



# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION AND DISTANT STARLIGHT

## Part 1

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### INTRODUCTION

In our last session on theDove, we discussed the age of the universe and the earth from a secular scientific and biblical perspective which presents a dichotomy of ages as follows:

- According to modern science, the age of the universe is about 13.5 billion years, and the age of the earth is about 4.5 billion years.
- According to the biblical definition of a “day” as used in the creation account in Genesis, which from a Hebrew perspective is 24 calendar hours, the biblical age of the universe and earth (which is derived from the Hebrew word day and then applied to biblical chronology) is about 6-7,000 years old.

However, we also discussed the perspective that if the universe and earth is somewhere between 6-7,000 years old, or even 15,000 years old, there is a significant difference between thousands of years of age and billions of years of age. However, if the universe is only thousands of years old, then how is distant

starlight explained when some galaxies and stars are billions and billions of light years away from the earth, but their light is visible to the earth? Let's begin this session by looking at a biblical and scientific approach to the 7-day creation account as delineated in Genesis and also looking at the distant starlight problem when we look at the fourth day of creation.

This series will be based on the fact that the biblical account of creation as found in the first chapter of Genesis is simple and straightforward, and clearly states that *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."* Genesis then goes on to say that God created the universe and man in six days, and then rested on the seventh day. Period! End of sentence! You must either accept or reject it. If this sounds rather straightforward, that's because the Bible is straightforward and has not changed since it was written! When reading the Bible, remember three basic concepts as follows:

- The first concept is the inerrancy of the entire Bible as outlined in 2 Timothy 3:16, *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."* This verse tells us that **ALL** scripture is inspired by God and is suitable for instruction and equipping us in our daily lives.
- The second concept is the principle of simplicity and goes something like this; *"We ought to take what God says and understand that if God said it, that's probably what He meant, or else He would have said it a different way."* This principle comes from a simplistic perspective that means God *"Said it so we can understand it."*
- The third concept also comes from a simplistic approach but is taken directly from scripture and is known as the principle of straightforwardness; *"All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing crooked or perverted in them. They are all straightforward to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge," Proverbs 8:8-9.* This principle is similar to the first and second principles as it focuses on the straightforward truth of scripture.

Additionally, why is evolution (or secular humanism) presented as fact and creation as a religion that is not scientifically acceptable? According to noted Theologian Dr. Clark Pinnock, *"The reason evolution is believed and taught as fact is not due to the evidence for it, but rather due to the need for it!"* This statement means that evolution does not hold anyone accountable for anything as you are nothing more than an evolving animal! Opposed to this viewpoint is a creator who created man and holds him/her accountable to God. Most people are unwilling to submit their lives to God, and there you have the whole debate in a nutshell!

Although there are numerous reasons why evolution is scientifically impossible, the evidence against evolution constantly increases as science continually makes new discoveries that further validate the accuracy of the Bible (both in creation and archaeology). A prime example is the Law of Biogenesis that can be found in most Biology textbooks. This law clearly states that life can only come from pre-existing life, yet evolution asks that we believe that somehow, someday, chemicals bonded together in a pre-biotic ocean and created life. If the Law of Biogenesis is correct, then evolution is a false assumption. Additionally, a Christian can know beyond a shadow of a doubt that the Bible is accurate from a scientific perspective if the evidence is examined without the input of the current secular scientific bias. The difficulty with this perspective is that 1 Peter 3:19 says *"And always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is within you, with meekness and fear, having a good conscience."* The obvious problem with the application of this verse is that Christians do not hold a PhD. in the sciences, so how do you have a basic understanding of the why and how God created the universe in 7 days, and the biblical account is accurate?

Hopefully, this series will give you a better understanding of what God said He did during those 7 days. Remember, He was the only one present during the creation, therefore, He is the most qualified to give an account of how creation actually happened. So, let's begin by considering each day of the 7 day creation account as outlined in chapters 1&2 in the first book of the Bible; Genesis.

*Note: All following biblical quotes are taken from the New English Translation (NET Bible) unless otherwise noted.*

## 7 DAYS OF CREATION IN GENESIS

The book of Genesis gives vital information concerning the *origin* of all things - - and therefore the *meaning* of all things. The word Genesis means "**origin**" and the book of Genesis gives the only true and reliable account of the origin of all the basic entities of the universe and life. As an example:

- Origin of the universe.
- Origin of order and complexity.
- Origin of the solar system.
- Origin of the atmosphere and hydrosphere.
- Origin of life.
- Origin of man.
- Origin of marriage.
- Origin of evil.
- Origin of language.

- Origin of government.
- Origin of culture.
- Origin of nations.
- Origin of religion.
- Origin of the chosen people.

Interestingly, no other book of the Bible is quoted as copiously or referred to so frequently, in other books of the Bible, as is Genesis. Even more noteworthy is the perspective of *Anticipation of Eternity* which simply means that Paradise was lost in Genesis, but becomes Paradise regained in Revelation. The first verse of Genesis is the foundational verse of the Bible as some scholars believe that it is the most important verse in the Bible. It is often pointed out that if a person really believes Genesis 1:1, they will not find it difficult to believe anything else recorded in the Bible. Therefore, let's specifically look at the creation account in Genesis.

## **FIRST DAY**

### **GENESIS 1:1**

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

- This is the title to Chapter 1.
- What is the how, when, and why of this verse?  
How:
  - God spoke it into existence (*bara*).
  - 6 literal days.
  - pattern of work for 6 days, 1 day of rest (Ex 20:11).
 When:
  - about 6,000 to 7,000 years ago.
 Why:
  - display his glory (Rev 4:11).
  - eternally be praised and glorified (Isa 43:7&21).
  - display redemption (Gal 4:4-5).

### **GENESIS 1:2**

*"Now the earth was without shape and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the watery deep, but the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the water."*

- This verse provides information about the state of things when God spoke.
- The next verse (v3) begins the narrative sequence proper.

Now, let's go back and look at verses 1&2 and consider a major translation problem that is prevalent in the church and Christian academia today:

### GENESIS 1:1-2

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was without shape and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the watery deep, but the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the water."*

- When this verse is read as written, it appears to flow from the beginning of verse one to the end of verse two. However, there are some alternative viewpoints that translate this verse as follows:

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

- Then, in the next verse the word *"was"* is retranslated or changed to the word *"became!"* So, the next verse (v2) would then read as follows:

*"The earth became without shape and empty; and darkness was over the surface of the watery deep, but the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the water."*

- This subtle change allows a gap of time to be inserted between the first and second verse. Why? Because billions and millions of years can then be inserted between these two verses which allows for the billions and millions of years that evolution requires! This basic viewpoint is known by various names such as the Gap Theory, Ruin Reconstruction Theory, Day Age Theory, and so on. Currently, the most popular viewpoint is known as the "Progressive Creation" movement, but the basic idea of a gap between the first and second verses is still the same. From a simplistic viewpoint, all of these theories can be summarized with some or all of the following beliefs:
  - gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2.
  - retranslate "was" to "became."
  - Satan fell, God judged with a catastrophe (this allegedly caused the gap).
  - the six days are a recreation.
  - earth and universe are billions of years old.
  - creation days are long periods of time.
  - death and bloodshed existed before Adam and Eve.
  - and finally, the Noahic flood was local, not global.
- Although these viewpoints are contrary to scripture, they have, nonetheless, become very popular as evolution can become an integral part of the creation account. However, consider the following verse and quote:

- "For this is what the Lord says, the one who created the sky; He is the true God, the one who formed the earth and made it; He established it, **He did not create it without order, He formed it to be inhabited**, I am the Lord, I have no peer." Isa 45:18.
- *"Probably, so far as I know, there is no professor of Hebrew or Old Testament at any world-class university who does not believe that the writer(s) of Genesis 1-11 intended to convey to their readers that creation took place in a series of 6 days which were the same as the days of 24 hours we now experience, and Noah's flood was understood to be worldwide."*

*James Barr, Regis Professor of Hebrew, Oxford University*

- Now, let's go back to Genesis 1:1-2, and read it (without any modern and/or scientific help) the way it was originally written, and consider some of the meanings of the original Hebrew text:

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was without shape and empty, and darkness was over the surface of the watery deep, but the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the water."*

- *In the beginning God*: This is the beginning of space, time, energy, and matter as we know it. The Hebrew word "God" means God of Gods.
- *Created*: God created something new, fresh, and perfect.
- *Heavens and the earth*: Characterized by fixed laws; Jer 33:25.
- *Without shape and empty*: Unbounded mass of water.
- *Darkness*: Symbolizes what opposes God; sin; Isa 45:7.
- *Watery deep*: Abyss like deep! Surrounds and underlies the earth; Gen 7:11.
- *Spirit of God moving over the surface*: God was personally involved!

## SUMMARY

- Genesis affirms everything as the product of God's creative act.
- God spoke it into existence. Earth was originally all water.
- Marked the beginning of space, time, energy, and matter (as we know it).
- God was actively involved, fixed laws that remain today.

### Genesis 1:3-5

*"God said, "Let there be light." And there was light! God saw that the light was good, so God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness "night." There was evening, and there was morning, marking the first day."*

- *God said:* Introduces the law (commandments that must be obeyed).
- *Let there be light:* Light spectrum and associated laws. Includes gravity, electromagnetic spectrum, etc.
- *And God saw the light, that it was good:* Reflection. Only light was good.
- *God separated light from darkness:* Light was created to dispel darkness.
- The Hebrew word for day is “*yom*” which can be defined as various periods of time. However, *yom* always means 24 hours when any of the following are present (also see Ex 20:11):
  - preceded by a numeric.
  - with evening and morning.
  - associated with night.
- In a biblical context, the word day means 24 hours. So, if the 7 days of creation are seven 24 hour days, how long ago did creation take place? The answer is about 6,189 years ago (the exact time for the Egyptian Sojourn and the Israelite Monarchy is not known, but is likely in the hundreds of years, if at all) and is figured as follows from biblical chronology (going backwards):
  - 2015 years since present to BC/AD.
  - 2,170 years from BC/AD to Abraham.
  - 352 years from Abraham to the flood.
  - 1,656 years from the flood to creation.
- In the context of creation being approximately 6,000 to 7,000 years old, the following quote is more than interesting:

***“There isn’t much in the way of observational evidence in astronomy to conflict with a very young age for the sun and earth; less than 7,000 years.”***

*Evolutionist John Eddy, one of the world’s leading Astronomers*

## SUMMARY

- Earth was round (Prov 8:27, Isa 40:22).
- Earth was rotating, cyclical (evening and morning).
- Intrinsic light (light was good).
- God separated light from darkness.
- Word “*day*” is used.

