

“Majesty and Mystery”

Genesis 1.1-25

Recent Estim. Less than 10% of WORLD Really BELIEVE JESUS and BIBLE
MESSAGE for ALL PEOPLE – NOT Just Jews/Xtians > All HUMANITY

GENESIS 1-3: “As it WAS in the BEGINNING”

HE is the HOPE for our CITY – CAMPUS – COUNTRIES

1. Presentation of the Story

a. History

INSPIRED Word of God > ALL Scripture is GOD-BREATHED Truth from Him
SOME Scripture is INSPIRED Poetry – Parables – Word Pictures > NOT History
GENESIS is Presented by AUTHOR as HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

BEGINNINGS: World - Man – Woman - Marriage - Lying - Deceit – Murder –
Salvation – Family – Government – Covenant

REAL PEOPLE and PLACES – Adam & Eve as real as Abraham & Sarah
Garden of Eden – Tigris and Euphrates Rivers – Mesopotamia – Egypt

Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.
to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever.
who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever.
who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever.
who made the great lights-- His love endures forever.

to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt His love endures forever.
and brought Israel out from among them His love endures forever.
with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever.
to him who divided the Red Sea asunder His love endures forever.
and brought Israel through the midst of it, His love endures forever.
but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; His love endures forever.
who struck down great kings, His love endures forever.
and killed mighty kings-- His love endures forever.
Sihon king of the Amorites His love endures forever.
and Og king of Bashan-- His love endures forever. Psalm 136

Author: Moses NO DIRECT CLAIM IN BOOK -NAME NEVER WRITTEN

EXODUS BEGINS AS CONTINUATION OF GENESIS- BACKGROUND

These are the names of the sons of Israel who went to Egypt with Jacob, each with his family... Exodus 1:1

WITNESS OF REST OF OT- JESUS AND APOSTLES

beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself Luke 24.27

Has not Moses given you the law? John 7.19

WORD OF GOD thru WORDS OF MOSES - AUTHOR AND EDITOR-

COMPILED WRITTEN AND ORAL SOURCES - DIRECT REVELATION

ALL UNDER INSPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT-BELIEVE BY FAITH

b. Humble > Profound Simplicity

I beg and faithfully warn every pious Christian not to stumble at the simplicity of the language and stories that will often meet him there. He should not doubt that, however simple they may seem, these are the very words, works, judgments, and deeds of the high majesty, power, and wisdom of God. Martin Luther – Intro to OT

God COULD HAVE used SCIENTIFIC LANGUAGE – most accurate are symbols

MANY PAGES of SYMBOLS discuss NATURE OF SINGLE HYDROGEN ATOM

200 PAGE BOOK TO DESCRIBE A SINGLE MOLECULE OF VIRUS

GEN 1 – ORIGINAL FORM – 76 ROOT WORDS IN HEBREW

Genesis 1 is the most amazing composition in all the world's literature, using only 76 different word-forms fundamental to all mankind, arranged in a wonderful poetic pattern yet free from any highly colored figures of speech. It provides the perfect opening to God's book and establishes all that men really need to know of the facts of creation. No man could have written it: it is as great a marvel as a plant or a bird. It is God's handiwork, sufficient for Hebrew children or Greek thinkers or Latin Christians; for medieval knights or modern scientists or little children; for cottage dwellers or cattle ranchers or deep sea fishermen; for Laplanders or Ethiopians, East or West, rich or poor, old or young, simple or learned...sufficient for all! Only God could have written such a chapter... and he did. Prof. Frederick A. Filby

PAUL SPOKE TO THE PROUD INTELLECTUALS OF CORINTH

Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?...For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

1 Corinthians 1.19,25

c. Holy

Hebrews LEAVING EGYPT w/ MANY GODS- ENTER CANAAN MORE gods

JUST AS PHARAOH OF EGYPT HAD FORGOTTEN JOSEPH

THE ISRAELITES HAD FORGOTTEN THE GOD OF ISRAEL

GOD Introduced HIMSELF TO MOSES in DESERT - BURNING BUSH

"I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God... God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: `I AM has sent me to you.'" Exodus 3.6,14

Self-EXISTENT: Depends on No one / Nothing > Fully Complete / ETERNAL
World ANCIENT NEAR EAST > ISRAEL'S Neighbors > INFLUENCED Them

