




GENESIS									
	Creation	Fall	Flood	Nations		Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Joseph
	CHAPTERS 1-2	CHAPTERS 3-5	CHAPTERS 6-9	CHAPTERS 10-11		CHAPTERS 12-25	CHAPTERS 26-27	CHAPTERS 28-36	CHAPTERS 37-50
Beginnings	Beginning of the human race					Beginning of the chosen race			
Result	Confusion and scattering					Bondage in Egypt			
History	Primeval history					Patriarchal history			
Chronology	Over 2,000 years					Approximately 300 years			
Emphasis	Four major events					Four important people			
Key Words and Phrases	“In the beginning” (1:1) “Generations” (5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1; 37:2)								
Theme	God promises to redeem and bless His people.								
Key Verses	3:15; 12:3								
Christ in Genesis	Pictured in the seed of the woman (3:15); Melchizedek, the high priest (14:18); the humiliation and exaltation of Joseph (chapters 37-50)								

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## Chapter 1

**Verse 14-** *Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and they shall serve as signs and for seasons, and for days and years;*

*Let there be lights-* The lights have specific functions: separating day and night, marking seasons and special times, and giving light to the earth. Not naming the two lights helped avoid a misunderstanding which might cause people to think God was giving independent personality and power to the heavenly lights. There was a widespread belief that stars, comets, and the sun were themselves divine. These verses show that there aren't any other gods than God.

It is clear that God intended for the earth and the solar system to move according to a regular pattern. He meant for days, years, and seasons to be orderly, measurable, and predictable.





## Chapter 1

**Verse 15-** *and they shall serve as lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.*

*they shall serve as lights in the expanse-* This demonstrates the common pattern we have seen in this chapter. The first three days prepare a setting, while the second three days populate that setting. On the first day of creation, God created light. On day four, He creates specific sources of daily and nightly light, the sun to shine and the moon to reflect.

Day 4



Sun, moon,  
planets,  
and stars

## Chapter 1

**Verse 16-** *God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also.*

*He made the stars also-* The universe contains at least 70 septillion stars (7 followed by 23 zeros). Astronomers estimate there exist roughly 10,000 stars for each grain of sand on Earth. That's a lot of stars created by a command in one day!



Day 4



Sun, moon,  
planets,  
and stars



## Chapter 1

**Verse 17-** *God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,*

*God placed them in the expanse-* The stars send a constant message that points us to God, who has set them in their place by his fingertips (Psalms 8:3; 19:2-4). It helps us to understand how small we are in relation to how big God is (Ps 8:4).

Day 4

Sun, moon,  
planets,  
and stars

## Chapter 1

**Verse 18-** *and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.*

*it was good-* Following the same pattern as the other days of this creation week, God recognizes His creation as good. He approves of the sun, moon, and stars and their dominant place in the life of our planet. In doing so, He declared their glory and His own.

Day 4

Sun, moon,  
planets,  
and stars



## Chapter 1

**Verse 19-** *And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.*

*a fourth day-* This follows a pattern we have seen in the previous days where God speaks, creates, observes, and blesses His work.

## Day 4



Sun, moon,  
planets,  
and stars

## Chapter 1

**Verse 20-** *Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens."*

*living creatures-* This separates animals and birds from plant life which is alive in a different way. Later, we will see that man is different than animal life because he is created in the image of God.

- Plants replicate within a kind, but they are nowhere said to possess *chay* (life) or *nephesh* (soul), the Hebrew words for living things.
- Animals have life (blood) but not a soul.
- Man has life and is created for eternity (a soul).

God didn't create the oceans or sky for their own sake. It was in His plan as a home for sea life and birds He would create.

## Day 5



Flying  
and sea  
creatures



## Chapter 1

**Verse 21-** *And God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.*

*And God created-* This is the fourth time (1:1, 27; 2:3; 2:4a) this is used during the creation narrative- Once at the beginning and the end of the narrative, and at the creation of animate life and human life (Matthews).

*great sea creatures-* Pagan religions worshipped not only the sun, moon, and stars but also mythical sea monsters (*tannin*).

*according to their kind-* Just as plant life, living creatures are created and reproduce according to their “kind” (*min*) with seed.

*it was good-* Because God is good and creates good things, and because the Plants, birds, sea life, earth life, and man will fill up an empty earth.



## Chapter 1

**Verse 22-** *God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”*

*God blessed them-* This is the first blessing recorded in the Bible. God commands animal, fish, and bird life to multiply and blesses them to do so. Reproduction is a blessing, and God grants new life as a gift to fulfill His own purposes.

EmptyFull

Day 1-Light

Day 4- Sun, moon, stars

Day 2- Sky and Seas

Day 5- Bird, sea life

Day 3- Dry land

Day 6- Man





## Chapter 1

**Verse 23-** *And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.*

*a fifth day-* It is clear in the six-day sequence that God's creative action is moving upward toward man as the crowning act of all creation!