## SECOND DAY

### Genesis 1:6-8

***God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters and let it separate water from water.” So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. It was so. God called the expanse “sky.” There was evening, and there was morning, a second day.***

- *This portion does not give the specific distance/location of the upper waters. As a result, there is a significant amount of conjecture on this section of scripture. The vapor canopy version is currently the most popular.*
- *Expanse*: Expanse of air pressure between the surface of the sea and the clouds; separating the water below from the water above.
- *"Sky"*: The name God gave to expanse. Sky like a molten mirror, shiny (Job 37:18, Dan 12:3, Ezek 1:22). Vapor canopy version.
- *"It was so."* Indicates that it happened the way God designed it (word and event).

## SUMMARY

- Shore-less ocean.
- Absence of the word "good."
- Waters divided (above and below).
- Expanse (sky).
- 3 heavens (2 Cor 12:1-4):
  - earth's atmosphere.
  - interstellar space.
  - abode of God.

## THIRD DAY

### Genesis 1:9-13

*God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place and let dry ground appear." It was so. God called the dry ground "land" and the gathered waters he called "seas." God saw that it was good. God said, "let the land produce vegetation: plants yielding seeds according to their kinds." It was so. The land produced vegetation – plants yielding seeds according to their kinds, and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. God saw that it was good. There was evening and morning, a third day.*

- *Dry ground appears*: God named this "land." Land is singular.
- *Gathered waters*: God named this "seas." Seas are plural.
- *Vegetation*: Grass, plants, and trees. Stresses abundant productivity God created.
- *Plants, trees, seeds, and kinds*: Introduces DNA.

## SUMMARY

- First day, water based earth, light divided from darkness.



- Second day, waters were divided.
- Third day, land divided from lower waters.
- Ground/land is singular (probably one continent, Pangaea, Rodina, etc).
- Grass, herbs, trees. Made full grown, “apparent age” (seed was in themselves).
- Mentions kinds (DNA). Order not chaos; boundaries.
- Vegetation does not have the “breath of life.”

## **FOURTH DAY**

### **GENESIS 1:14-19**

*God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be signs to indicate seasons and days and years, and let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. God made two great lights – the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night. He made the stars also. God placed the lights in the expanse of the sky to shine on the earth, to preside over the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good.*

*There was evening and morning, a fourth day.*

- *Let there be lights:* Light was created before the light bearers.
- *Let them be for signs:* The two great lights were important to fix the days and seasons for the worshipping community.
- *Two great lights:* Created entities, not deities. Text does not give them names.
- *Stars:* Added as a third object of the verb “made.”
- *Separate light from darkness:* Light to divide the darkness from the light.

### **SUMMARY**

- Lights are plural here but singular in verse three. Two great lights; not named
- Attaches lights to generators
- Separation, signs, dominate, and seasons
- Days one to three there is a naming by God, days five to six there is a blessing by God. On day four there is neither
- It was so, and it remains so today
- He made the stars also.....

*“Look at the sky! Who created all these heavenly lights? He is the one who leads out their ranks; he calls them all by name. Because of his absolute power and awesome strength, not one of them is missing” Psa 40:26*

*"The heavens declare God's glory; the sky displays his handiwork. Day after day it speaks out; night after night it reveals his greatness" Psa 19:1-2*

Factors necessary for life on this planet. *Note: This list is steadily expanding:*

- Habitable zone ("Goldilocks Zone").
- Liquid water.
- Protected by gas giant planets.
- Within circumstellar habitable zone.
- Nearly circular orbit.
- Oxygen rich atmosphere.
- Correct mass.
- Orbited by large moon.
- Magnetic field and plate tectonics.
- Ratio of liquid water and continents.
- Terrestrial planet.
- Moderate rate of rotation.

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# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION AND DISTANT STARLIGHT

## Part 2

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### INTRODUCTION

In our last two sessions on theDove, we began to discuss the Seven Days of Creation from a biblical perspective that began with the first two days of the creation account. However, before we continue with the third day, let's briefly pause for a moment and consider a phrase that we have used on theDove numerous times, and ask the question - - what is the meaning of the phrase "*being biblical?*" From a practical perspective, we could say that being biblical applies to the contents of the Bible and the mindset that underscores the accuracy and certainty of our faith. Additionally, we could also say that the foundation of all truth originates from the Creator and what He has specifically revealed to us through the scriptures. However, as we have been discussing the Seven Days Of Creation, let's consider three viewpoints as applied to the creation account in Genesis as follows:

- **God's capability:**

God has provided a detailed account in Genesis of His creation account that was accomplished over the period of seven calendar days. Although there

are some questions on why God took seven days to create the universe, earth, and man, God was also capable of creating everything in one nano-second or one year. However, He used a model of a week (work for six days, and rest for one day for a total of seven days - - see Exodus 20:11). Additionally, God has provided clear and abundant evidence in the things that are made so His eternal power and Godhead are clearly seen (*"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse - - Romans 1:20"*). Therefore, we are not without excuse to know who the creator is (*"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows his handiwork - - Psalm 19:1-3"*).

- **The written Word of God:**

Hebrews tells us that belief in the creation is a test of faith we must face, (*"By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible - - Hebrews 11:3"*). Additionally, without faith, it is impossible to please God (*"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him - - Hebrews 11:6"*).

- **God the creator:**

The secular, non-theistic worldview is in direct opposition to a creator. Humanism, evolution, and modern science are more than willing to provide an alternative to a God who not only created the universe and man, but also holds mankind accountable for his/her destiny (see Genesis 1:1 and John 3:16).

## 7 DAYS OF CREATION

### THIRD DAY

#### Genesis 1:9-13

*God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place and let dry ground appear." It was so. God called the dry ground "land" and the gathered waters he called "seas." God saw that it was good. God said, "let the land produce vegetation: plants yielding seeds according to their kinds." It was so. The land produced vegetation - - plants yielding seeds according to their kinds, and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. God saw that it was good. There was evening and morning, a third day.*

- *Dry ground appears:* God named this "land." Land is singular.
- *Gathered waters:* God named this "seas." Seas are plural.

- *Vegetation*: Grass, plants, and trees. Stresses abundant productivity God created.
- *Plants, trees, seeds, and kinds*: Introduces DNA.

## SUMMARY

- First day, water based earth, light divided from darkness.
- Second day, waters were divided.
- Third day, land divided from lower waters.
- Ground/land is singular (probably one continent, Pangaea, Rodina, etc).
- Grass, herbs, trees. Made full grown, “apparent age” (seed was in themselves).
- Mentions kinds (DNA). Order not chaos; boundaries.
- Vegetation does not have the “*breath of life*.”

## FOURTH DAY

### GENESIS 1:14-19

*God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be signs to indicate seasons and days and years, and let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. God made two great lights - - the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night. He made the stars also. God placed the lights in the expanse of the sky to shine on the earth, to preside over the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good.*  
*There was evening and morning, a fourth day.*

### ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE:

*“The physical structure of the universe is exactly what it must be in order to support life.”*

- *Let there be lights*: Light was created before the light bearers.
- *Let them be for signs*: The two great lights were important to fix the days and seasons for the worshipping community.
- *Two great lights*: Created entities, not deities. Text does not give them names.
- *Stars*: Added as a third object of the verb “made.”
- *Separate light from darkness*: Light to divide the darkness from the light.

## SUMMARY

- Lights are plural here but singular in verse three. Two great lights; not named
- Attaches lights to generators.

- Separation, signs, dominate, and seasons.
- Days one to three there is a naming by God, days five to six there is a blessing by God. On day four there is neither.
- It was so, and it remains so today.
- He made the stars also.....

*“Look at the sky! Who created all these heavenly lights? He is the one who leads out their ranks; he calls them all by name. Because of his absolute power and awesome strength, not one of them is missing” Psa 40:26*

*“The heavens declare God’s glory; the sky displays his handiwork. Day after day it speaks out; night after night it reveals his greatness” Psa 19:1-2*

#### **FACTORS NECESSARY FOR LIFE ON THIS PLANET:**

- Habitable zone (“Goldilocks Zone”).
- Liquid water.
- Protected by gas giant planets.
- Within circumstellar habitable zone.
- Nearly circular orbit.
- Oxygen rich atmosphere.
- Correct mass.
- Orbited by large moon.
- Magnetic field and plate tectonics.
- Ratio of liquid water and continents.
- Terrestrial planet.
- Moderate rate of rotation.
- *Note: This list is steadily expanding. For an expanded overview of this subject, see the DVD Privileged Planet by Illustra Media).*

#### **THE EARTH IS NOW READY AND HABITABLE FOR MANKIND:**

- Atmosphere.
- Land and water.
- Food source.
- Sun, moon, and seasons.

### **DISTANT STARLIGHT**

As previously mentioned in the introduction to Part 1, there is the perspective that if the universe and earth is somewhere between 6-7,000 years old, or even 15,000 years old, there is a significant difference between thousands of years of age and billions of years of age. However, if the universe is only thousands of

years old, then how is distant starlight explained when some galaxies and stars are billions and billions of light years away from the earth, but their light is visible to the earth? Moreover, go back and look at Genesis 1:14-19 and notice that the lights in the expanse of the sky were created to indicate seasons, days, and years. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the light from the lights in the expanse of the sky was visible to the first humans on earth. Let's look at some answers to this problem from a biblical and scientific viewpoint (most of the following explanations will require that you *"think outside the box"*).

### **CREATED VISIBLE LIGHT**

Since God was the creator of the universe, He could have easily created the light so it was instantly visible. However, since modern science rejects God as the creator (and also rejects God), this answer is not acceptable to modern science but can be acceptable to Christians who believe in the Genesis creation account. Remember that God is not limited to natural methods as we are.

