

The Book of Genesis

*In the beginning
God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1*

Preparatory Study Material

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Various Views on Origins¹

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Various views have been proposed to answer the question of the origin of the earth and universe.*

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Various Views on Origins¹

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Scientific Support for Biblical Creation Story

One of the hottest scientific debate topics is the subject:

“Creation versus Evolution”

- Was the universe and humankind created by an eternal, all-wise God as introduced in Genesis and other books of the Bible?
- Is there scientific proof of the Bible’s creation story?

There is scientific support for the biblical creation story.

The following identifies scriptures and scientific resources that can be referenced for further study.

I. What the Bible says concerning the Creator and Creation

God used WISDOM to design creation!

“The LORD formed me [sound wisdom and understanding] from the beginning, before he created anything else.

I was appointed in ages past, at the very first, before the earth began.”

Proverbs 8:22–23

Select Old Testament Creation Passages	Select New Testament Creation Passages
- Genesis Chapters 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8	- John 1:1–3, 10–14
- Job Chapters 38 and 39	- Romans 1:20–25
- Psalm 104	- Colossians 1:15–18
- Psalm 148	- 2 Peter 2:4–5
- Proverbs 8:22–31	- 2 Peter 3:3–6
- Isaiah 45:12,18	- Revelation 12:9
- Ezekiel 28:11–17	- Revelation 20:1–2

Scientific Support for Biblical Creation Story

II. Scientists and Scientific Support for Biblical Creation Claims

- **Creationism website** provides access to hundreds if not thousands of scientists and a host of scientific data that is easily accessible, supporting Biblical creation and scientific principles set forth by the Bible. Website includes resources that are free, and youth friendly in addition to highly technical material. www.creationism.org
- **Institute of Creation Research (ICR)** has the mission of equipping believers with evidence of the Bible's accuracy and authority through their research, educational programs and media resources. www.icr.org/publications
- **Creation Science Movement (CSM)** was founded in 1932 and is the oldest creationist movement in the world. Another excellent resource of scientists and scientific data in support of the Bible's accuracy. www.csm.org.uk/index.php
- **Creation Research Society (CRS)** is a professional organization of trained scientists and interested laypersons that provides scientific backing for special creation. CRS began in 1963 with ten members but now includes hundreds, including international members. www.creationresearch.org/about_crs.htm
- **Biblical Creation Society (BCS)** is a Christian society that advances and defends the Biblical teaching on creation, from a coherent Biblical and scientific standpoint. This organization has been standing for creation since 1976. www.biblicalcreation.org.uk/index.html
- **Mario Sieglie articles in Good News Magazine:** "God, Science and the Bible," "A Planet Perfect for Life," "Our Amazing Spaceship Earth," "The Intelligent Design Revolution"

III. Archaeological Finds Support Biblical Names, Places, and Events

- *Archaeological Study Bible* by Zondervan Publishing, 2005
- **Articles by Mario Seiglie** on "Archaeology and the Bible", and "Science and the Bible", written for **Good News Magazine**, www.gnmagazine.org
- **Lion of Judah Christian Apologetics—archaeology website** lionofjudah.tribulationforces.com/general/archaeology.html

Genesis: The Book of Beginnings

□ Genesis Is the Book of the Beginnings of All Things...

- In **Genesis**
 - Creation of the heavens and earth are begun
- In **Genesis**
 - God authorizes the first Man (Adam) and his wife (Eve) to rule over creation
- In **Genesis**
 - God's adversary the devil, that old serpent, is introduced as liar, deceiver and enemy to Adam, Eve and all mankind
- In **Genesis**
 - Mankind loses Paradise and access to the Tree of Life
- In **Genesis**
 - Man's first sin, mankind's wicked activity such as murder, and the roots of evil in Babylon, are begun
- In **Genesis**,
 - God's plan to restore mankind and creation to His original design plans for them is begun

And so on...

□ ...Except for the Beginning of God

According to Genesis 1:1, God was (existed, lived) before the beginning of creation. This is because God is an eternal being, with no beginning or end. The eternal God created everything, including time!

As Dr. Myles Munroe says, "God started start."

***Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world,
even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.
Psalm 90:2 KJV***

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Overview of Creation Story in Genesis 1:3–28, 2:1–3

*(Based from Amplified Bible and
Dispensational Truth by Rev. Clarence Larkin, p.25)*

Matter

☐ **Day 1: God's Work / Cosmic Light**

First divine command, ***"Let there be light."***

- God then divides the light from the darkness, and calls the light "Day" and the darkness "Night."

