



Genesis – The Creation Week (Part #2) Lesson #3 Genesis 1:1-2:3

1:9 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. 10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 11 And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. 12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Vs 11 – God speaks again or continues to speak, actually to command. Let the earth, let the ground, **sprout** vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees, bearing fruit...

The Hebrew word is only used twice, but the idea seems to be that grasses, plants, and trees, **sprouted and grew to various sizes across the globe.**

Again, we cannot even imagine the mechanisms that God executed to make this happen, only that he did.

Discuss - This seems to imply that in a **fast forward movie** sort of way (maybe), God commanded, and the earth **busted forth with vegetation, trees sprouted and grew** in a **very short period of time**, fruit bearing trees burst forth and within seconds they are **covered in fruit** ready to be consumed.

Notice, God **spoke** and **it was so!** This is the third time Moses wrote this!

***** NOTE – When God creates Adam, he will be created as a full-grown man. He is able to talk, walk, and is very intelligent.**

Three things are mentioned:

- 1) Vegetation - grasses
- 2) Plants - bushes
- 3) Trees

Carefully notice the language the plants that grew out of the ground, and implanted within each of these was a **“seed”** that was programmed to enable the **continuing replication** of this type of organism.

Each **type of organism** had and has its **own unique structure of DNA** and can only reproduce **“after its kind.”**

Before we ever get to any animals, we see that God creates a barrier, a line between kinds of things, if they are of the same kind, they can possibly reproduce, if they are different kinds they cannot reproduce.

This explains an important principle about all the life that God has created. It reproduces, after its kind. I would remind you that Moses will repeat this phrase **10 times** here in the first chapter of Genesis!

Vs 12 - This is happening all over the ground, vegetation is sprouting from seed to plant, each according to their kind, including fruit trees that sprouted from the ground, grew up, and now are bearing fruit.

We have another declaration that God saw that it **was good!**

Vs 13 - The familiar model, **“evening and morning”, and the cardinal number, and Hebrew “yom.”**

On day three God calls the waters together in one place so that dry land appears and thus creates our lithosphere (solid outer part of earth). He then covered this dry land in vegetation including grasses, shrubs, and trees, even fruit bearing trees that were bearing fruit (thus the biosphere is complete) on day three of the creation week!

1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. 16 And God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. 17 And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Vs 14 - So God had already created light. Here on day four, **God says** – “**Let there be lights!**” These lights are placed in the “**expanse of the heavens.**”

We talked about the Hebrew word שָׁמַיִם (shamayim). Here it is translated “heavens”. But we get the idea, we are talking about the **second heaven (outer space).**

Notice they are for signs, seasons days and years:

Signs – Positions of the stars in the different seasons. Birth of the promised Messiah?

Days – One rotation of the earth in front of the sun.

Years – One rotation of the earth around the sun.

These lights are the various stars in our cosmos including our sun and our moon is also included in what separates day from night.

These lights are to give light on the earth. These bodies are all in the “expanse of the heavens” they are in what we call outer space, outside our atmosphere.

Some have claimed error that the moon “gives” light to the earth.

Although the moon does not create light, we would all agree that it “gives light”, and I would suggest that just as we read that the sun rises (Ps 104:22, Mar 5:45, Jam 1:11), both of these statements are from man’s perspective, they are **anthropomorphic.**

We often read in modern literature that the “sun rose”, yet we all know what the author means.

Here is verse 14, God creates the light makers, the stars and our sun. Here we see it is our sun that will serve to separate light from darkness, day from night (for us, here on Earth)!

Vs 15 – Further they serve as lights in the expanse of heaven and for our sun, to give light on the earth.

Vs 16 - *And God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars.*

Now while we are on our sun, let me talk about this amazing creation!

Our sun is a spectral type G2 dwarf main sequence star. It is well suited for us!

Spectral Type is based on the light color it produces from blue, blue/white, white/yellow (G) orange/red, to red.

Our sun is not too hot and not too cold, not too big and not too small, not too close and not too far way. Our sun is in just the right location for life!

