

In **Genesis 1**, everything is created. When you think of Genesis, what comes to your mind?

**The Doctrine of Creation** – God’s act of creating the heavens and the earth out of nothing in the span of six days

What aspects of God do we learn from creation?

1. God is transcendent. – He is outside time and space. Can you think of examples of God’s transcendence?
2. God is immanent. – He is involved with his creation in designing, forming, and communicating. Can you think of examples of God’s immanence?
3. God is omnipotent. – He has unlimited power. Can you comprehend God’s omnipotence? What ways do we try to explain God’s omnipotence through the world’s eyes?
4. God is completely free. – He is free to create or not to create. He is under no timeframe or schedule or design restrictions. Have you ever thought of God as free and under not constraints? What does this mean?
5. God is detailed oriented – He wants to be revealed through the details in General Revelation and through the details of Special Revelation. God’s revelation naturally leads to worship. Who does God want to be revealed to? Why?

**God created everything for men and women to walk with Him and know Him.**

**Heb. 11:1-7** – “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.”

What do we hope for and what are we certain of?

“This is what the ancients were commended for.” The “ancients” are pre-Christian heroes of faith. Do you favor any?

“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.” What does this mean?

“By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings.” What does Abel’s sacrifice say about his faith and his character?

“And by faith he still speaks even though he is dead.” What does this mean?

“By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” Could God take you today because of your belief in him and your faith?

“By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.” What motivated Noah’s faith?

**Heb. 11:13-16** – “All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country – a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”

What does this scripture say to you? What country are you looking for?

**Why is faith important to understanding creation?**

“Faith is trusting that God’s word is powerful, and that what He has told us is accurate.” “Faith comes from the dependability and power of the person being trusted.” We do not have to have blind faith to trust God. He has shown us in the Bible that others before us have had faith in Him and He has kept His word. Do you trust the word?

**God created everything in six normal days to provide a structure of time for man to live by.**

Have you ever thought that God created time? Have you ever thought that time was created for you?

**Exodus 20:8-11** – God gives us the 10 commandments. “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord our God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”

God’s commandment about keeping the seventh day holy is patterned after His own schedule of work.

Why does God want us to keep this commandment about time and work?

“Most major divisions of time are based on astronomical cycles (the day, the month, and the year), but the seven-day week is not based on anything we can observe.” Why is that?

**Mark 2:28** - Jesus said: **“The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.”** What is Jesus telling us about the Sabbath and about time?

**Why is time so important in Scripture?** God reveals Himself in time. This is the very strong connection between the doctrine of creation and the doctrine of revelation.