

Book of Genesis: Chapter 1:1-5

Genesis, in Hebrew, means “beginning”. You can derive that the first book, Genesis, is about the beginning. This is the beginning of life, as well as the beginning of man succumbing to sin and death. This is also the beginning of God’s planned promise to man. Genesis begins the genealogy and follows select people and their line. To be unreservedly transparent, it appears God’s intent is to inform us of the complete genealogical line of all the families.

Verse 1-2

¹*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

²*And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*

In verse one, the book begins by saying, “In the beginning God...” which shows that God always existed. The first sentence in the Bible already holds the answer and the rebuttal to the “debate” of God having been “created” and establishes His existence (I think the idea of the debate is absurd). God is the Creator and He is omnipotent¹, omnipresent², and omniscient³. The Bible has never sought and will never seek to prove the existence of God, because it assumes the existence of God, and if you ask me, in my opinion, is the proof of His existence. God can be seen in His creation. Romans 1:19 says, “*Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.*” The Bible begins with three words, “*In the beginning...*” which means that you cannot go back any further. You might be thinking, “What was before the beginning?” God is The only answer I can give with 100% certainty to your question. You could also approach it this way with this train of thought:

How would we know what happened in the beginning if there was not a human present to witness it? There would have had to have been a person or persons there to witness and or create it to inform the future generations about what occurred.

By removing God, we do not have a beginning. It is impossible to create something from nothing. A creation needs a creator. I believe Chuck Smith made a great point addressing the point if God, the Creator, was removed and he said:

If I eliminate God, I've got a big problem. In the beginning, what? In the beginning, a mass of gases floating in space. Well, that's not the beginning. Where did the mass of gases come from? Where did the space come from? Now it seems that ultimately every child will ask you, "Where did God come from?" And for that, we have no adequate answer. He always existed. He is self-existent. He has existed from the beginning.

The next question I had for a long time was, “How long ago was ‘the beginning’ and how long did it take for God to finish His creation?” Here is the answer I came up with, and it’s a big one... the answer is: Who knows? To answer that question, the Lord knows, but the simple truth is, if man is on this earth, we will never know. Looking at Britannica, the earth is estimated to be between 4.0 - 4.6 billion years old. However, if you look at Answers in Genesis, they conclude that the earth is somewhere near 6,000 years old. Here’s the conclusion I came to about this, man’s science is often fallible and cannot stand on

¹ Omnipotent - Refers to the ability to do anything and everything.

² Omnipresent - The state of being present in all places.

³ Omniscient - Refers to a person who has all knowledge.

its own without the Bible. Therefore, you can infer that man's theory of the earth's age is wrong, because of how far we have turned from the Lord and His word.

Verse 3-5

³*And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.*

⁴*And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.*

⁵*And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.*

In verse one, we read that God created heaven and the Earth, which could be interpreted to mean our universe. This can be understood this way by realizing that the sky and space are often referred to as "the heavens" as well as concluding that the universe could not just appear from nothing. The Earth was intricately placed (approximately) 93 million miles from the sun. If the Earth was closer to the sun, we would burn; if it was further, we would freeze. This is not mere happenstance, but divinely planned and created. Let me press further, if we remove God from this, then that means not only is the Earth randomly located 93 million miles from the sun, but also just so happens to be here from the compression of gasses and explosions and cooling, as well as just so happens to have the special atmospheric conditions to support lifeforms. It also just so happens that two-thirds of the earth is covered with water. Whether you want to believe it, the universe has a clear design. The word "created," in Hebrew, is "bara," which translates to creating something out of nothing, which only a divine entity is capable of doing. I, a man, cannot create something from nothing... I wish I could because I would create a plane. The Hebrew word, "asa," means the assembling together of existing materials. I may not know how to make a plane from existing materials, but I have the aptitude to learn, but I can not make those materials I need to appear from thin air.

It is capricious for the Lord, our God, to create something formless and void. The 45th chapter of Isaiah attests to this. There are multiple theories that try to understand the amount of time that passed during the creation period, but quite frankly, I am unconvinced we will figure out the answer without God telling us so I will not be explaining this, but I will refer you Pastor Chuck Smith who explained these theories very well. You can find his explanation on this subject in Genesis 1:1-8 (1979-82 Audio) in the Blue Letter Bible application.

The Lord created all this on the first "day." I am not saying that this was in our understanding of the day, but maybe the Lord had this written like this for our understanding. I say this because like this, we cannot understand how the Lord knows us, knows everything we will do and choose, yet still gives us the free will to choose. I just have the faith to say that I do have free will, and I will only understand what the Lord wants me to understand for what He does is incomprehensible.

We will not understand the entirety of the Creation that is in the Bible, but what we can appreciate is that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were there since the beginning, and the Lord had a plan from "Genesis," the beginning.