Modern World DEFINED by SCIENCE > Science UNDERSTAND Reality

TV News Explain/Interpret Life > PROFESSOR // ANE TV > Get a PRIEST

ANE Defined by MYTH > Window to Culture – Worldview – Values - Priorities

Growing body MYTHOLOGY from Mesopotamia & Egypt to Compare

Numerous CREATION SONGS / STORIES / POEMS from Israel's NEIGHBORS

COVENANTS – TEMPLES – PRIESTS – SACRIFICES – LAW CODES

NOT FEAR > All TRUTH comes from God > PEOPLE made in HIS IMAGE

LUTHER – Used TUNES from BARS to Convey CHRISTIAN Truth in SONG

GOD – Can use COMMONLY Known CREATION Stories to REVEAL Truth

God's CREATION Story is LIKE ANE Neighbors > But RADICALLY UNLIKE

Babylonian Creation Epic > 7 Tables // 7 Days

Polytheistic, Wordy, Crassly Mythological // Monotheistic, Brief

At the beginning there are two monsters, represented as dragons: Apsu, the fresh water subterranean ocean, and his consort Tiamat, the salt-water ocean that surrounds the earth. From these two spring a generation of deities, the last of which becomes so powerful that Apsu and Tiamat plot to destroy them. The result is a titanic struggle in which Tiamat is slain. Her body is split in two. The upper half forms the heavens. The lower half is formed into the earth. Men and women are made from the blood of Qingu, Tiamat's chief minister. Punishment they imposed on him, his blood vessels they cut open, with his blood they created mankind.

summation by James Boice

GOD Called ONE Tribe out of DARKNESS to DECLARE His Truth & LIGHT

MOST IMPORTANT IDENTITY IS THEOLOGICAL > His People Declare Him

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Psalms 96.3-5

2. Person in the Story

a. Mysterious

v. 1 In the beginning God > WHERE did he COME FROM? WHEN was This?

v 2 Now the earth was formless & empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep

FORMLESS & DEEP > or CHAOS > Your DORM ROOM in a COUPLE Months

NO PLACE for Man – No Land, Water, Atmosphere, Food, Sunshine

GOD does NOT NEED Any of those Things > GIFTS of God FOR MAN

Genesis NOT the Beginning of GOD / SELF-EXISTENT / SELF-SUFFICIENT

Not NEED AIR, LIGHT, HEAT, LAND, WATER, GRAVITY

God did not make man because HE WAS LONELY AND NEEDED COMPANY –

Who has understood the mind of the LORD, or instructed him as his counselor?
 Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way?
 Who was it that taught him knowledge or showed him the path of understanding?...
 To whom, then, will you compare God? Isaiah 40.13-17

NOT TRYING to ANSWER Every Question about LIFE / CREATION / WORLD
 ENCOURAGES Us to ASK – Explore, Investigate, Discover, Steward His World

b. Mighty God's WORLD MADE BY THE SPOKEN WORD OF GOD

v. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

v. 6 And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water."

v. 9. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so.

Creation "Ex Nihilo" LATIN = FROM NOTHING – NAKED WORD OF GOD

No Spare PARTS from LENOVO, Furniture from IKEA – NOT Even DUCT TAPE

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic. Psalm 29.3,4

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? Isaiah 40.12

c. Methodical GOD OF PURPOSE, NOT RANDOM CHANCE

vs. 2,3 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be..."

For God is not a God of disorder but of peace. 1 Corinthians 14.33

vs. 11,12 seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds...vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds.

OUT of FORMLESS MASS – GOD brought ORDER ACCORDING TO DESIGN

DAY 2 – GOD SEPARATED THE WATER – INCREDIBLE FEAT

AMOUNT of VAPOR Suspended in AIR – 54 TRILLION, 460 BILLION TONS

WATER IS 773 TIMES THE WEIGHT OF AIR

ANNUAL PRECIPITATION – RAIN AND SNOW – 186,000 CUBIC MILES

ENOUGH TO COVER ENTIRE EARTH UP TO 3 FEET

ORDER in CREATION & ORDER in COMMUNICATION of CREATION

6 Days of Creation – 7th SABBATH 24 hr days? / “DAY” = Epoch, Age, Era?

The precise chronological duration of the six days of creation has never been regarded by the Seminary's Board or Faculty as a matter on which the Scriptures themselves speak with decisive clarity. Westminster Theol Sem, Philadelphia

