

***THE FIRST BOOK OF MOSES CALLED,***

***GENESIS***

***(CHAPTER 1: 20 -25)***

***20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.***

***21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his 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 fowl multiply in the earth.***

***23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.***

***24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.***

***25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.***

***(Genesis 1: 20 -25)***

***1:20... open firmament.*** Both the ***“lights” (1:15)*** and the ***“fowl”*** are said to be in the ***“firmament of heaven.”*** However, the fowl were to be in the ***“open” (Hebrew...pene)*** firmament of heaven, or better, ***“the face of the firmament of heaven.”*** Thus, 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.”***

**1:21 ...great whales.** Fish and other marine organisms were created simultaneously with birds and other flying creatures. The **“moving creature” (Hebrew...sherets)** of **Genesis 1:20** is elsewhere always translated **“creeping thing,”** and here, evidently, refers to invertebrates and marine reptiles, as well as fish. The word translated **“great whales” (Hebrew...tannin)** is elsewhere the regular word for **“dragons,”** and most probably refers to the great marine reptiles often called **dinosaurs.**

**1:21.....living creature.** It is significant that the word **“create” (Hebrew...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. Such **“consciousness”** is the essential meaning of the Hebrew word **“nephesh,”** commonly translated **“soul”** but, in **Genesis 1:20 (its first occurrence)** translated **“life,”** and then in **Genesis 1:21 “living creature.”** In **Genesis 2:7,** referring to man, it is rendered **“living soul.”** Thus, both men and animals possess the specially-created **“nephesh”** or consciousness.

**1:24...earth bring forth.** The land animals were brought forth in the early part of the sixth day. There was a natural threefold categorization consisting of cattle, **(domestic animals)** beasts of the earth **(the large non-domestic animals)** and creeping thing. **(small animals that crawl or creep close to the ground)** The reversal of the sequence **in Genesis 1:24-25** indicates that all were formed simultaneously. The bodies of these animals, like that of man **(2:7)** were all formed from the basic elements of the earth.

**1:24...it was so.** Note the logical order of God’s formation of things. On the first day, He made the **earth’s atmosphere (the envelope of gases surrounding the earth. The gas and aerosol envelope that extends from the ocean, land, and ice-covered surface of a planet outward into space.)** and **hydrosphere, (all the waters on the earth’s surface, such as lakes and seas, and sometimes including water over the earth’s surface, such as clouds. The total amount of water on a planet.)**

on the second day its **lithosphere ( the rigid outer part of the earth, consisting of the crust and upper mantle. The solid, outer part of the Earth. The lithosphere includes the brittle upper portion of the mantle and the crust, the**

*outermost layers of Earth's structure. It is bound by the atmosphere) and biosphere. (The biosphere is made up of the parts of Earth where life exists. It extends from the deep ocean floor, to lush rainforests, and high mountaintops.)* On the central days of the week, **(Day 3 and 4)** 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.

**1:25...after his kind.** The phrase **"after his kind"** occurs repeatedly, stressing the reproduction integrity of each land animal kind, of the same sort as that of each plant kind **(Genesis 1:11-12)** and each air animal and water animal. **(Genesis 1:21)** All of these reproductive systems are programmed in terms of the biological genetic code, utilizing the basic elements of the earth. Both plants and animals are formed from the created **"eretz, ("earth")** only animals from the created **"nephesh."** **("soul" or consciousness)**