### **SPEED OF LIGHT**

It is known that light has been faster in the past. As a result, it is postulated that light was about  $5 \times 10$  to the eleventh power faster than today.

### **GRAVITATIONAL TIME DILATION**

Due to gravity (and Einstein's Theory of Relativity), we know that gravity is capable of affecting the speed of time (and clocks). As an example, a clock at sea level (Royal Observatory, Greenwich) will run slower than a clock at 5,280-feet (National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado). When this difference in time is applied to millions and billions of light years of distance, it is easy to see how there can be a significant difference of time and how our clocks on earth run significantly slower than the clocks of galaxies billions of light years away (as an example, when dealing with different time zones, consider that a plane can leave Kentucky at 4 pm and arrive in Colorado at 4 pm). Therefore, Einstein's physics tells us that it literally takes no time at all for light to travel from a distant galaxy to the earth as far as the light is concerned and from the earth's perspective.

### **ANISOTROPHIC SYNCHRONY CONVENTION**

Contrary to popular belief, it is possible for light to move instantaneously, even today. So, the amount of time it takes for light to travel from the most distant stars to earth is actually zero - - not only during Day Four of Creation, but today as well. This principle was discovered by Albert Einstein and shows that the light-travel problem is more about underlying assumptions than things we can observe and study with empirical science. Here is a brief overview of Einstein's findings:

- Velocity affects the passage of time, and it affects our measurement of length as well.



- Lengths and time-durations are not absolute but are relative to velocity. This is why Einstein's physics is often referred to as "*relativity*."
- The speed of light in one direction cannot be objectively measured, and so it must be agreed upon by convention. This stands in direct contrast to the round-trip speed of light, which is always constant. However, the round trip speed of light is objectively measurable.
- We are free to choose what the speed of light will be in one direction.
- For the sake of simplicity, many physicists choose to regard the speed of light as being the same in all directions.
- According to Einstein, it is legitimate to choose the speed of light in one direction. Therefore, we may choose the speed of light as being instantaneous when traveling toward the earth, providing the round-trip speed in empty space is always 186,000 miles per second. In this case, the light from distant stars takes no time at all to reach the earth since the light is traveling toward us.
- This convention could be called the "anisotropic synchrony convention" or ASC because it claims that light travels at different speeds in different directions (anisotropic).
- Interestingly, many of the predictions of the ASC model have already been confirmed.

## **FIFTH DAY**

### **GENESIS 1:20-23**

*God said, "Let the water swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." God created the great sea creatures and every living and moving thing with which the water swarmed, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." There was evening, and there was morning, a fifth day.*

- *Swarm with swarms*: Emphasize the abundant fertility (Ex 1:7).
- *Let birds fly*: Stresses a swarming flight.
- *Great sea creatures*: Underscore that these creatures, even the great ones are part of God's perfect creation.
- *God blessed them*: God endowed them with the capacity to reproduce.

## SUMMARY

- By the fifth day, there is a water canopy, seas, earth, atmosphere, heavenly bodies, seasons, light attached to generators, and vegetation.
- Only vegetation, birds, and creatures in the seas have been created to this point in the creation account.
- Creatures have been endowed with the ability to reproduce.

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# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION

## Part 3

Aired on theDove, May 3, 2011

Perry Atkinson, Bob Just, and John Mittendorf

### INTRODUCTION

In our last several sessions on theDove, we began to discuss the Seven Days of Creation from a biblical perspective that began with the first day of the creation account and has now taken us to the end of the fourth day. Let's continue with the end of the fourth day and then look at the following days (as time allows).

## 7 DAYS OF CREATION

### SUMMARY OF DAYS 1-3

- **First day**, water based earth, light divided from darkness.
- **Second day**, waters were divided.
- **Third day**, land divided from lower waters.
- Ground/land is singular (probably one continent, Pangaea, Rodina, etc).
- Grass, herbs, trees. Made full grown, "apparent age" (seed was in themselves).
- Mentions kinds (DNA). Order not chaos; boundaries.
- Vegetation does not have the "*breath of life*."

## FOURTH DAY

Before we look at day four, it is important to remember that when the vastness of the heavens and universe is contemplated (and science still does not know or understand the vastness of the universe), the answer to the origin of the universe is found in Genesis 1:1 - - God made the universe and all of its contents. He spoke them into existence. The vastness, complexity, beauty and the sheer number of the contents of the universe all reveal the glory and the wisdom of an all-powerful Creator. David celebrated this fact in Psalm 8:3-4 - - *"When I consider Your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?"*

Additionally, also keep in mind that God accomplishes His creative work by *fiat* (let there be). There is no process and/or passage of time. That which He creates comes into being instantly by His word alone. In the words of the Psalmist - - *"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deep in the storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast"* - - Psalm 33:6-9.

### GENESIS 1:14-19

*God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be signs to indicate seasons and days and years, and let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights - - the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night. He made the stars also. God placed the lights in the expanse of the sky to shine on the earth, to preside over the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good.*

*There was evening and morning, a fourth day.*

### ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE:

*"The physical structure of the universe is exactly what it must be in order to support life."*

- *Let there be lights:* Light was created before the light bearers.
- *Let them be for signs:* The two great lights were important to fix the days and seasons for the worshipping community.
- *Two great lights:* Created entities, not deities. Text does not give them names.
- *Stars:* Added as a third object of the verb "made."

- *Separate light from darkness: Light to divide the darkness from the light.*

## SUMMARY

- Lights are plural here but singular in verse three (Genesis 1:3). Two great lights; not named
- Attaches lights to generators.
- Separation, signs, dominate, and seasons.
- Days one to three there is a naming by God, days five to six there is a blessing by God. On day four there is neither.
- It was so, and it remains so today.
- He made the stars also.....

*“Look at the sky! Who created all these heavenly lights? He is the one who leads out their ranks; he calls them all by name. Because of his absolute power and awesome strength, not one of them is missing” Psa 40:26*

*“The heavens declare God’s glory; the sky displays his handiwork. Day after day it speaks out; night after night it reveals his greatness” Psa 19:1-2*

## FACTORS NECESSARY FOR LIFE ON THIS PLANET:

- Habitable zone (“Goldilocks Zone”).
- Liquid water.
- Protected by gas giant planets.
- Within circumstellar habitable zone.
- Nearly circular orbit.
- Oxygen rich atmosphere.
- Correct mass.
- Orbited by large moon.
- Magnetic field and plate tectonics.
- Ratio of liquid water and continents.
- Terrestrial planet.
- Moderate rate of rotation.
- *Note: This list is steadily expanding. For an expanded overview of this subject, see the DVD Privileged Planet by Illustra Media).*

## SECULAR EVOLUTIONARY CONFUSION

Supposedly, the universe originally came from the same source, the “Big Bang,” and the earth and planets of our solar system were once part of the sun. If this were true, we should expect that our planets should have a similar composition of elements, all similar to and derived from the sun. However, they do not!

Ninety-eight percent of the sun is hydrogen and helium with our planets being markedly different in composition and appearance. Interestingly, Venus, Uranus, and Pluto rotate the opposite direction from the rest of the planets.

#### **THE EARTH IS NOW READY AND HABITABLE FOR MANKIND:**

- Atmosphere.
- Land and water.
- Food source.
- Sun, moon, and seasons.

### **DISTANT STARLIGHT**

As previously mentioned in the introduction to Part 1, there is the perspective that if the universe and earth is somewhere between 6-7,000 years old, or even 15,000 years old, there is a significant difference between thousands of years of age and billions of years of age. However, if the universe is only thousands of years old, then how is distant starlight explained when some galaxies and stars are billions and billions of light years away from the earth, but their light is visible to the earth? Moreover, go back and look at Genesis 1:14-19 and notice that the lights in the expanse of the sky were created to indicate seasons, days, and years. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the light from the lights in the expanse of the sky was visible to the first humans on earth. Let's look at some answers to this problem from a biblical and scientific viewpoint (most of the following explanations will require that you *"think outside the box"*).

#### **CREATED VISIBLE LIGHT**

Since God was the creator of the universe, He could have easily created the light so it was instantly visible. However, since modern science rejects God as the creator (and also rejects God), this answer is not acceptable to modern science but can be acceptable to Christians who believe in the Genesis creation account. Remember that God is not limited to natural methods as we are.

#### **SPEED OF LIGHT**

It is known that light has been faster in the past. It is postulated that light was about  $5 \times 10^{10}$  to the eleventh power faster than today.

#### **GRAVITATIONAL TIME DILATION**

Due to gravity (and Einstein's Theory of Relativity), we know that gravity is capable of affecting the speed of time (and clocks). As an example, a clock at sea level (Royal Observatory, Greenwich) will run slower than a clock at 5,280-feet (National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado). When this difference in time is applied to millions and billions of light years of distance, it is easy to see how there can be a significant difference of time and how our clocks on earth run

significantly slower than the clocks of galaxies billions of light years away (as an example, when dealing with different time zones, consider that a plane can leave Kentucky at 4 pm and arrive in Colorado at 4 pm). Therefore, Einstein's physics tells us that it literally takes no time at all for light to travel from a distant galaxy to the earth as far as the light is concerned and from the earth's perspective.

### **ANISOTROPHIC SYNCHRONY CONVENTION**

Contrary to popular belief, it is possible for light to move instantaneously, even today. So, the amount of time it takes for light to travel from the most distant stars to earth is actually zero - - not only during Day Four of Creation, but today as well. This principle was discovered by Albert Einstein and shows that the light-travel problem is more about underlying assumptions than things we can observe and study with empirical science. Here is a brief overview of Einstein's findings:

- Velocity affects the passage of time, and it affects our measurement of length as well.
- Lengths and time-durations are not absolute but are relative to velocity. This is why Einstein's physics is often referred to as "*relativity*."
- The speed of light in one direction cannot be objectively measured, and so it must be agreed upon by convention. This stands in direct contrast to the round-trip speed of light, which is always constant. However, the round trip speed of light is objectively measurable.
- We are free to choose what the speed of light will be in one direction.
- For the sake of simplicity, many physicists choose to regard the speed of light as being the same in all directions.
- According to Einstein, it is legitimate to choose the speed of light in one direction. Therefore, we may choose the speed of light as being instantaneous when traveling toward the earth, providing the round-trip speed in empty space is always 186,000 miles per second. In this case, the light from distant stars takes no time at all to reach the earth since the light is traveling toward us.
- This convention could be called the "anisotropic synchrony convention" or ASC because it claims that light travels at different speeds in different directions (anisotropic).
- Interestingly, many of the predictions of the ASC model have already been confirmed.



