to receive its name, what does Adam realize? (None of these animals would make a proper partner for me!)

Read Genesis 2:21-22. Describe the process of God's creation of woman. (God made Adam fall into a deep sleep, then He opened up Adam's side and removed one of his ribs. God closed up Adam's side, then formed woman from the rib taken from Adam.) God performed the first surgery ever!

Read Genesis 2:23-25. What was Adam's reaction to the woman whom God created for him? (He was excited!) Why did Adam say she would be called a woman? (Because she was taken out of man) God not only performed the first surgery ever, He also performed the first wedding ceremony. He brought the woman to the man so the two of them could be joined together as one. From the beginning of time, God provided marriage to be a beautiful union between one man and one woman.

Genesis chapter 1 and chapter 2 give us the wonderful account of how our mighty God brought everything there is into existence. Praise Him for His wondrous works!

Review Questions: (Answers are provided in the Answer Key.)

1. Who was in the beginning before creation?
2. What five elements do we see in the very first verse of the Bible?
3. What did God create on each of the seven days?
4. What does it mean for plants, trees, and animals to bring forth "after their own kind"?
5. What were some of the reasons God made the sun, moon and stars?
6. Who are the "3 persons" of God?
7. After everything was created, how did God describe it?
8. What did God give man authority over?
9. What watered the earth when there was no rain?
10. What did God make man out of?
11. Did God create dinosaurs? Did they live with man? How do we know?
12. Describe the creation of man.
13. Described the creation of the woman.
14. What 4 rivers flowed out of the garden of Eden?
15. What one tree was forbidden to man by God?



"Putting Down Roots": Memory Work

- Memorize Genesis 1:1
- Memorize Genesis 2:24
- Memorize the 7 days of creation: Day 1-light, Day 2-firmament or air we breathe,

Day 3-dry land and green things, Day 4-sun, moon and stars, Day 5-fish and fowl, Day 6-man, woman, and land animals, Day 7-God rested



"Farther Afield": Map Work

Map 1

- Locate Mesopotamia
- Locate the Garden of Eden. Hmm...We don't know its exact location, but the Bible gives us a few clues. Genesis 2:8 - it was in the east. Genesis 2:11 - a river and land we don't know. Genesis 2:13 - a river and land we don't know. Genesis 2:14 - two rivers, one we know and a country we know. Our best guess would be somewhere in modern day Iraq.
- Locate the river Euphrates
- Locate the country of Assyria



"Harvest Fun": Games & Activities

- Creation Scavenger Hunt - Make a list of items found in nature and see how many you can find. To liven things up, set a timer to see who can find the most items on the list in the time given. Try to choose items from as many of the days of creation as possible. To challenge older students, have them look up and write the Latin name of identification for each of the items on the list.
- Creation Memory Game - Make pairs of cards with matching pictures of anything in nature (2 leaves, 2 mountains, 2 fish, etc.) or use the Creation Cards in Appendix B. You may want to back these with construction paper so they won't be see-through. Mix up the cards and place them face down on a table. Take turns picking two cards at a time, trying to make a match. As matches are found, make it more challenging by asking on what day of creation it was made.
- Zoo Field Trip - This would be a fun location to do a scavenger hunt too!



"Digging Deeper": Research

- Adam - How long did he live? (Genesis 5:5) What body part did God use from him to make woman? (Genesis 2:22) What job did God give him in Genesis 2:19-20? What did he name his first three sons? (Genesis 4:1, 2, 25)
- Photosynthesis - Read about "photosynthesis" and why it is necessary for plants to grow. Now, what day did God create all plant life? (Day 3) What day did He create the sun? (Day 4) How does this help prove that evolution *couldn't* have happened?
- Dinosaurs - There are lots of resources on dinosaurs, but many of them are from an evolutionist viewpoint. Here are some recommended books from a creationist point of view to help you with your research: *Dinosaurs Unleashed* by Kyle Butt and Eric Lyons, *Jurassic Park v. Jehovah's Park* by Catie Frates, and *Dinosaurs by Design* by Duane T. Gish. Job chapters 40 and 41 both refer to dinosaurs but by different names. What names are given? So, why isn't the word "dinosaur" in the Bible? Find out what year the word was invented and who came up with it.



"Food For Thought": Puzzles

- Coded Message:

 20 12 23 24 9 22 26 7 22 23 7 19 22

 6 13 18 5 22 9 8 22 26 13 23

 22 5 22 9 2 7 19 18 13 20 18 13 18 7 25 2

 19 18 8 8 11 12 16 22 13 4 12 9 23

Key to the Code:

F N R U A G O S V C H T D I E B W K Y P M L
 21 13 9 6 26 20 12 8 5 24 19 7 23 18 22 25 4 16 2 11 14 15

- Word Scramble - Unscramble the following words using the clues to help you. Answers are provided in the Answer Key.

When did God create the heavens and the earth? nngbiengi _____

What did God call the firmament? enhvae _____

What did God make in His image? nma _____

What did God do on the seventh day? esdtre _____

What watered the face of the earth? mtsi _____

What did God form man out of? Stud _____



"Fruits Of Our Labor": Crafts

- Creation mural or creation mobile - To make a mural, take a large piece of poster board or butcher paper. Draw or paint a creation scene that includes something from each day of creation. To make a mobile, use a wire coat hanger, several pieces of string or yarn, and some card stock. Draw small pictures of different items from each of the days of creation, cut them out, tape a piece of string or yarn to the back and then tie onto the hanger. Make the pieces of string or yarn different lengths so you can fit more on your mobile. When finished, hang your mobile where you can see it and enjoy it.
- Terrarium - Remember we learned that before the flood there was no rain? In the beginning, the climate of the earth was very tropical - warm and moist. Make a terrarium to help demonstrate the environment in the Garden of Eden. You will need an empty plastic 2 liter bottle, 3-5 small plants, potting soil, and some gravel or small stones. First, measure about six inches up on the bottle and draw a line. Carefully cut the bottle all the way through at this line. Put a one-inch layer of stones in the bottom of your bottle, then fill the bottle with soil to within about an inch of the rim. Arrange your plants in the soil then water them. Place the top part of the soda bottle back onto the bottom pushing it down over the bottom part. Place the bottle in a warm, sunny location.