☐ **Day 2: God's Work / Atmosphere (= first realm of Heaven)**

Second divine command, ***"Let there be an expanse..."***

- God then divides the waters that were above this expanse from the waters that were below it, and he calls the expanse "Heaven."

☐ **Day 3: God's Work / Dry Land Appears, Vegetation Appears**

Third divine command, ***"Let the waters under the heavens be collected into one place, and let the dry land appear."***

- God then names the dry land, "Earth" and the waters, "Seas."

Fourth divine command, ***"Let the earth bring forth vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit bearing trees, in which was their seeds."***

Time

☐ **Day 4: God's Work / Solar Light**

Fifth divine command, ***"Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens."***

- These lights were made to separate day from night, and to be signs, and to mark seasons, days and years.
- These lights consisted of "two great lights." The greater light (the sun) was to rule the day, and the lesser light (the moon) to rule the night. God also made the stars. He set all in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.

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Life

□ Day 5: God's Work / Creation of Fish and Fowl

Sixth divine command, "*Let the waters bring forth abundantly and swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly over the earth in the open expanse of the heavens.*"

- God tells these creatures "to be fruitful and multiply."

□ Day 6: God's Work / Creation of Land Animals and Mankind

Seventh divine command, "*Let the earth bring forth living creatures.*"

- He makes wild beasts, livestock and reptiles.

Then "*God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them*" (mankind or humankind).

- God tells them "to be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it."
- God gives both humans and animals plants to eat.
- God describes His creation as "very good."

□ Day 7: God's Rest / The Sabbath

This day God, satisfied the completed heavens and earth were very good (suitable and pleasant), rests from His work. God blesses and sanctifies the seventh day.

From Genesis 1, we learn of God's magnificent creative handiwork:

- In the beginning The Universe
- In the beginning Earth, the Perfect Home for Mankind
- And finally in the beginning Mankind, Made in God's Image, Are the Children of God

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The Universe

The Universe can be defined as “all matter and energy, including the earth, the galaxies, and the contents of intergalactic space, regarded as a whole.”²

Genesis Chapter 1 refers to part of the universe (stars, planets, and galaxies) as the “expanse of the heavens.” God set the sun, moon, and stars in strategic positions within the expanse of the heavens, to establish the earth’s seasons, days, and years for the benefit of earth’s inhabitants.

Earth, the Perfect Home for Mankind

Like a parent who diligently prepares everything for the birth of their beloved child (such as safety, shelter, food, etc.),

God prepared the earth’s environment to be perfect—

For the creation, making, and continuance of humankind

The earth is designed to be comfortably habitable for mankind, as God created a perfect shelter for His multitude of children to be born. The earth was also fully loaded with an eternal pantry worth of food for all living creatures, as the first food was designed with the ability to reproduce more food continuously. This is true as:

- At God’s command vegetation, plants, and fruit-bearing trees were created containing seeds designed to reproduce more of their kind continuously.
- At God’s command the waters brought forth living creatures that He commanded to be fruitful and multiply continuously.
- At God’s command the skies brought forth living creatures that God commanded to be fruitful and multiply continuously.

It takes many scientific fields of study to attempt to understand the awesome design of the universe, earth, physical laws, humans, all living creatures, and the delicate interdependent workings of all creation, which ultimately benefits mankind’s existence.

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Here is a list of some of these scientific fields of study:

Actuarial Science, Agricultural Sciences, Agronomy and Soil Sciences, Allopathic Medicine, Analytical Chemistry, Anatomy, Animal Behavior, Animal Sciences, Anthropology, Applied Physics, Aquaculture, Astronomy, Astrophysics, Atmospheric Sciences,

Bacteriology, Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Biophysics, Botany and Plant Sciences,

Cardiovascular Sciences, Cell Biology, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Cognitive Sciences, Conservation Biology, Dentistry,

Ecology, Environmental Sciences, Epidemiology, Geodetic Sciences, Geology, Geophysics, Geosciences,

Horticulture, Human Development, Human Genetics, Hydrology, Kinesiology and Movement Studies,

Marine Biology, Marine Sciences, Materials Sciences, Medical Microbiology, Medical Physics, Medical/Surgical Nursing, Meteorology,

Natural Resources, Neuroscience, Oceanography, Oncology, Optical Sciences, Pathology, Physics, Physiology, Planetary and Space Sciences, Plant Molecular Biology, Plant Pathology, Plant Physiology, Plasma Physics, Podiatric Medicine,

Toxicology, Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Sciences, Virology, Vision Sciences, Zoology

Yes, all of creation was intelligently and lovingly designed for eternal habitation by God's beloved humankind!