## FIFTH DAY

### GENESIS 1:20-23

*God said, "Let the water swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." God created the great sea creatures and every living and moving thing with which the water swarmed, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." There was evening, and there was morning, a fifth day.*

- *God created them:* Verse 21 explicitly says "God created them." The Hebrew word is *bara* which always speaks of direct creation. It explicitly rules out the possibility that these creatures evolved through some ages-long process.
- *Swarm with swarms:* Emphasize the abundant fertility (Ex 1:7).
- *Let birds fly:* Stresses a swarming flight.
- *Great sea creatures:* Underscore that these creatures, even the great ones are part of God's perfect creation.
- *God blessed them:* God endowed them with the capacity to reproduce.

## SUMMARY

- By the fifth day, there is a water canopy, seas, earth, atmosphere, heavenly bodies, seasons, light attached to generators, and vegetation.
- Only vegetation, birds, and creatures in the seas have been created to this point in the creation account.
- Creatures have been endowed with the ability to reproduce.

## SIXTH DAY

### GENESIS 1:24-31

*God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds; cattle, creeping things, and wild animals, each according to its kind." It was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the cattle according to their kinds, and all the creatures that creep along the ground according to their kinds. God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, after our likeness, so they may rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move on the earth." God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he*

*created them, male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply! Fill the earth and subdue it! Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I now give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the entire earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the animals of the earth and to every bird of the air, and to all the creatures that move on the ground - everything that has the breath of life in it; I give every green plant for food." It was so. God saw all that he had made - and it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*

- *Each according to their kinds:* There are three groups of land animals; (1) things that creep (reptiles, rodents, etc), (2) wild animals (animals of the field), and (3) cattle (domesticated animals). General classifications without specific details.
- *Let us make:* The plural here is most naturally understood as referring to God and his heavenly court (1 Kings 22:19, Job 1:6-12, Isa 6:1-8), likely angels.
- *Mankind:* Although the Hebrew word is "Adam," the term here refers to humankind. This does not distinguish man from woman.
- *After our likeness:* Likely stresses the spiritual rather than the physical.
- *In our image:* God given mental and spiritual capacities that enables mankind to relate to God and serve him.
- *So that they may rule:* Mankind may rule the created order on behalf of the heavenly king and his royal court.
- *Male and female, he created them:* Another point of separation in God's creation.
- *God blessed them:* Endowed with the capacity to reproduce and be fruitful.
- *Fill the earth and subdue it:* Harness its potential for their benefit.
- *Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that moves on the ground:* Mankind has the responsibility of seeing to the welfare of that which is put under them and the privilege of using to their benefit.
- *I now give you every seed bearing plant on the face of the entire earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the animals of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to all the creatures that move on the ground - everything that has the breath of life in it - I give every green plant for food:* Although meat is not mentioned, it is generally accepted that everything with the breath of life were vegetarians until after the flood.
- *And it was very good:* This is the first time "very good" is used, which indicates that everything to this point in creation is "very good."

# SUMMARY

- Three kinds of animals; (1) creeping, (2) wild, and (3) domesticated.
- Mankind created.
- Mankind to rule over the earth.
- Mankind and animals were vegetarians.
- Everything is very good!

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# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION

## Part 4

Aired on theDove, June 7, 2011

Perry Atkinson, Bob Just, and John Mittendorf

### INTRODUCTION

In our recent sessions on theDove, we have been discussing the Seven Days of Creation from a biblical perspective that began with the first day of the creation account and has now taken us to the end of the fourth day. Let's continue with the fifth day and then look at the following days and events (as time allows).

## 7 DAYS OF CREATION

### SUMMARY OF DAYS 1-4

- **First day**, water based earth, light divided from darkness.
- **Second day**, waters were divided (upper and lower).
- **Third day**, land divided from lower waters.
  - Ground/land is singular (probably one continent, Pangaea, Rodina, etc).
  - Grass, herbs, trees. Made full grown, "apparent age" (seed was in themselves).
  - Mentions kinds (DNA). Order not chaos; boundaries.
  - Vegetation does not have the "*breath of life*."
- **Fourth day**, sun, moon, and stars created (light generators)
  - generators attached to light

## FIFTH DAY

### GENESIS 1:20-23

*God said, "Let the water swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." God created the great sea creatures and every living and moving thing with which the water swarmed, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." There was evening, and there was morning, a fifth day.*

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*on the earth." God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them, male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply! Fill the earth and subdue it! Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I now give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the entire earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the animals of the earth and to every bird of the air, and to all the creatures that move on the ground - everything that has the breath of life in it; I give every green plant for food." It was so. God saw all that he had made - and it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*

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## SUMMARY

- Three kinds of animals; (1) creeping, (2) wild, and (3) domesticated.
- Mankind created.
- Mankind to rule over the earth.
- Mankind and animals were vegetarians.
- Everything is very good!

## SEVENTH DAY

### GENESIS 2:1-4

*The heavens and the earth were completed with everything that was in them. By the seventh day God finished the work that he had been doing, and he ceased on the seventh day all the work that he had been doing. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy because on it he ceased all the work that he had been doing in creation. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created; when the LORD GOD made the earth and heavens.*

- *And He ceased*: Not a rest from exhaustion. It is cessation of the work.
- *Blessed the seventh day and made it holy*: The seventh day belongs to God as it was for rest from ordinary labor, to worship, and spiritual service.
- *This is the account*: Tracing of events from creation through the fall and judgment (2:4 to 4:26).
- *LORD GOD*: Introduces the name “Yahweh” or LORD.

### GENESIS 2:5-7

*Now no shrub of the field had yet grown on the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground. Springs would well up from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. The LORD God formed the man from the soil of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*

- *No shrub of the field had yet grown on the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted*: There was no general growth as there was no rain. Another way of saying “back before anything was growing.”
- *There was no man to cultivate the ground*: Anticipates the curse and expulsion from the garden.



- *Springs would well up from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground:* Subterranean springs or waterways, since the water “goes up.” Water would water all the surface of the fertile soil.
- *The LORD God formed:* Fashioned by plan or design. The term for an artists work.
- *Breath of life:* Life imparted to humans, spiritual understanding, and has a functioning conscience.

#### GENESIS 2:8-10

*The LORD God planted an orchard in the east, Eden; and there he placed the man he had formed. The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow from the soil, every tree that was pleasing to look at and good for food. (Now the tree of life, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil were in the middle of the orchard). Now a river flows from Eden to water the orchard, and from there it divides into four headstreams.*

- *Orchard:* Traditionally a garden, but the Hebrew text indicates it was an orchard of edible trees.
- *LORD God planted an orchard:* Suggests the orchard was created **after** man.
- *Eden:* Means pleasure in Hebrew.
- *Tree of life:* Produced life giving fruit. Also in Rev 22:2.
- *Tree of knowledge:* Tree would provide fruit, which when eaten, gave special knowledge of good and evil.
- *A river flows from Eden:* The narrative indicates Eden **still** existed in the narrator’s time.

#### GENESIS 2:15-17

*The LORD God took the man and placed him in the orchard in Eden to care for and maintain it. Then the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat fruit from every tree of the orchard, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will surely die.”*

- *To care for and maintain it:* To care for and maintain the trees of the orchard Not until after the fall is he condemned to cultivate the soil. The main focus is for man to keep God’s commandments.
- *Surely die:* Death is essentially separation from God.

#### GENESIS 2:18-22

*The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion for him who corresponds to him.” The LORD God formed out of the ground every living animal of the field and every bird of the air. He brought them*

*to the man to see what he would name them, and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man named all the animals, the birds of the air, and the living creatures of the field, but for Adam no companion who corresponded to him was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he was asleep, he took part of the man's side and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the part he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.*

- *It is not good for the man to be alone:* God instructed man to be fruitful and multiply, so he cannot comply by himself.
- *I will make a companion:* Helper. Does not suggest a subordinate. Woman would supply what man was lacking.
- *But for Adam, no companion who corresponded to him was found:* Adam realized the animals had companions/mates, Adam did not.
- *This one shall be called woman:* The text specifically says “of this one it will be said woman.” Eve is not specifically named until after the fall.
- *And unites with his wife:* Describes the inseparable relationship between the man and the woman in marriage as God intended it.

## SUMMARY

- God completed creation in six days and ceased on the seventh day. A model for our work week (Ex 20:11).
- Subterranean springs would water the ground. No rain.
- God planted an orchard in Eden with trees of life and knowledge.
- Man was given a choice of obeying or disobeying God.
- Adam names animals and realizes he does not have a companion.
- God creates woman.
- Satan likely fell soon after the seventh day. After the seventh day, everything was very good, and Eve had not yet conceived after being instructed to be fruitful and multiply.

## GENESIS 3:1-7

*Now the serpent was more shrewd than any of the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Is it really true that God said, You must not eat from any tree of the orchard?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit from the trees of the orchard; but concerning the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the orchard God said, You must not eat from it, and you must not touch it, or else you will die.” The serpent said to the woman, “Surely you will not die, for God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will open*

*and you will be like divine beings who know good from evil.” When the woman saw that the tree produced fruit that was good for food, was attractive to the eye, and was desirable for making one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate it. She also gave some of it to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

- *Now the serpent:* Satan comes in the disguise of a serpent or speaks through a serpent.
- *Was more shrewd:* Clever, crafty. The point is, the integrity of the man and woman is the focus of the serpent’s craftiness. At the beginning they are naked and he is shrewd. Afterward, they will be covered and he will be cursed.
- *That God said:* The serpent does not use the phrase LORD God because there is no covenant relationship. He only speaks of God, and draws the woman in so she also only speaks “of God.”
- *We may eat:* Notice the change between what the LORD God said and what the woman says. She also adds “you must not touch it.”
- *Surely, you will not die:* Satan is a liar, denying that there is a penalty for sin.
- *You will be like divine beings who know good and evil:* Satan implies that the only reason for the prohibition was that God was protecting the divine domain. If the man and woman were to eat, they would enter into that domain. The temptation is to overstep divinely established boundaries.
- *Was attractive to the eye:* Strong desires usually lead to taking.
- *And he ate it:* Apparently willingly.

