

Our Creator God
Genesis 1-2:3

Getting Started

- ❖ When it comes to the origins of the universe, what were you taught and raised with?
- ❖ Have your beliefs change throughout your life from your upbringing? At this time, what is your view of how the universe came into existence?

Digging Deeper

- ❖ **Read Genesis 1-2:3 and answer the following:**
 - What are some basic Biblical doctrines and truth that you see alluded or introduced to us in this passage for the first time?
 - Jerry pointed out the following literary aspects from within the passage. What does this say to you and what implications do you see in this?

To communicate God's power and intentionality in creation, the narrative uses the biblical number of perfection, "seven", and its multiples. Verse 1 in the Hebrew language consists of seven words; verse 2 is fourteen words (7x2). The creation account covers seven days; seven times the phrase "and it was so"; seven times "it was good/very good"; twenty one times (7x3) the word "heaven" and the same for "earth"; thirty five times (7x5) the word "Elohim".

Beginning in verse 3 we see a phrase that will be repeated exactly 10 times, a number representing "fullness". Just as God gave these Israelites 10 commandments to live by, God will speak and bring about his creation with 10 commands starting with "And God said". Repeatedly the word of God will go forth, and His will is accomplished simply due His power and the power of His spoken word.

- Why would Moses not use the words "sun" and "moon" in the account of day 4? (Hint: Think of where the Israelites lived for 400 years.) How does this support the idea that the purpose of chapter 1 is theological, not "scientific" or "historical"?
- What does it mean that humanity has been created in the image of God?
- What role do you see humanity having in this world as stated in this passage of Scripture? What does the word "dominion" mean to you and how should it be expressed within our lives?
- What does this passage teach you about God?
- God is one, yet three. Where is this alluded to in this chapter? How would you explain and defend this doctrine biblically for a friend? What Scripture passages would you use?
- What would the "goodness" of God's creation have to do with the fact of His rest and the purpose of His rest on the seventh day of the week of Creation?

(Over)

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Apply It!

- ❖ Jerry stressed from this chapter that **“the universe is God’s creation and everything in it belongs to Him”**. What are the implications of this to you at the personal level? Do you tend to think of some things being “yours” and other things belonging to “God”?
- ❖ As a group discuss and debate the following: “Since the Sabbath is introduced to us as part of the Creation order, Christians should take 1 day in 7 to rest from their labor/career, worship God and serve those in need.”

Think About It!

But we see from this sampling that Moses’ record of how God ordered the universe in the first six days was not simply a report of what had happened at the beginning of time. He described the six days of creation in ways that helped his Israelite readers to see clearly what was happening in their own lives. Just as God had moved the cosmos from chaos to Sabbath by ordering nature in certain ways, God was taking Israel from the chaos of Egypt to Sabbath rest in Canaan by re-ordering the world on their behalf. (Dr. Richard Pratt)

WORSHIP RESOURCE

November 1, 2020 | 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP SONGS

SHOUT HOSANNA

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Brett Younker, Kristian Stanfill, and Ed Cash, 2015

To the King of glory and light, all praises; to the only Giver of life, our Maker, the gates are opened wide; we worship You.
Come see what love has done, amazing; He bought us with His blood, our Savior; the cross has overcome; we worship You.

Shout Hosanna, Jesus, He saves. Shout Hosanna, He rose from the grave; come and lift Him up, Hosanna.

Now let the lost be found, forgiven; death could not hold Him down, He's risen. So let the saints cry out; we worship You, we worship You.

The same power that rolled the stone away, the same power alive in us today; King Jesus, we call upon Your Name, no other name.

GRAVES INTO GARDENS

Words and Music by Brandon Lake, Christ Brown, Steven Furtick and Tiffany Hammer, 2019

I searched the world, but it couldn't fill me. Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough. Then You came along and put me back together. And every desire is now satisfied here in your love.

Oh there's nothing better than You.

There's nothing better than You.

Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You.

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness. May failures and flaws, Lord You've seen them all, and You still call me friend. 'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley. There's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again.

You turn to mourning to dancing. You give beauty for ashes.
You turn shame into glory. You're the only one who can.
You turn graves into gardens. You turn bones into armies.
You turn seas into highways. You're the only one who can.

NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD

Words and Music by Robert Lowry, 1876

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow that makes me white as snow.

No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see; nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing, this my plea; nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone; nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done; nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace; nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness; nothing but the blood of Jesus.

BEHOLD HIM

Words and Music by Paul Baloche and Mitch Wong, 2019

He who was before there was light, walked across the pages of time.
He who made every living thing, behold Him.
He who heard humanity's cry, left His throne to wake as a child.
He became like the least of us, behold Him.

Jesus, Son of God, Messiah, the Lamb, the roaring Lion.

Oh, be still and behold Him.

Jesus, Alpha and Omega, our God the risen Savior.

Oh, be still and behold Him.

He who dined with sinners and saints, healed the blind, the lost and the lame, even now He is in our midst. Behold Him.

He who chose a criminal's end, paid with blood to settle our debt, buried death as He rose to life, behold Him.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty.

Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 150; Zeph. 1:1-6; 1 Cor. 12:27-13:13; Matt. 18:21-35

MONDAY | Ps. 5; Zeph. 1:7-13; Revelation 14:1-13; Luke 12:49-59

TUESDAY | Ps. 42; Zeph. 1:14-18; Rev. 14:14-15:8; Luke 13:1-9

WEDNESDAY | Ps. 33; Zeph. 2:1-15; Rev. 16:1-11; Luke 13:10-17

THURSDAY | Ps. 97; Zeph. 3:1-7; Rev. 16:12-21; Luke 13:18-30

FRIDAY | Ps. 65; Zeph. 3:8-13; Revelation 17:1-18; Luke 13:31-35

SATURDAY | Ps. 138; Zeph. 3:14-20; Rev. 18:1-14; Luke 14:1-11

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Triune God, help us to remember that all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. May we not be like those who want all of their deeds to be seen by others; who seek to have the place of honor at banquets and gatherings; who tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others. By your grace, may we practice what we preach, pursuing justice and mercy, not outward appearances. Give us the desire to love and care for others through the power of your Holy Spirit at work within us. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



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