## Chapter 1

**Verse 24-** *Then God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kind: livestock and crawling things and animals of the earth according to their kind"; and it was so.*

*"Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kind:-* This is the most detailed of all the descriptions of the creative days. Just as day three, there are two creative acts on this final day (animals and man).

*livestock-* (*behemah*) cattle and domestic animals

*crawling things-* (*remes*) rodents, reptiles, insects, etc.

*animals of the earth-* (*chayyah*) wild animals



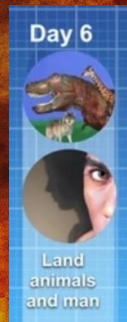


## Chapter 1

**Verse 25-** *God made the animals of the earth according to their kind, and the livestock according to their kind, and everything that crawls on the ground according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.*

This is a formula that we have seen before. First, God says it. Then, He performs it. Third, He sees or pronounces it “good.”

This is a reversal of the evolutionary thinking of today. All three categories of animals were created simultaneously. People today suppose that insects, amphibians, and land reptiles “developed” before birds (Morris).



## Chapter 1

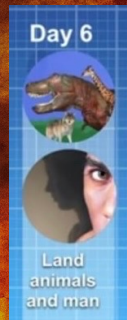
**Verse 26-** *Then God said, “Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the livestock and over all the earth, and over every crawling thing that crawls on the earth.”*

*Let Us make mankind in Our image-* Let Us make (*naaseh*- 1<sup>st</sup> person plural) The word for “image” is *tzelem* from its root *tsal*, which means “outline or shape of a shadow.”

“Likeness” is *demut* from its root *dam*, which is “blood.” It means “to resemble.”

These words are considered synonyms.

- God referring to Himself and the angels.
- God using the “royal we,” although He is referring only to Himself.
- **God speaking as a Trinity, of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**



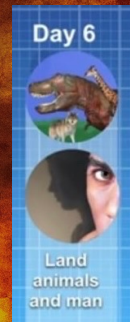


## Chapter 1

**Verse 27-** *So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

*man-* ('adam) from earth ('adamah). This is a generic term for "mankind" (including women). This highest creation will be explained in the next chapter.

*In His image (imago Dei)-* Plants are alive but not conscious. Animals are alive and conscious, but only man is self-conscious and has the power of critical (abstract) thought. Man is a trinity of body, soul, and spirit.



## Chapter 1

**Verse 27-** *So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

*In His image (imago Dei)-*

- God created man in His image (v. 27)
- God created man to have dominion (rule) over all the earth (v. 28)
- God created man to procreate and fill the earth (v. 28)
- God created man to enjoy the earth (v. 29)





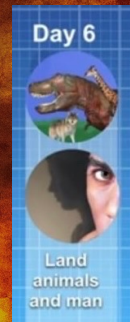
## Chapter 1

**Verse 28-** *God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

*God blessed them-* This is the first of three blessings in the creation narrative (1:22, 28, 2:3) on the fifth, sixth, and seventh day. He blesses both man and woman as the first husband and wife.

God gives four imperatives:

1. *Be fruitful and multiply-* Part of God’s blessing was in Him giving His creation the ability to procreate. He commanded them to do so.
2. *Fill the earth-* Populate the earth with people.
3. *Subdue it-* Use the many resources of the earth to live.
4. *Rule over creation-* Use creation for the purposes of living and procreating.



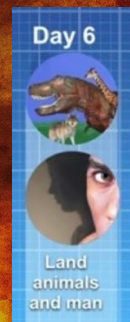
## Chapter 1

**Verse 29-** *Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you;*

*I have given you every plant-* God created vegetation and plant life (v. 12) for man to eat. Apparently, before the Fall or the Flood, every animal and Adam and Eve were vegetarians.

Later, God will give permission to eat meat, but not blood in Genesis 9:3-4:

*Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I have given everything to you, as I gave the green plant. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.*

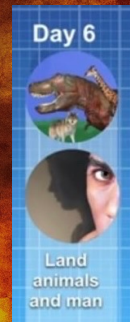




## Chapter 1

**Verse 30-** *and to every animal of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so.*

*I have given every green plant for food-* Apparently, all animals and birds are also herbivores.



## Chapter 1

**Verse 31-** *And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*

*it was very good-* God is creating a world without violence which made it a very (*me-od*) good world. There is no “survival of the fittest” because everything is perfect and healthy.

*the sixth day-* After six days of creation, the universe not only existed, but it was flawless in beauty, function, purpose, and potential. God saw all of it and saw that it was *very good*.

He is not only Creator but Judge of His creation. He is perfect, and He created a perfect world.