### GENESIS 3:8-13

*Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God moving about in the orchard at the breezy time of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the orchard. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” The man replied, “I heard you moving about in the orchard, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.” And the LORD God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave me, she gave me some fruit from the tree and I ate it.” So the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman replied, “The serpent tricked me and I ate.”*

- *The sound of the LORD God moving about:* Likely, God is not pictured as taking an afternoon stroll, but as coming in a powerful windstorm to confront the

man and woman with their rebellion. Sound of the LORD may refer to God's thunderous roar which typically accompanies his appearance.

- *Where are you?:* Why are you hiding?
- *Who told you that you were naked?:* Reveals the LORD God's real concern.
- *Whom you gave me:* Ultimately, the man is blaming God for giving him the woman.
- *The serpent tricked me:* The blame game continues.

## SUMMARY

- Satan appears through a serpent to tempt Adam and woman.
- Satan initially tempts the woman. She received God's instructions through Adam.
- Satan distorts God's instructions.
- Adam and woman willingly sin by disobeying God.
- God confronts Adam and woman.
- Adam and woman use the "blame game."

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# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION

## Part 5

Aired on theDove, July 5, 2011

Perry Atkinson, Bob Just, and John Mittendorf

### INTRODUCTION

In our recent sessions on theDove, we have been discussing the Seven Days of Creation from a biblical perspective that began with the first day of the creation account and has now taken us to the second chapter of Genesis, verses 15-17. However, before we quickly review Genesis 2:15-17 and then continue with the following events as time allows, let's first look at a few facts about the book of Genesis that has provided the background for this series:

## GENESIS

### Author and Date

Genesis was written after the Exodus (1445 B.C.) but before the death of Moses (1405 B.C.). The following verses ascribe the authorship of Genesis to Moses - - Ex 17:14, Num 33:2, Josh 8:31, 1 Kin 2:3, 2 Kin 14:6, Ezra 6:18, Neh 13:1, Dan 9:11, Mal 4:4, Matt 8:4, Mark 12:26, Luke 16:29 and 24:27, John 5:46 and 7:22, Acts 15:1, Rom 10:19, 1 Cor 9:9, and 2 Cor 3:15). Moses is also credited with the authorship of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, which with Genesis, are known as the Pentateuch.

## **Time**

Interestingly, Genesis covers more time than the remaining books of the Bible combined!

## **3 Reasons Why Genesis Matters**

For many years, and with the help of secular science, there has been a concerted effort to either discredit the book of Genesis (particularly chapters 1-11), modify portions of the creation and Noahic flood account, or to remove Genesis altogether from the Bible. However, the suggestion that it is acceptable to remove and/or modify the book of Genesis from the level of divine inspiration is to denigrate the ability of God to clearly communicate His will through His written word. Quite simply, if Genesis doesn't matter, then God would have left it out of the Bible entirely. Let's look at three reasons why Genesis matters:

- It is an accurate historical narrative.
- It is God's inspired revelation.
- It is vital to knowing God and who He is.

Every New Testament writer refers to the early chapters of Genesis and treats them as historically true. Jesus Himself referred to every chapter of Genesis 1-7, including the creation of Adam and Eve and the murder of Abel. Over 50 New Testament passages and at least 68 individual verses directly reference Genesis 1-11, and this number does not include all the indirect references. Therefore, the implications are profound. If Genesis is wrong, the whole New Testament loses its credibility. Additionally, the historical events of Genesis 1-11 are woven into the New Testament's gospel presentation, so the gospel itself suffers if Genesis is not accurate!

# **7 DAYS OF CREATION**

## **SUMMARY OF DAYS 1-7**

- **First day:**
  - Water based earth, light divided from darkness.
- **Second day:**
  - Waters were divided (upper and lower).
- **Third day:**
  - Land divided from lower waters.
  - Ground/land is singular (probably one continent, Pangaea, Rodina, etc).
  - Grass, herbs, trees. Made full grown, "apparent age" (seed was in themselves).
  - Mentions kinds (DNA). Order not chaos; boundaries.

- Vegetation does not have the “*breath of life*.”
- **Fourth day:**
  - Sun, moon, and stars created (light generators).
  - Generators attached to light.
- **Fifth day:**
  - Creation of living creatures in the waters, great sea creatures, and birds.
  - Creatures endowed with the ability to reproduce.
- **Sixth day:**
  - Creation of three kinds of animals (creeping, wild, and domesticated).
  - Mankind created.
  - Mankind to rule over the earth.
  - Mankind and animals were vegetarians.
  - Everything is **very good**!
- **Seventh day:**
  - God ceases from his work and introduces the name of “Yahweh” or LORD.

#### GENESIS 2:15-17

*The LORD God took the man and placed him in the orchard in Eden to care for and maintain it. Then the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat fruit from every tree of the orchard, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will surely die.”*

- *To care for and maintain it:* To care for and maintain the trees of the orchard. Not until after the fall is he condemned to cultivate the soil. The main focus is for man to keep God’s commandments even before the fall.
- *You must not eat from the tree of good and evil:* There was nothing magical about that “tree,” but eating from it after it had been forbidden by God would indeed give man the knowledge of evil, since evil can be defined as disobeying God. Man already had the knowledge of good.
- *Surely die:* Death is essentially separation from God.

#### GENESIS 2:18-22

*The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion for him who corresponds to him.” The LORD God formed out of the ground every living animal of the field and every bird of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them, and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man named all the animals, the birds of the air, and the living creatures of the field, but for Adam no companion who corresponded to him was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he was asleep, he took part of the man’s side and closed up*



*the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the part he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.*

- *It is not good for the man to be alone:* God instructed man to be fruitful and multiply, so he cannot comply by himself.
- *I will make a companion:* Helper. Does not suggest a subordinate. Woman would supply what man was lacking.
- *But for Adam, no companion who corresponded to him was found:* Adam realized the animals had companions/mates, Adam did not.
- *So the man named all the animals, the birds of the air, and the living creatures of the field:* Adam only names some of the animals/creatures (birds and field animals). Additionally, man who was a living soul in the image of God was to name the animals, signifying his rule over them.
- *He took part of the man's side and closed up the place with flesh:* This implies the first act of healing in scripture.
- *This one shall be called woman:* The text specifically says "of this one it will be said woman." Eve is not specifically named until **after** the fall.
- *And unites with his wife:* Describes the inseparable relationship between the man and the woman in marriage as God intended it.

#### GENESIS 2:23-25

*And Adam said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man." Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

- *Bone of my bones:* Adam's poem focuses on naming the delight of his heart in this newly found companion.
- *Leave, be joined to:* The marital relationship was established as the first human institution. Permanent monogamy was and continues to be God's design and law for marriage.
- *Both naked, not ashamed:* With no knowledge of evil before the fall, even nakedness was shameless and innocent. They found their complete gratification in the joy of their one union and their service to God. With no inward principle of evil to work on, the solicitation to sin had to come from without, and it did.

#### SUMMARY

- God completed creation in six days and ceased on the seventh day. A model for our work week (Ex 20:11).

- Subterranean springs would water the ground. No rain.
- God planted an orchard in Eden with trees of life and knowledge.
- Man was given a choice of obeying or disobeying God.
- Adam names animals and realizes he does not have a companion.
- God creates woman.
- Satan likely fell soon after the seventh day. After the seventh day, everything was very good, and Eve had not yet conceived after being instructed to be fruitful and multiply. From another perspective, the rebellion of Satan had to occur after Genesis 1:31 but before Genesis 3:1.

### GENESIS 3:1-7

*Now the serpent was more shrewd than any of the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Is it really true that God said, You must not eat from any tree of the orchard?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit from the trees of the orchard; but concerning the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the orchard God said, You must not eat from it, and you must not touch it, or else you will die." The serpent said to the woman, "Surely you will not die, for God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will open and you will be like divine beings who know good from evil." When the woman saw that the tree produced fruit that was good for food, was attractive to the eye, and was desirable for making one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate it. She also gave some of it to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

- *Now the serpent:* Satan comes in the disguise of a serpent or speaks through a serpent.
- *Was more shrewd:* Clever, crafty. The point is, the integrity of the man and woman is the focus of the serpent's craftiness. At the beginning they are naked and he is shrewd. Afterward, they will be covered and he will be cursed.
- *To the woman:* Satan found her alone and unfortified by Adam's experience and counsel. Though sinless, she was temptable and seducible.
- *Is it really true that God said:* The serpent does not use the phrase LORD God because there is no covenant relationship. He only speaks of God, and draws the woman in so she also only speaks "of God." Additionally, in effect, Satan said "Is it true that He has restricted you from the delights of this place? This is not like one who is truly good and kind. There must be some mistake." Satan insinuated doubt as to her understanding of God's will, appearing as an angel of light to lead her to the supposed true interpretation. She received

him without fear or surprise, but as a credible messenger from heaven with the true understanding, because of his cunning.

- *We may eat*: Notice the change between what the LORD God said and what the woman says. She also adds “you must not touch it.” Adam may have so instructed her for her own protection.
- *Surely, you will not die*: Satan is a liar, denying that there is a penalty for sin.
- *You will be like divine beings who know good and evil*: Satan implies that the only reason for the prohibition was that God was protecting the divine domain. If the man and woman were to eat, they would enter into that domain. The temptation is to overstep divinely established boundaries.
- *Good, pleasant, desirable*: Eve decided that Satan was telling the truth and she had misunderstood God, but she didn’t know what she was doing. It was not over rebellion against God, but seduction and deception to make her believe her act was the right thing to do. The New Testament confirms that Eve was deceived (2 Cor 11:3, 1 Tim 2:14, and Rev 12:9).
- *Was attractive to the eye*: Strong desires usually lead to taking.
- *And he ate it*: Apparently willingly. A direct transgression without deception.

