

God & His Creation

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I. Introduction.

Genesis 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

Creation Definition – The act of God, according to the Bible, brought the universe and all living beings into existence.

In the first chapter of Genesis we see a strong affirmation of God. God is revealed as a Person with mind and emotion and power of choice, Who existed before the beginning. The ultimate reality for us is that God is a living, vital, personal Being

- As we study creation, it's important to understand we learn about God, by examining what God does.
- We can see into the heart, mind and character of God as we consider all He says and does
- God's footprints always lead to Himself! God wants to use the same principles He used to transform the world to transform your life.
- What God performed in creating the Universe pales in comparison to the vision He has for our lives.
- Why? Because the present Heaven & Earth are going to pass away, but we were created to live forever.
- **Our faith begins with a basic belief in God.**

Hebrews 11:6 *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.***

Without God we can find no meaning in a life which has roots in the chance interplay of mindless atoms. We find meaning only when realize that our lives were given to us by another living personality. If God exists, and God is the cause of the material world, then we can look for meaning in His purposes in creating.

- **Genesis 1:11 affirms that we live in a personal universe.**

Genesis 1:11 *Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.*

The material and moral world were designed by a Person, who made mankind distinct from the rest of Creation. Genesis sets forth a personal God as the ultimate reality. He is the root and source of all that exists.

Create - The Hebrew word '*bara*' is used only of God's activity in initiating a thing or project. The Bible teaches that God initiated (created) the universe, humanity, forgiveness, and new life for sinners.

II. Other Sources of Scripture of that Speak of God As Creator.

Both the Old and New Testaments teach the essential integrity of all we read in Genesis. Both help in exploring the meaning of Genesis' affirmations about God and our world.

Isaiah 45:18 *For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the LORD, and there is no other.*

(Isaiah 45:16 TLB) *"For Jehovah created the heavens and earth and put everything in place, and He made the world to be lived in, not to be an empty chaos."*

The universe was shaped for a purpose: to be the home of humankind. However vast our expanding universe may be, God cares most about living beings, not inanimate matter.

- **Psalm 104 reviews God's creative act and praises Him for forming our world as a habitation for "living things both great and small."**

Psalms 104:27-30 *These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season. {28}What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. {29}You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. {30}You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.*

David acknowledges God as Creator, but as he meditates his thoughts are not drawn to speculations about, "How?" ***Instead he moves quickly beyond the "scientific" questions and begins to focus on the central issue:*** All that exists is the work of a Person. Everything around us has been carefully and thoughtfully designed. Creation is a mirror, placed to reflect our thoughts and our worship back to the Person whose image Creation enables us to see.

III. Creation Gives a Compelling Witness to God.

Both Old and New Testaments point out that the universe itself is a wordless message about God which anyone, whatever his language, can hear.

Psalms 19:1-4 *The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. ² Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. ³ There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. ⁴ Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,*

Paul made the same point in the first chapter of Romans, but also saw creation as evidence to be used against those who do not believe.

Romans 1:20 *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...*

Further proof of this is found in Acts when Paul comes into Athens and preaches from Mars Hill. They obviously new about the Unknown God.

Acts 17:23 *"for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you:*

Creation is such compelling proof of God's existence, and such a clear reflection of His character, that any explanation of beginnings which rules God out serves only to underline human perversity.

Creation like every other aspect of our faith is something that must be accepted by faith.

Ecclesiastes 10:12-13 *A fool's speech brings him to ruin. Since he begins with a foolish premise, his conclusion is sheer madness.*

IV. Concluding Remarks

God's final judgment of His creation was "It was good." In the pattern of the universe which God created we discover a God who we can trust because he clearly cares. He is not changeable or capricious, for He designed the world to be stable and orderly. We discover a God who values and, in valuing, chooses always to do that which is, in every way, good.

vs. 10 ... and God saw that it was good.

vs. 12 ... and God saw that it was good.

vs. 18 ... and God saw that it was good.

vs. 21 ... and God saw that it was good.

vs. 25 ... and God saw that it was good.

Psalm 8:3-4 *When I consider the heavens what is man that You are mindful of him?"*