

A Bible Overview, Session 1: The Beginning

Student Handout

Genesis 1:1: Attributes of God

1. God is eternal
 - By creating a beginning, God started time
2. God is the Creator
 - God created “ex nihilo”= out of nothing
3. God is separate/distinct from His creation

Day 1:

- Time
- The “heavens” = space

Building blocks of the universe:

- matter
- light

The light-dark cycle establishes a system of measuring time

Day 2: space between the waters= sky

Day 3: God separated the waters and dry land appeared and vegetation

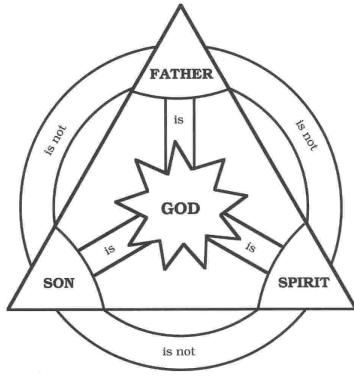
Day 4: “*God made two great lights*”: sun and moon and also stars

Day 5: fish and birds

- KIND: if two things can breed together they are of the same created kind.

Day 6:

- animals
- humans: “*Let us make humans beings in our image to be like us.*” Genesis 1:26
 - “Elohim”= plural noun with singular meaning
 - “Trinity” concept introduced:



- One God, three distinct Persons, all involved in creation:
 - Genesis 1:2
 - John 1:1-4

- humans, male and female, made “*in the image of God*” (Genesis 1:27)

- charge to humans

Genesis 2

God formed Adam from the dust of the ground & breathed life into him

God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden

- “*tree of life*”

- “*tree of the knowledge of good and evil*”
 - Warning: may eat of every tree “*except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*” because “*If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.*”

- God made Eve from Adam’s rib
 - “*male*” and “*female*”, “*man*” and “*wife*”, “*united into one*”
 - Genesis 1:27 and Genesis 2:24 quoted by Jesus in Matthew 19:4,5

Creation: God says vs the world says:

God says:

- He existed before creation
- He created time (a beginning), measured in days
- He spoke creation into existence
- His Creation is ordered and He sustains it.
- He Created day/night cycles
- He created space & matter

World says:

- There is no God of the Bible.
- The universe has always existed
- The universe created itself
- Somehow nothing exploded into something resulting in matter, light, space, and energy
- Somehow the universe moved from a state of disorder to order

God says:

- He provides light
- He Created the light holders
- He created seed & fruit bearing plants & trees that reproduce in kind
- He created fish and birds that reproduce in kind
- He created all kinds of animals that reproduce in kind
- He created humans in his image, male and female to reproduce in kind

World says:

- Particles of dust accumulated into a hot ball (earth) cooled & land appeared
- Water arrived via asteroids and comets
- Somehow non-life became a living cell
- Somehow this cell became a simple organism
- Somehow this simple organism became complex organisms resulting in vegetation, fish, birds, and animals
- Animals changed into humans