### GENESIS 3:8-13

*Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God moving about in the orchard at the breezy time of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the orchard. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” The man replied, “I heard you moving about in the orchard, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.” And the LORD God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave me, she gave me some fruit from the tree and I ate it.” So the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman replied, “The serpent tricked me and I ate.”*

- *The sound of the LORD God moving about*: Likely, God is not pictured as taking an afternoon stroll, but as coming in a powerful windstorm to confront the man and woman with their rebellion. Sound of the LORD may refer to God’s thunderous roar which typically accompanies his appearance.
- *Where are you*: Why are you hiding?
- *Who told you that you were naked*: Reveals the LORD God’s real concern.
- *Whom you gave me*: Ultimately, the man is blaming God for giving him the woman. In effect, Adam pitifully put the responsibility on God for giving him Eve.

- *The serpent tricked me*: The blame game continues. Eve's desperate effort to pass the blame to the serpent, which was partially true, did not absolve her of the responsibility for her distrust and disobedience toward God.

## SUMMARY

- Satan appears through a serpent to tempt Adam and woman.
- Satan initially temp's the woman. She received God's instructions through Adam.
- Satan distorts Gods instructions.
- Adam and woman willingly sin by disobeying God.
- God confronts Adam and woman.
- Adam and woman use the "blame game."

## GENESIS 3:14-20

*The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all the wild beasts and all the living creatures of the field! On your belly you will crawl and dust you will eat all the days of your life. And I will put hostility between you and the woman and between your offspring and her offspring; her offspring will attack your head, and you will attack her offspring's heel." To the woman He said, "I will greatly increase your labor pains; with pain you will give birth to children. You will want to control your husband, but he will dominate you." But to Adam He said, "Because you obeyed your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, you must not eat from it, cursed is the ground thanks to you; in painful toil will you eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, but you will eat from the grain of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat food until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you will return."*

- *The LORD God said to the serpent*: Note that God asks no question of the serpent, there is only a curse. Condemned to isolation from all the other animals.
- *Dust you will eat*: Symbol of humiliation. Serpent will now live in a battle zone.
- *You will attack her offspring's heel*: A bite on the heel from a poisonous snake is potentially fatal.
- *You will want to control your husband*: She will desire to control him, but he will dominate her instead. It announces that conflict between man and woman

will become the norm in human society. But in Christ, man and woman call a truce and live harmoniously.

- *Because you obeyed your wife:* The man obeyed his wife and disobeyed God.
- *On your account:* Because of you.
- *In painful toil will you eat:* Because the man and woman sinned by eating the forbidden fruit, God will forbid the ground to cooperate, and so it will be through painful toil that they will eat.
- *Until you return to the ground:* In spite of the dreams of immortality and divinity, man is but dust, and will return to dust. So much for his pride.
- *And to dust you will return:* **The themes of the curse oracles are important. In the New Testament teaching, Jesus became the cursed one hanging on the tree. In his suffering and death, all the motifs are drawn together; the tree, the sweat, the thorns, and the dust of death. Jesus experienced it all, to have victory over it through the resurrection.**

#### GENESIS 3:20-24

*The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all the living. The LORD God made garments from skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them. And the LORD God said, "Now that the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil, he must not be allowed to stretch out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." So the LORD God expelled him from the orchard in Eden to cultivate the ground from which he had been taken. When he drove the man out, he placed on the eastern side of the orchard in Eden sentries who used the flame of a whirling sword to guard the way to the tree of life.*

- *Eve:* Means living one.
- *Made garments from skin:* Preparing them for the more hostile environment in which they will soon be living. This is the first physical death. It should have been the man and his wife, but it was an animal, **a shadow of the reality that God would someday kill a substitute to redeem sinners.**
- *Stretch out his hand:* To take.
- *The eastern side:* Directions in ancient Israel were given in relation from the east.
- *And live forever:* Driving the man and his wife out of the garden was an act of merciful grace to prevent them from being sustained forever (in their now fallen state) by the tree of life.
- *Sentries:* Cherubim seems to be a class of Angel who's main task was guarding.

- *Whirling sword*: Whirling around, ready to cut to shreds anyone who tried to pass.

## SUMMARY

- God curses the serpent, the ground, and imposes judgment on the woman.
- Adam names woman “Eve.”
- God prepares Adam and Eve for their new hostile environment.
- The orchard is placed “off limits.”
- Christ repeats the tenets of the fall on the cross, but has victory through the resurrection.

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Selected authors and dates of publication



# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION

## DINOSAURS

### Part 6

**Aired on theDove, August 2, 2011**

**Perry Atkinson, Bob Just, and John Mittendorf**

#### INTRODUCTION

In our recent sessions on theDove, we have been considering the Seven Days of Creation from a biblical perspective that began with the first day of the creation account and has now taken us to the end of the creation account as found in the third chapter of Genesis. To finish this series, let's look at a section of scripture within the creation account that is directly opposed to the secular version of origins - - dinosaurs. From a simplistic perspective, let's first look at scripture for our baseline. In Genesis 1:24-31, God created the land dwelling animals and man, and gives man dominion over the animals in verses 26-28. From a biblical perspective, dinosaurs were created on the same day as man (day 6) and therefore, lived with man. Conversely, and from a secular scientific perspective, science postulates that dinosaurs died about 65 million years ago and did not live with man. As there is an obvious dilemma between the biblical and modern scientific account of dinosaurs that spans approximately 65 million years of time, let's take a look at these unique creatures that God created in abundance.



## DINOSAURS

Since the discovery of the existence of dinosaurs, these remarkable creatures have captured the attention and imagination of people of all ages. In fact, it is not uncommon to regularly see a picture, article, movie (i.e., Jurassic Park, versions 1-3), a television program on the latest dinosaur discovery, how dinosaurs lived and died, and how dinosaurs allegedly evolved into feathered birds. One of the interesting facts about dinosaurs is their size, which in some cases, far exceeded the size of most modern land or marine animals. When looking at a skeleton of a T-Rex or Brontosaurus, it is obvious these creatures were unique and very different from the animals we see today. According to modern scientific opinions, dinosaurs lived millions of years ago, died out about 65 million years ago, but before their demise, they started to grow feathers and slowly evolved into birds. However, a recent discovery has begun to question the actual age of dinosaurs.

Recently, Dr. Mary Schweitzer, University of Montana, discovered fresh red blood cells, soft fibrous tissue, and complete soft blood vessels in the leg bone of a T-Rex. The exciting discovery (which is not the first for Dr. Schweitzer) makes an obvious statement; *"It is inconceivable that such things could be preserved for millions of years."* So, if dinosaur bones cannot be millions of years old, how old are they? Additionally, on November 18, 2005, the Associated Press reported that a recent discovery has proven that dinosaurs were digesting grass between 65 million and 71 million years ago. This discovery comes as a complete surprise to modern science as it was previously believed that *"grasses didn't emerge until long after the dinosaurs died off."* Evidently, modern scientific beliefs are subject to error! To answer common questions about dinosaurs, let's look at some known scientific discoveries, and most importantly, what the Bible has to say about these animals.

### DOES THE BIBLE SPECIFICALLY REFER TO DINOSAURS

The Bible does not specifically use the term Dinosaurs as this name was not used until 1841 by Sir Richard Owen, a famous British anatomist who originated the word from two Greek words, *deinos* and *sauros* which means terrible lizard. However, the Bible does refer to giant creatures in Job 40 (Behemoth), Job 41 (Leviathan), and dragons in Psalm 91:13 and Isaiah 43:20.

### WHEN WERE DINOSAURS DISCOVERED

Actually, dinosaurs were *"rediscovered"* in the 1600's and 1800's. In 1677, large bones were found and believed to be from an elephant or a giant human. Then, in 1822, a tooth was found that was much larger than modern reptiles. The

animal/tooth was ultimately named *Iguanodon*, and the age of reptiles was popularized! Since the 1800's, thousands of dinosaur fossils have been discovered on every continent, including the Polar Regions!

## WHAT DOES MODERN SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT DINOSAURS

**MODERN SCIENCE:** The evolutionary reconstruction of the history of dinosaurs estimates dinosaurs lived from 220 million years ago to about 65 million years ago. Supposedly, some catastrophic event (i.e., meteor striking the earth) resulted in the extinction of dinosaurs, but not before they began to evolve into birds. Modern science also denies the possibility of man and dinosaurs existing at the same time.

**BIBLE:** The Bible clearly states that marine and flying reptiles were created on the fifth day of creation, and land reptiles were created on the sixth day of creation. As man was also created on the sixth day of creation, man co-existed with dinosaurs and the large flying and marine reptiles. Most dinosaurs disappeared during the flood, but two from each species were preserved on the ark. After the flood, the number of years dinosaurs existed is open to speculation.

## WHAT MAKES DINOSAURS UNIQUE

Dinosaurs are different from modern day reptiles from several basic perspectives:

- *Classification:* To be classified as a dinosaur, the creature must have (1) "lizard or bird hips" along with (2) holes in the skull, and (3) live on land.
- *Hip structure:* Dinosaurs had hips that placed their legs beneath them (like an elephant). These hips designate an erect stance. Modern reptiles have legs that come off the sides of their bodies and then down (i.e., alligators), which is referred to as "splayed."
- *Skulls:* All dinosaurs had skulls with peculiar openings in their sides. These openings or "windows" may have been used to save weight and are known as Fenestrae.
- *Size:* Reptiles normally grow during their lifespan. However, remember that humans lived long periods of time before the flood, so it is likely that dinosaurs did also, hence their enormous size.
- *Marine and flying reptiles:* Some prehistoric reptiles were not really dinosaurs. Examples of reptiles that fit into this category were marine animals that did not have lizard hips (i.e., Plesiosaur), and flying reptiles (i.e., Pteranodon).