***** 90% of the stars in the galaxy are smaller than our sun.**

If we had one of those (smaller stars) **the habitable zone would be smaller**, our orbit smaller, thus we would have to be **positioned closer** to the star, bringing us too close would lock our planet into a **synchronized rotation** with the sun (**like the moon is with us**) and would result in **one side of our planet like Venus** (becoming extremely hot) and the other side, the **dark side** would become a **frozen tundra**. Life on our planet would be impossible.

If our star were a red dwarf, the most common type of star, the luminosity is lower, and the heat is higher. Thus, a red dwarf is a no win for life. From an evolutionist's perspective: **We are very lucky to have the type of star we have and to be positioned where we are in reference to the star!**

Scientists refer to this preferable position around a star as habitable zone, or if you prefer the **"Goldilocks zone"** for it must be, just right, for life.

So God made the **sun to rule the day**.

But he also made the moon, which would reflect the light of the sun, and to a lesser degree **rule the night**.

Now, as you think about our moon, it is large when compared to other moons, it is 1/4 the size of earth. The moon stabilizes our planet as it rotates on its axis 23.5 degree tilt. It also helps circulate the water on our planet.

The moon is in a tidal lock, a synchronous rotation with the earth. **It takes 28 days for 1 rotation of the moon, and it orbits our planet every 28 days.**

As it rotates the same side of the moon is always facing us, we call this the near side of the moon as opposed to the far side (which we cannot see from Earth).

Scientists tell us without our moon we would not have life on this planet! From an evolutionist's perspective we are very "lucky" to have this **"lesser light"!**

And then almost in passing Moses writes that God **made the stars also!** By way of reminder, the current estimate of stars in the cosmos is **2 x 10²³**. That is 200,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (200 Sextillion). **SO THAT YOU KNOW:** Since 1990, the Hubble Space telescope has been in a low earth orbit. Hubble is located at an altitude of **332 miles** above the earth in the Thermosphere. If you can imagine this, the Hubble completes one orbit of the earth every **95 minutes**. You may be thinking, wow it must be moving fast. Indeed, it is orbiting at a speed of **27,000 miles per hour**. It circles the Earth **15-16 times** each day.

Fast Forward... The year is 1995, astronomer and director of the Space Telescope Science Institute, Bob Williams, made the decision to point the Hubble Space Telescope at the same tiny, starless patch in the sky for 10 days.

During this time the telescope took 343 images, with expose times of 25 to 45 minutes per image. He then combined **all of those images of this dark spot in space. NASA calls this image Deep Field.**

APPLICATION: As you think about this, as you gaze into the vastness of the cosmos, how should you respond? I would say two ways:

1) Remember what David wrote:

“1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. 2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.” (Ps 19:1-3 ESV)

2) Remember what Isaiah wrote:

“Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing.” (Isa 40:26 ESV)

We should be utterly astounded at what God has created and the fact that this powerful God loves and cares for us should bring us great peace.

Vs 17-19 - God set the lights in the expanse of the heavens, to give light to the earth, the sun in particular to rule over the day and over the night, to separate light from darkness.

And God saw that it was **good**. This is the **fourth declaration** that God saw that it was good. With each day, God observes the end of his creative activity and declares it to be good.

Vs 19 - Again, we see the same repetition. There was evening, there was morning, the cardinal number 4, and yom.

Now on the fourth day, God creates outer space and all of the bodies that will inhabit outer space. Our sun, our moon, and all of the stars and planets that will inhabit outer space. This is mind boggling when one considers the expanse of outer space!

Now, before we move on, we need to pause, and I need to pick up something that I briefly brushed against when talking about subterranean water caverns and develop it a little further.

Namely what God did when he created the heavens. Although it is not specifically stated here it is mentioned in numerous other places in the Bible. I will give you three:

“I made the earth and created man on it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host.” (Isa 45:12 ESV)

“It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;” (Isa 40:22 ESV)

“The oracle of the word of the LORD concerning Israel: Thus declares the LORD, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him:” (Zec 12:1 ESV)

If not created on day one. It is here on day four that God stretches out the heavens.

The creation is now prepared animals and man. Those things that have the breath of life.

Now when I simply say the creation is now “prepared for life”, that fails to explain the amazing complexity and fine tuning of our universe and our planet for life.

Physics is loaded with constants, we call these laws, they are the structure of our universe, they are the fundamental constants and quantities of our universe.