Mankind, Made in God's Image, Are the Children of God

- **God does everything with purpose in mind.** So all His creation, especially mankind, was designed with a specific and very good purpose built within (Isaiah 14:24; Psalm 33:11; Isaiah 55:10–11; Hebrews 6:16–17).
- **God created mankind in His image.** This basically means God made (purposed) mankind to express His image. Like loving parents have children whom they know will look like them, and then they teach/influence them to think and act like them, so God created, made and instructed mankind to be like Him.

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For example...

- **God is a spirit, so He created man to be a spirit-being like Him** (Genesis 1:26–27; John 4:24, Psalms 82:1, 6).
- **God is love, so He made man to love and have fellowship with Him and with each other.**
 - This is why God had mankind on His mind before the world was even created. This is why mankind is the crowning glory of God’s creation. This is why God prepared the way for mankind to be restored to right relationship with Him before they were ever created or sinned. And this is why mankind best relates to God through the characteristic of a “love” relationship (Deut. 6:5; Psalms 8:3–9; Mark 12:29–30; Ephesians 1:4–6; Hebrews 2:5–18).
 - Because of this “love” nature, God gave humankind the ability to reproduce more of itself, in a loving manner. This is why God made a male-man and a female-man and told them to commit to one another in a love relationship called marriage (Genesis 1:27–28; 2:18–25; Matthew 19:4–9; John 4:8, 16).
 - This is why God instructs mankind to relate to each other from an overall stance of respect, that has its roots in God’s pure, undefiled loving character (Mark 12:30; John 13:34–35; 1 John 1:7; 2:8–11, 1 Corinthians 13:13).
- **God is Creator, so He made man creative.**
 - God gave humans the ability and commandment / instruction to increase in number and fill up the earth (Genesis 1:28).
- **God is Ruler, so He gave man ruling qualities.**
 - God gave the male-man and female-man authority and the commandment / instruction to exercise dominion over the earth, its living creatures and its resources. This means together the male and female were to be the earth’s master, responsible for wisely governing over it (Genesis 1:26).

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- **Although mankind was created to be a spirit-being like God, God further designed the human spirit to live in a body and become a living soul in order to express God's image on the earth (Genesis 1:26; 2:7, 21–22).**
 - With the human spirit, mankind could relate to God, with the body they could relate to things in the earth, and with the soul they could intellectually process what was learned from God and from earth experiences.
 - The original plan was that mankind would make decisions that were in keeping with the nature of God because mankind had the same nature as God.
 - Like God, mankind rules the visible earth through his physical actions that are generated out of his spirit and soul (heart, mind, intellect) that are unseen.
 - The “seen” activity of mankind is dictated by the “unseen” realm of mankind, in a similar manner that the “unseen” God interacts with the “seen” world (Romans 1:18–21).

- **Sadly, man's original sin destroyed God's original designs for mankind, but God designed a path for restoration in the beginning.**
 - And this is where the rest of Genesis picks up.
 - Now you are ready to read the entire Bible.
 - You will learn...
 - The tragic story of mankind's fall from relationship with God, and
 - The magnificent story of God's faithful execution of His plans to restore mankind to relationship with Him.

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Excerpt on the Creation of Mankind by Rev. Clarence Larkin

There is no contradiction between the first and second chapters of Genesis as to the creation of man[kind]. The first chapter (Gen. 1:26-28) gives the **FACT** of his creation, the second, the **MANNER OF IT**. Gen. 2:7. One is supplementary to the other.

In chapter one God is spoken of as "**ELOHIM**," the Creator; in chapter two, He is called "**JEHOVAH**" (The Lord) because He there enters into covenant relations with man.

At first the name "**Jehovah**" is joined with "**Elohim**" to remove all doubt as to the identity of the Being designated by the compound word.

Now while **either** of these names would suit some passages, in others one would be more suitable than the other.

This accounts for the discriminating use of these two names by the sacred writers, and is an answer to those critics who claim that the Scriptures are a clumsy compilation of incongruous and diverse documents which they call Elohistic and Jehovistic.

In Gen. 2:7 we are told that "The **LORD God** formed (Yatsar, fashioned) man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the '**Breath of Life;**' and man became a living soul."