### **DO WE KNOW HOW DINOSAURS LOOKED**

Although more discoveries are currently being made, most dinosaur reconstructions are made from incomplete skeletons. Therefore, the color, type of skin, presence or absence of scales, appendages, and in some cases, the stance can be conjecture.

### **WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DINOSAURS**

According to the Bible, all land creatures and birds of the air died in the flood except the animals on the ark. Remember that prior to the flood, land animals were vegetarians, and the pre flood earth was covered with lush vegetation. After the flood, the dinosaurs faced a more hostile world that had seasons, an ice age (dinosaurs were likely cold blooded, so they depended on heat for survival), and there was significantly less vegetation available for food. Therefore, it is likely that the dinosaurs found survival extremely challenging, and became extinct as numerous other species of animals have done. Conversely, the current postulate of modern science is the extinction of dinosaurs was caused by a massive asteroid that crashed into the Gulf of Mexico, creating worldwide havoc.

### **HOW BIG WERE DINOSAURS**

Although many dinosaurs were enormous, the average size of dinosaurs was the approximate size of a dog or sheep. However, the larger dinosaurs were enormous. As an example, the *Argentinosaurus* was 100-feet long and weighed 100 tons, and the *Brachiosaurus* weighed 80 tons. As a simple comparison, the African Elephant weighs about 5 tons. The larger dinosaurs were huge creatures.

### **HOW MANY SPECIES OF DINOSAURS EXISTED**

Ten or more new dinosaur species are being discovered annually around the world. The current total is approximately 1,000. Evidently, God created the dinosaurs in great abundance and variety.

### **WAS THE ARK LARGE ENOUGH FOR DINOSAURS**

Noah's ark was an immense boat. Remember, it was the height of a four story building, the length of 1.5 football fields, and contained about one-and-one-half million cubic feet! As previously stated, the average size of a dinosaur was the size of a sheep or dog. Obviously, there were very large dinosaurs which would have been difficult to place on the ark. Therefore, full grown large dinosaurs would not have been chosen, as younger, partially grown dinosaurs would have been more appropriate.

## WHAT WERE DRAGONS

For thousands of years, Dragons have long been popularized by some legends (i.e., the Chinese supposedly bred dragons), some dinosaurs are often depicted with fire coming from their mouths, and a popular European drawing depicts a knight on a horse confronting a fire breathing dragon. These creatures have been found in an astounding number and locations around the world. Dragons have been found on every continent of this earth, and as a consequence, have become embedded in human culture. There are five main types of dragons:

- Wyverns.
- Serpents.
- Sky dragons.
- Classical dragons of the west.
- Neo-dragons.
- As well as numerous subspecies and varieties.

Interestingly, the Bible is clear that some dinosaurs were capable of producing fire from their mouths (see Job 41:18-21), and dragons are referred to in Psalm 91:13, Psalm 74:13, Isaiah 27:1, Isaiah 43:20, etc. The word “dragon” (Hebrew: *tannim*) appears in the Old Testament at least 21 times. If *tannim* is replaced with dinosaur, it does fit in the biblical text. The Bible does refer to dragons on land, in the water, and in the air (Isaiah 30:6).

## DID MAN COEXIST WITH DINOSAURS

Obviously, dinosaurs were observed by descendants of Adam and Eve before the flood, and by some descendants of Noah after the flood. Interestingly, the following evidence may indicate that dinosaurs lived until recent times:

- Engraved images of dinosaur-like creatures on rock walls are found in South America, Africa, China, Australia, Europe, and North America (i.e., Grand Canyon, Utah).
- Dragons are reputed to have lived up through the Middle Ages when brave knights would slay these beasts (i.e., Alexander the Great, King Beowulf, etc).
- Mariners have told of dragons in the oceans even up until recent times.
- In several locations worldwide, there are what seem to be footprints of humans and dinosaurs in the same rock strata (Pauluxy River bed in Glen Rose, Texas).
- There are cave drawings of triceratops that were used as farm animals in South America about the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.

## ARE DINOSAURS STILL LIVING TODAY

If some of the previous dinosaur questions are open to speculation (and they definitely are), then this question is the most speculative of all! It is a fact that numerous plants and animals that supposedly lived millions of years ago and became extinct have been found still living today (referred to as “living fossils”).

Some examples are:

- Coelacanth fish.
- Okapi (like cattle).
- Tuatara lizard.
- Wollemi pine trees.

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Absolutely not! It is a fact that the current evolutionary progression of dinosaurs evolving into birds is very popular within the scientific community. However, if this were true, we should find fossils in the fossil record that are part bird and part dinosaur, or see a slow transition from dinosaurs to birds. However, there are no such transitional forms. An example of the desire to prove the evolution of dinosaurs into modern birds is the November 1999 issue of National Geographic magazine. The lead article was titled “*Feathers For T-Rex?*” which alleged that evidence of feathers had been found on fossilized dinosaur remains in China. However, in the rush to publish this article, National Geographic did not conduct the necessary validation of the fossil find and were embarrassingly caught with faulty evidence. As a result, National Geographic was forced to publish a three page retraction of the Feathers For T-Rex article and describe how their rush to publish the article ultimately resulted in an embarrassing situation.

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As we conclude the 7 Days of Creation series, let's consider a few facts about the book of Genesis that has provided the background for these discussions - - which can be best characterized by the definition of operational and historical science and why the diversity in definitions is relevant to biblical inerrancy.

### **HISTORICAL AND OPERATIONAL SCIENCE**

The word science primarily means knowledge. Operational science (based on our five senses, repeatable, observable, etc) has enabled man to build noteworthy technology. Whether one is an evolutionist or creationist, Christian or atheist, all basically agree on operational science. However, the disagreement comes when considering historical science - - knowledge concerning the past when we were not there. The origins issue involves historical science. When investigating the issue of origins in the Bible, operational science can certainly be used in the investigation. As an example, scientists can observe bacteria becoming resistant to antibiotics, and can also observe the formation of new species. However, such evidence in the present does not provide a mechanism for molecules-to-man evolution over millions of years. Evolutionists use such evidence from the present and attempt to extrapolate back into history - - claiming that the small changes they have observed in the present ultimately lead to the big changes needed for molecules-to-man evolution. However, creationists claim that such changes do not provide the creation of brand new genetic information, which is necessary for molecules-to-man evolution.

The point of this discussion is, the only way we can know for sure how the universe and life were formed (and the co-existence of man with dinosaurs actually happened), is if an infallible eyewitness revealed to us what happened. The Bible claims to be the Word of One who was there, who is infinite knowledge and wisdom, and who has revealed in His written Word an account of the history concerning our origins. Therefore, we have an inerrant record of our past. Obviously we were not there when the universe and man were created, but God was there! His record of history concerning Creation, the entrance of sin and death, the Flood of Noah's day, the Tower of Babel, and the Resurrection

correctly explains the present. The evidence properly applied confirms the truth of this revelation.

## CONCLUSION

During our time together, we have summarized the Seven Days of Creation, and Dinosaurs. However, the real question is *“what is the best explanation for your purpose in life?”* If creation is true (and the evidence from science and Scripture indicate that it is), then each person should be concerned with their future destiny and specifically, where you will spend eternity. The Bible clearly says *“all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God”* (Romans 3:23), and those without a personal acceptance of God will spend eternity in a lake of fire (Revelation 20:15). However, God has provided an alternate choice, and that choice is a free gift that only needs to be accepted by you *“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16), and “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).* This is God’s message to you, so have you accepted his free gift of eternal life?

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- The Collapse of Evolution  
3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Scott M. Huse  
Baker Books
- Refuting Compromise  
Jonathan Sarfati, PhD.  
Master Books
- The Genesis Record and The Genesis Flood  
Henry M. Morris  
Baker Book House
- Dragons  
Master Books, January 2011



# SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION DINOSAURS Part 7

**Aired on theDove, September 6, 2011**

**Perry Atkinson, Bob Just, and John Mittendorf**

## INTRODUCTION

Before we conclude our series on the Seven Days of Creation, let's briefly look at a few items of interest that have surfaced since last month:

- The book *"The Heavens Proclaim His Glory"* details spectacular views of the creation through the lens of the Hubble Telescope. All pictures are accompanied with appropriate Bible verses and/or fitting comments from renowned persons (Abraham Lincoln, etc). This is a great book for a coffee table or a gift to someone. The book is available from Thomas Nelson Inc., 2010, ISBN-13: 978-1-4041-8958-4.
- For those interested in the creation-evolution debate, a new book is available from Master Books and by author Randall Hedtke. The book is titled *"Secrets of the Sixth Edition"* and delineates the fact that Darwin discredits his own theory in the sixth (and last) printing of his famous book "Origins" by his own abandonment of some of the core mechanisms of evolution.
- The biblical account of "Jonah and the Whale" is often discounted from numerous pre-suppositions, one of which is the belief there is not a fish that is large enough to swallow a human being and keep the person alive in its



stomach for three days. From the perspective of the size of fish, the June 2011 issue of Smithsonian magazine featured an article on the “whale shark” that dwarfs a human being. In this case, size is not an issue.

- Flash Traffic, produced and authored by Joel Rosenberg has overviewed several newsworthy incidents that the American press seems to overlook as newsworthy events: (1) Putin re-positioning himself to run for president again in March 2012, (2) 100+ rockets fired at Israel from Israel’s southern border with Egypt, and (3) credible evidence of Iran working on nuclear weapons, according to new U.N. report.
- No other nation has literally been born out of a desire to be faithful and obedient to the living and abiding Word of God. However, consider the following ways that America has progressively been removing Christianity and Christian morality from the American culture:
  - ✓ In 1962, school prayer was ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.
  - ✓ In 1963, Bible reading in public schools was also ruled unconstitutional.
  - ✓ In 1973, restrictions on abortions were lifted, and abortion clinics began to proliferate (Roe v. Wade).
  - ✓ In 1985, nativity scenes in public places were ruled to violate the so-called “separation of church and state.”
  - ✓ In 2003, laws against homosexual sodomy were ruled unconstitutional.
  - ✓ In 2004, a federal court held it was unconstitutional for a school to teach intelligent design theory as an alternative to evolution.
  - ✓ The New York legislature recently legalized “gay” marriage - - joining other states.
  - ✓ And the list continues to grow.

