

Genesis 1 The Creation

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 And the earth was a formless and desolate emptiness, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day," and the darkness He called "night." And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

6 Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters that were below the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse "heaven." And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

9 Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. 10 And God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering of the waters He called "seas"; and God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit according to their kind with seed in them"; and it was so.

12 The earth produced vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, according to their kind; and God saw that it was good. 13 And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and they shall serve as signs and for seasons, and for days and years; 15 and they shall serve as lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so. 16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also.

17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

20 Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens." 21 And God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23 And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

24 Then God said, “Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kind: livestock and crawling things and animals of the earth according to their kind”; and it was so. 25 God made the animals of the earth according to their kind, and the livestock according to their kind, and everything that crawls on the ground according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, “Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the livestock and over all the earth, and over every crawling thing that crawls on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” 29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you;

30 and to every animal of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so.

31 And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God’s character?

Pauls Observations and insights

1. What was ‘there’, before God made everything in the beginning?
2. How did God create everything that he created?
3. Having created it, so that it was ‘there’, what did it look like?
4. It would seem the earth was covered with water; it was only the Spirit of God who hovered over the surface.
5. When God started to speak, creation that wasn’t ‘there’, became ‘there’.
6. When God spoke, He brought order to the creation that He had made.
7. Why was light the very first thing that God made?

8. 'God said' and all creation that wasn't 'there' became 'there'.
9. God's words have creative life in them - whatever He says will happen.
10. In the darkness God said, 'let there be light', He said 'it was good'.
11. Was, 'one day' our day? Or was it longer?
12. The sky and the waters were separated and this created space.
13. God named that space heaven.
14. God separated the sea and the land from each other.
15. Having created space, the sea and the dry land, God set about putting life into the space, the sea and the land.
16. What came first the chicken or the egg?
17. One of the oldest promises of God in the scripture is seedtime and harvest.
18. God created order in what He had made so it would work perfectly.
19. God made creatures of all kinds to fill the earth, the sea and the heavens.
20. Did he make two of every kind, or many of every kind?
21. When God decided to make mankind, He decided to do so in the form of His own image, a reflection of Himself.
22. God gave mankind authority to take charge over all of His creation.
23. Mankind was responsible to watch over everything God had made.
24. When it states, 'God made them male and female, He created them', how do you understand this?
25. What is it for God to 'bless you'?
26. The idea of fruitful was to reproduce of your own kind.
27. How and why would mankind need to 'subdue the earth'?
28. The mandate was that God was in charge, what went wrong?
29. God consented everything for the provision of mankind.
30. At this time, it was only green plants that God gave to mankind for food.
31. What does it mean to 'behold'?
32. Why did God say, 'it was very good'?