This may mean that the Lord God-fashioned man out of the "dust of the ground" as a sculptor fashions the statue out of clay, and then breathed into the earthy form the "Breath of Life."

However it was done we know the work was threefold:

1. The formation of the "**BODY**"—"And the Lord God **formed man of the dust of the ground.**"
2. The gift of the "**SPIRIT**"—"And breathed into his nostrils the '**Breath of Life.**'" By this is not meant the "Holy Spirit," but the "Spirit" of the "natural man"—that part of man that must be indwelt by the Holy Spirit before he can be born again. It is the "God Conscious" nature of man.
3. The **SOULISH** part of man—"And man became a 'Living Soul.'" This is the seat of the "Self-Conscious" nature, of memory, the affections, etc.

The two principal parts of man are the **BODY** and the **SPIRIT**, but as the functions of these are separate, one being physical and the other spiritual, a third part had to be supplied called the **SOUL**, intermediate between them, and through which they may communicate.

Thus man became a "Threefold Being." I Thess. 5:23. Heb. 4:12.

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In Adam, as originally created, the Soul was such a perfect medium of communication between the Body and the Spirit that there was no conflict between them. The three blended together in one harmonious whole.

When man fell the soul became the "battlefield" of the Body and the Spirit, and the conflict began that Paul so graphically describes in Rom. 7:7-24.

Eve was not fashioned in the same way as Adam. She was "made" sometime later. Adam had not found among all the creatures God had made a suitable companion, and God saw that it was not good for him to be alone, so he proceeded to make him an "helpmeet."

To this end "The Lord God caused a '**deep sleep**' to fall upon Adam and he slept; and He took one of his '**RIBS,**' and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the '**RIB,**' which the Lord God had taken from man, made (builded) He a **WOMAN**, and brought her unto the man.

And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called **WOMAN**, because she was taken **OUT OF MAN.**" Gen. 2:21-23.

While Adam and Eve were not both fashioned in the same way, they were not evolved from some lower creature, but were direct creations of God, "**male** and **female** created He them." Gen. 1:27.

The reason why Eve was not fashioned separately from Adam, but was taken out of Adam's side, was to show that in their relation to each other as man and wife they were to be **ONE FLESH.**

That is their interests and sympathies, etc., were to be one, and physically they were to be counterparts of each other. Adam and Eve in their physical relation to each other are a type of Christ and the Church.

When Eve was presented to Adam he said—"This is now **bone of my bones**, and **flesh of my flesh**;" and the Apostle Paul in speaking of the Church says—"we are **members of His BODY**, and of His **FLESH**, and of His **BONES.**

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they **two** shall be one flesh. This is a great '**mystery**;' but I speak concerning Christ and the Church." Eph. 5:30-32

Reference:

Rev. Clarence Larkin, **Dispensational Truth**, p. 28–29; ©1918; Used by permission of Rev. Clarence Larkin Est., P.O. Box 334, Glenside, PA 19038, U.S.A., 215-576-5590, www.larkinstate.com.

Genesis: The Book of Beginnings

The journey of reading the Bible from Genesis to Revelation

- Beginning the journey does not have to be considered long or hard. For example, you can complete the initial journey of reading through the entire Bible in just one year. With the help of this KHW Bible Study, you will gain a good foundational understanding of what you have read.
- But the full journey is a lifetime long one. This is because it takes time to digest the wonders of all God has done for YOU, because He Loves You!!!

Begin the journey of a restored right relationship with God – Right Now!

- The initial step to having a restored right relationship with God is an easy one for you. This is because God has done all the hard part. All you need is faith in God's plans for your restoration (also known as salvation).

***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
John 3:16 KJV***

- To be restored to a right relationship with God, all you have to do is believe in the work His Son Jesus Christ did on your behalf, so that you can be forgiven of all your sins, and be justified in the eyes of God.
- So, right now, if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and if you go tell someone that you accept the living Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of your life, then you are immediately restored to a right relationship with God (Romans 10:9–10).
- Now ask your new Savior Jesus Christ, to help you understand the magnificent Word of God, as you prepare to read it from the standpoint of being the beloved child of God. Do this in the form of a prayer from within your heart.

References for further study:

To gain more insight on the Genesis Story and what it means to you living the good life now, consider reading these books by Dr. Myles Munroe³:

- *Understanding Your Potential*
- *Releasing Your Potential*
- *Understanding the Purpose and Power of Woman*
- *Understanding the Purpose and Power of Men*