In light of the aforementioned events, an important verse to remember is found in Luke 12:48, *“Everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required.”*

## DINOSAURS

To finish this series, let’s look at a section of scripture within the creation account that is directly opposed to the secular version of origins - - dinosaurs. From a simplistic perspective, let’s first look at scripture for our baseline. In Genesis 1:24-31, God created the land dwelling animals and man, and gives man dominion over the animals in verses 26-28. From a biblical perspective, dinosaurs were created on the same day as man (day 6) and therefore, lived with man. Conversely, and from a secular scientific perspective, science postulates that

dinosaurs died about 65 million years ago and did not live with man. As there is an obvious dilemma between the biblical and modern scientific account of dinosaurs that spans approximately 65 million years of time, let's take a look at these unique creatures that God created in abundance.

Since the discovery of the existence of dinosaurs, these remarkable creatures have captured the attention and imagination of people of all ages. In fact, it is not uncommon to regularly see a picture, article, movie (i.e., Jurassic Park, versions 1-3), a television program on the latest dinosaur discovery, how dinosaurs lived and died, and how dinosaurs allegedly evolved into feathered birds. One of the interesting facts about dinosaurs is their size, which in some cases, far exceeded the size of most modern land or marine animals. When looking at a skeleton of a T-Rex or Brontosaurus, it is obvious these creatures were unique and very different from the animals we see today. According to modern scientific opinions, dinosaurs lived millions of years ago, died out about 65 million years ago, but before their demise, they started to grow feathers and slowly evolved into birds. However, a recent discovery has begun to question the actual age of dinosaurs.

Recently, Dr. Mary Schweitzer, University of Montana, discovered fresh red blood cells, soft fibrous tissue, and complete soft blood vessels in the leg bone of a T-Rex. The exciting discovery (which is not the first for Dr. Schweitzer) makes an obvious statement; *"It is inconceivable that such things could be preserved for millions of years."* So, if dinosaur bones cannot be millions of years old, how old are they? Additionally, on November 18, 2005, the Associated Press reported that a recent discovery has proven that dinosaurs were digesting grass between 65 million and 71 million years ago. This discovery comes as a complete surprise to modern science as it was previously believed that *"grasses didn't emerge until long after the dinosaurs died off."* Evidently, modern scientific beliefs are subject to error! To answer common questions about dinosaurs, let's look at some known scientific discoveries, and most importantly, what the Bible has to say about these animals.

### **DOES THE BIBLE SPECIFICALLY REFER TO DINOSAURS**

The Bible does not specifically use the term Dinosaurs as this name was not used until 1841 by Sir Richard Owen, a famous British anatomist who originated the word from two Greek words, *deinos* and *sauros* which means terrible lizard. However, the Bible does refer to giant creatures in Job 40 (Behemoth), Job 41 (Leviathan), and dragons in Psalm 91:13 and Isaiah 43:20.

## WHEN WERE DINOSAURS DISCOVERED

Actually, dinosaurs were “rediscovered” in the 1600’s and 1800’s. In 1677, large bones were found and believed to be from an elephant or a giant human. Then, in 1822, a tooth was found that was much larger than modern reptiles. The animal/tooth was ultimately named *Iguanodon*, and the age of reptiles was popularized! Since the 1800’s, thousands of dinosaur fossils have been discovered on every continent, including the Polar Regions!

## WHAT DOES MODERN SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT DINOSAURS

**MODERN SCIENCE:** The evolutionary reconstruction of the history of dinosaurs estimates dinosaurs lived from 220 million years ago to about 65 million years ago. Supposedly, some catastrophic event (i.e., meteor striking the earth) resulted in the extinction of dinosaurs, but not before they began to evolve into birds. Modern science also denies the possibility of man and dinosaurs existing at the same time.

**BIBLE:** The Bible clearly states that marine and flying reptiles were created on the fifth day of creation, and land reptiles were created on the sixth day of creation. As man was also created on the sixth day of creation, man co-existed with dinosaurs and the large flying and marine reptiles. Most dinosaurs disappeared during the flood, but two from each species were preserved on the ark. After the flood, the number of years dinosaurs existed is open to speculation.

## WHAT MAKES DINOSAURS UNIQUE

Dinosaurs are different from modern day reptiles from several basic perspectives:

- *Classification:* To be classified as a dinosaur, the creature must have (1) “lizard or bird hips” along with (2) holes in the skull, and (3) live on land.
- *Hip structure:* Dinosaurs had hips that placed their legs beneath them (like an elephant). These hips designate an erect stance. Modern reptiles have legs that come off the sides of their bodies and then down (i.e., alligators), which is referred to as “splayed.”
- *Skulls:* All dinosaurs had skulls with peculiar openings in their sides. These openings or “windows” may have been used to save weight and are known as Fenestrae.
- *Size:* Reptiles normally grow during their lifespan. However, remember that humans lived long periods of time before the flood, so it is likely that dinosaurs did also, hence their enormous size.

- *Marine and flying reptiles*: Some prehistoric reptiles were not really dinosaurs. Examples of reptiles that fit into this category were marine animals that did not have lizard hips (i.e., Plesiosaur), and flying reptiles (i.e., Pteranodon).

### **DO WE KNOW HOW DINOSAURS LOOKED**

Although more discoveries are currently being made, most dinosaur reconstructions are made from incomplete skeletons. Therefore, the color, type of skin, presence or absence of scales, appendages, and in some cases, the stance can be conjecture.

### **WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DINOSAURS**

According to the Bible, all land creatures and birds of the air died in the flood except the animals on the ark. Remember that prior to the flood, land animals were vegetarians, and the pre flood earth was covered with lush vegetation. After the flood, the dinosaurs faced a more hostile world that had seasons, an ice age (dinosaurs were likely cold blooded, so they depended on heat for survival), and there was significantly less vegetation available for food. Therefore, it is likely that the dinosaurs found survival extremely challenging, and became extinct as numerous other species of animals have done. Conversely, the current postulate of modern science is the extinction of dinosaurs was caused by a massive asteroid that crashed into the Gulf of Mexico, creating worldwide havoc.

### **HOW BIG WERE DINOSAURS**

Although many dinosaurs were enormous, the average size of dinosaurs was the approximate size of a dog or sheep. However, the larger dinosaurs were enormous. As an example, the *Argentinosaurus* was 100-feet long and weighed 100 tons, and the *Brachiosaurus* weighed 80 tons. As a simple comparison, the African Elephant weighs about 5 tons. The larger dinosaurs were huge creatures.

### **HOW MANY SPECIES OF DINOSAURS EXISTED**

Ten or more new dinosaur species are being discovered annually around the world. The current total is approximately 1,000. Evidently, God created the dinosaurs in great abundance and variety.

### **WAS THE ARK LARGE ENOUGH FOR DINOSAURS**

Noah's ark was an immense boat. Remember, it was the height of a four story building, the length of 1.5 football fields, and contained about one-and-one-half million cubic feet! As previously stated, the average size of a dinosaur was the size of a sheep or dog. Obviously, there were very large dinosaurs which would have been difficult to place on the ark. Therefore, full grown large dinosaurs

would not have been chosen, as younger, partially grown dinosaurs would have been more appropriate.

### WHAT WERE DRAGONS

For thousands of years, Dragons have long been popularized by some legends (i.e., the Chinese supposedly bred dragons), some dinosaurs are often depicted with fire coming from their mouths, and a popular European drawing depicts a knight on a horse confronting a fire breathing dragon. These creatures have been found in an astounding number and locations around the world. Dragons have been found on every continent of this earth, and as a consequence, have become embedded in human culture. There are five main types of dragons:

- Wyverns.
- Serpents.
- Sky dragons.
- Classical dragons of the west.
- Neo-dragons.
- As well as numerous subspecies and varieties.

Interestingly, the Bible is clear that some dinosaurs were capable of producing fire from their mouths (see Job 41:18-21), and dragons are referred to in Psalm 91:13, Psalm 74:13, Isaiah 27:1, Isaiah 43:20, etc. The word “dragon” (Hebrew: *tannim*) appears in the Old Testament at least 21 times. If *tannim* is replaced with dinosaur, it does fit in the biblical text. The Bible does refer to dragons on land, in the water, and in the air (Isaiah 30:6).

### DID MAN COEXIST WITH DINOSAURS

Obviously, dinosaurs were observed by descendants of Adam and Eve before the flood, and by some descendants of Noah after the flood. Interestingly, the following evidence may indicate that dinosaurs lived until recent times:

- Engraved images of dinosaur-like creatures on rock walls are found in South America, Africa, China, Australia, Europe, and North America (i.e., Grand Canyon, Utah).
- Dragons are reputed to have lived up through the Middle Ages when brave knights would slay these beasts (i.e., Alexander the Great, King Beowulf, etc).
- Mariners have told of dragons in the oceans even up until recent times.
- In several locations worldwide, there are what seem to be footprints of humans and dinosaurs in the same rock strata (Pauluxy River bed in Glen Rose, Texas).
- There are cave drawings of triceratops that were used as farm animals in South America about the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.

## ARE DINOSAURS STILL LIVING TODAY

If some of the previous dinosaur questions are open to speculation (and they definitely are), then this question is the most speculative of all! It is a fact that numerous plants and animals that supposedly lived millions of years ago and became extinct have been found still living today (referred to as “living fossils”).

Some examples are:

- Coelacanth fish.
- Okapi (like cattle).
- Tuatara lizard.
- Wollemi pine trees.

These examples are living proof that some animals and plants thought to be extinct for the evolutionary time scale of millions of years are still living; but can dinosaurs also still be living yet remain undiscovered in modern times? Dinosaur sightings have been reported in Africa for centuries from the Likouala region of the Republic of Congo, which is a large area that is largely unknown to outsiders. The Africans have described a large aquatic reptile they call “*Mokele-mbembe*.” Eyewitness accounts range from the 1940’s through at least 1990. So, is this possible? The answer is definitely open to speculation and further investigation.

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