Scientists have come to the shocking conclusion that many of these constants are extremely fine-tuned. What I mean by that is, if these constants were altered ever so slightly, we would not be here. In many cases I do not simply mean you and I, life would not exist.

There are a host of constants or variables where if they were only slightly different, we would not have life on this planet, we would not have stars, and we would not have planets.

I uploaded to our webpage an article by Jay W. Richards. In that article he provides a list of 22 different constants or conditions that are extremely fine-tuned, if they were altered ever so slightly life as we know it would not exist.

Obviously all scientists do not agree on the full list of variables and values, but many scientists believe the list now exceeds 200 values, constants, or specifics about our creation or our planet that must be tuned to within very high degrees of accuracy to have life.

Two of the most amazing examples of fine tuning include the Gravitational Constant and the Cosmological Constant!

The force of gravity is determined by the **Gravitational Constant**. If this number (Gravitational Constant) was altered by just 1 in 10^{60} part, none of us would exist.

This is not statistically unlikely; this is statistically impossible. The gravitational constant is amazingly fine-tuned!

The Cosmological Constant refers to the balance of the attractive force of gravity and a hypothesized repulsive force of space observable only at large size scales. To get the right balance, the cosmological constant is fine tuned within a margin of **something like 1 part in 10^{120} !** This alone is once again an **impossible adjustment to be found by chance.**

Consider this with the gravitational force constant and these together becoming breathtakingly impossible to happen together, by chance!

Earth’s distance from the Sun – Where we are in relationship to our sun is extremely fine-tuned. We are near the inner edge of the circumstellar habitable zone (this allows the planet to maintain the atmosphere and liquid water on the surface). If the earth was 5% closer to the sun, it would be subject to the same fate as our sister planet Venus where temperatures on the surface reach nearly 900 Fahrenheit. If it were 20% further from the sun, it would experience runaway glaciations like Mars.

At least one large Jupiter-mass planet (we have Jupiter and Saturn) in large circular orbits - These planets sweep up debris in space (asteroids and comets) and minimize the chance of large asteroids impacting Earth.

Without planets like Jupiter and Saturn to sweep space clean, Earth would become an interstellar dart board and life would become impossible.

When I say that the universe is prepared for life, you need to recognize the amazing fine tuning and precise accuracy of many constants, values, and variables that what we observe when we measure things.

What a statistically unlikely planet, with a statistically unlikely moon, with a statistically unlikely sun, in the exact place within a solar system that we need to exist, with all the values of physics balanced on the head of a needle. From an evolutionist's perspective we are VERY, VERY, VERY, lucky!

20 And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." 21 So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." 23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

The Atmosphere, hydrosphere, Lithosphere, biosphere, and even outer space are now formed and finished. God has now created a proper tent for man to dwell in. **It is formed and it is about to be filled!**

He has placed this **privileged planet at the right distance** from our **newly created sun** to support **life**. God has created the perfect conditions to **sustain life**. He has placed us in a **perfect position** within the **Milky Way** (spiral galaxy) to not only **survive**, but to **thrive**, and to **observe the creation that God has made**.

Having completed all that was necessary by way of non-living materials of the creation, God is now ready to advance and create things that have in them the **"breath of life."**

The creation is no longer unformed and unfilled, rather it is formed and **ready to be filled with life!**

Vs 20 - Once again, God speaks and instantaneous, supernatural creation occurs, this time, for the first time, it is **physical life**.

The first place He creates life is the waters and we read in **verse 20**: *"Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures,*

Two things I want you to take with you:

- 1) This is the first time the word נֶפֶשׁ (nephesh) is used (life or living or soul).
- 2) In the Biblical sense **plants** do not have life (soul)(consciousness), like the animals do. **Here God creates life, and he starts in the oceans.**

Here we see once again that God creates a barrier, a line between kinds of animals, if they are of the same kind, they can possibly reproduce, if they are different kinds they cannot reproduce.

This explains an important principle about all the life that God has created. It reproduces, **after its kind**. I would remind you that Moses will repeat this phrase **10 times** here in the first chapter of Genesis!