What kind of days these were it is extremely difficult, or perhaps impossible for us to conceive.
Augustine

...the 'days' of Moses' account ... are not to be equated with the days in which we live.
Anselm

But then there arises the question as to the length of these days. That is a question which is difficult to answer. Indications are not lacking that they may have been longer than the days we now know, but the Scripture itself does not speak as clearly as one might like.
Edward J. Young

Kingdoms—Realm	Kings—Rulers
	Day 6 - Animals/Man
Day 3 - Land/Clouds	Day 5 - Fish/Fowl
Day 2 - Sea/Sky	Day 4 - Sun/Moon
Day 1- Light/Darkness	

POETIC Structure to SHOW Kings and Kingdoms over God's EARTH

Whatever THEORY WE ACCEPT MUST BE FAITHFUL TO SCRIPTURE
 ACT OF FAITH TO BELIEVE GOD SPOKE WORLD INTO EXISTENCE

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:3

MORE FAITH NEEDED TO BELIEVE IT IS A CHANCE OCCURRENCE –
 COSMIC ACCIDENT > Resulted in such INTRICATE PURPOSE & DESIGN!?!)

d. Moral > GOOD > True, Righteous, Just

v. 12 And God saw that it was good. / v. 18 And God saw that it was good.
 v. 21 And God saw that it was good. / v. 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

MORAL TRUTH – some things are good, others are bad – GOD DECIDES

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

1 Timothy 4.4,5

Be THANKFUL for Creation 2) DELIGHT in it 3) RESPONSIBLE Stewards of It

WE ARE FREE FROM ALL THIS TODAY – rules, standards, morals, God
 TODAY'S SOCIETY KNOWS BETTER – come From Nothing, Going Nowhere
 ALONG THE WAY ANYTHING GOES

EMERGED from SLIME to BECOME Grown Up GERMS DRIFT AIMLESSLY
 e. Merciful v. 16 He also made the stars.

One of GREATEST THROW-AWAY LINES IN ALL of LITERATURE
 AN AFTERTHOUGHT?? NO!! – BUT NOT THE EMPHASIS OF CREATION
 BIBLE – 50 chapters about OT tabernacle – only 5 words about Creation of Stars
 4 COMPLETE BOOKS – Matt, Mark, Luke, John – ABOUT LIFE OF JESUS

YET – STARS are Very IMPRESSIVE DEMONSTRATION OF GOD'S POWER:

Takes 100,000 LIGHT YEARS travel ACROSS our GALAXY – BEIJING Traffic
 2 Million LIGHT YEARS to ANOROMEDA Galaxy – Near GALACTIC Neighbor
 ONE HUNDRED BILLION OTHER GALAXIES AT LAST COUNT

STAR EPSILON in AURIGA Constellation IS VOLUME 27 BILLION X's SUN

Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out
 the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power
 and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Isaiah 40:26

MORE THAN 100,000 SPECIES OF PLANT LIFE – 5,000 KINDS OF GRASSES

v. 21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving
 thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird
 according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

WORLD FILLED WITH LIFE – Single DROP of Ditch Water –
 Can hold 500 Million Microscopic Creatures: Food you BUY from Street Vendors!

v. 25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to
 their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their
 kinds. And God saw that it was good.

800, 000 different kinds of INSECTS / 30,000 kinds of FISH

9,000 kinds of BIRDS / 6,000 kinds of REPTILES

3,000 kinds of AMPHIBIANS / 5,000 kinds of mammals

EACH OF THEM “ACCORDING TO THEIR KIND”

NOT A CHANCE DEVELOPMENT – PREMISE OF EVOLUTION

WISE DESIGNER BEHIND THE INTRICATE DESIGN

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars,
 which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of
 man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
 and crowned him with glory and honor. Psalm 8.3-5

f. More This is CHAPTER 1 – Story just GETTING STARTED

ELOHIM – Plural Name for God – Used with Singular Verbs

v. 2 and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

v. 26 let us make man in our image

US – PLURALITY – 2,3,257? NOT FULLY DEVELOPED Doctrine of TRINITY

EXEGESIS – Bring the meaning OUT of the text of Scripture.