APPLICATION: Evolutionary dogma that says all living things are connected by a common ancestor is refuted by the **reality we see in our world**, the **overwhelming evidence from the fossil record**, and **what God said, as recorded by Moses!**

In my mind, I picture the calm oceans of the earth, and then, at the command of God the waters begin swirling as life is being created **instantaneously, supernaturally**, and the **oceans are filled with life!**

Teaming with life in a second. This is not one tiny single celled organism that advances over thousands or millions of years to become a multicell organism to continue to advance to more and more complex organisms. One organism dying to continue to hopefully advance the march to a more complex organism.

This is a sovereign supernatural God, speaking and in a moment in time the **waters of the planet are teaming with life**. One minute, it was oceans may there was algae, maybe not. **But now life, all forms of aquatic life in an instant!**

Next, we read, still in verse 20: *let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.*

What did this look like? I can only imagine. **Birds**, filling the heaven, one minute nothing and now birds all over the place **full grown, fully functional** and **able to fly** in the expanse of the heavens.

This is not one type of animal slowing picking up wings and the ability to fly over tenso of hundreds or millions of years as death leads to the victory of animals in flight. **NO, this is a supernatural God, creating, in a second the diversity we see in the biological class today we call Aves.**

Vs 21 - Here Moses provides some additional commentary. God creates **great sea creatures** and every living creature that moves in the water.

What comes to mind when you read that God created the “great sea creatures”? Blue Whales (up to 100 feet), sperm whales (up to 60 feet), giant squid, giant octopus, massive oarfish. God is likely talking about these, but I believe he is also speaking about something more.

The Hebrew words: The word great is the Hebrew word: גדול (gadol), it means great, large, big, or massive.

The word translated “sea creature” is the word תנין (tanniyn). This word is used a total of **28 times** in the Hebrew bible, rather than explain the word let me show you a few places where this word is used.

“You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters.” (Ps 74:13 ESV)

“In that day the LORD with his hard and great and strong sword will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.” (Isa 27:1 ESV)

“Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in days of old, the generations of long ago. Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces, who pierced the dragon?” (Isa 51:9 ESV)

I would suggest that what Moses is talking about includes some of the greatest sea creatures (dragons) (dinosaurs) that have ever swam in our seas. This same word is used of **Leviathan in Is 27**, so let’s take a peek at that creature in Job 41, let’s quickly read a few things about him. God is speaking to Job...

“1 "Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook or press down his tongue with a cord? 2 Can you put a rope in his nose or pierce his jaw with a hook? 3 Will he make many pleas to you? Will he speak to you soft words? 4 Will he make a covenant with you to take him for your servant forever? 5

Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you put him on a leash for your girls? 6 Will traders bargain over him? Will they divide him up among the merchants? 7 Can you fill his skin with harpoons or his head with fishing spears? 8 Lay your hands on him; remember the battle — you will not do it again! 9 Behold, the hope of a man is false; he is laid low even at the sight of him. 10 No one is so fierce that he dares to stir him up. Who then is he who can stand before me?” (Job 41:1-10 ESV)

Again, notice Moses is talking about, each **created according to their own kinds**. The birds were also each created **according to its kinds**.

So where do birds come from? Not from Theropod dinosaurs! Rather, they are a supernatural, instantaneous creation of our awesome Savior Jesus, the second person of the Godhead.

We have the declaration that God continues to give us, that he saw that it was good!

Vs 22 - Something new happens here. God blesses them. Interesting, this is the first time God has blessed anything.

Then in verse 23, we have the fifth repetition that we have become abundantly familiar with: **“And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.”**

Thus, the creative activity of day five ends, this planet is now teeming with plant life, birds, and aquatic animals. Day 5 ends with fish of all types and birds.

24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds — livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. 25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

God speaks again in Vs 24a - The earth “brings forth...” Can you even imagine what this looked like?

Every living creature according to its kind. Livestock, creeping things. Beasts of the earth, all according to their kinds.

This means that when you think about land dwelling dinosaurs, it was here on day 6 that they were created, right alongside all other land-dwelling animals.

Notice, livestock, creeping things, and beasts of the earth, all made at the same time.

Vs 25 – We have the sixth declaration: “God saw that it was good.”

But day six is not over... The world is now fully prepared for God’s highest creation, the crown of his creation, man which will be made in **God’s image!**