EISEGESIS – Force a meaning INTO the text of Scripture.

Moses to JEWS > OUT of Polytheistic EGYPT into Polytheistic CANAAN

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Deuteronomy 6.4

1500 years APPROX > After MOSES Someone came and DARED to Say

Jesus: "I and the Father are one." John 10.30

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. John 1.1-4

FOR US OUR ORIGINS GO BACK TO CHRIST WITH GOD

3. Purpose of the Story

Modern WESTERN Worldview LOOKS at STRUCTURE – HOW Things Happen

Western CHURCH > BIG FIGHT over 24 Hour – 6 Days of Creation STORY

ANE > Structure is FUNCTION of PURPOSE > Most Important Question – WHY?

Today at Uni – Ask BIOLOGY Prof – Why are we here? Why a World? Why Man?

SEND you to PHILOSOPHY Department or PRISON or the LOONY BIN

Gen 1 FOCUS on WHY – Little Interest in Structures – NOT HOW but Who/Why

More than 30 X's in Chapter 1 > Name of GOD

a. **Declare God NOT DEFEND God** – He’s DOING Fine without our HELP
 Island of Hawaii – Mauna Kea > GIANT, EXPENSIVE TELESCOPES
 UNMATCHED Vistas into Space > Clear Air, Cloudless Nights, Deep into Space
 NOT YET Found the END of Space – 100 Billion Stars – Still COUNTING!

At this moment it seems as though science will never be able to raise the curtain on the mystery of creation. For the scientist who has lived by faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he is about to pull himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries. Robert Jastrow – Director of NASA’s Goddard Institute

DENIAL OF –
 ATHEISM (there is no god) – always was, is, and will be

MATERIALISM (matter is ultimate) – creation had beginning –
 God who existed from beginning created matter

PANTHEISM (god in everything) – God stands apart from creation

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea into jars ; he puts the deep into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. Psalm 33.6-12

b. **Define Man**

Man never attains to a true self-knowledge until he has previously contemplated the face of God, and come down after such contemplation to look into himself. John Calvin

JOB & 3 Friends asked God ENDLESS WHY Questions: He OWED them Answers

God gives JOB an 80 Question POP BIOLOGY Test

Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said: "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me....Do you know the laws of the heavens? Can you set up [God's] dominion over the earth? Can you raise your voice to the clouds and cover yourself with a flood of water? Do you send the lightning bolts on their way? Do they report to you, 'Here we are'? Who endowed the heart with wisdom or gave understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to count the clouds? Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens when the dust becomes hard and the clods of earth stick together? "Do you hunt the prey for the lioness and satisfy the hunger of the lions when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in a thicket? Who provides food for the raven when its young cry out to God and wander about for lack of food?"

Job 38.1-3,33-41

JOB Cannot get ONE RIGHT Answer > SHOCKED by God, Swallows PENCIL

AFTER God gave POP BIOLOGY Test to JOB > He has NEW View of Himself

Then Job replied to the LORD: "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes." Job 42.1-6

BOWED Down before GOD > BLESSINGS of GOD Flow FREELY

The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. Job 42.12

c. Derive Hope > Doctrine of Creation gives believes COURAGE in Creator God

On the RUN from MIGHTY Egypt: Pharaoh & Armies REPLACED > REVENGE

"This is what the LORD says-- the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker.. It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts. I will raise up Cyrus in my righteousness: I will make all his ways straight. He will rebuild my city and set my exiles free, but not for a price or reward, says the LORD Almighty." Isaiah 45.11-13

On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. Acts 4.23,24

d. Drive Us to God

If GOD were a MAN > IGNORE him, RUN Away, FORGET him, even KILL him

But GOD is NOT GOING Anywhere – Never CHANGES, TIRES, GROWS OLD

ETERNAL – no beginning, no end – who, is, and is to come

Can be trusted to do as he promised, never changes

Cannot be escaped, does not change His mind, more or die

REJECT HIM – WE WILL Come to know HIS ETERNAL REJECTION OF US

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. Psalm 139.7-18

GOD KNOWS You – THINKS About You – NOTHING HIDDEN from Him

Psalmist > WONDERFUL Truth because he LOVED and LONGED for GOD

YOU? – Running from GOD – TRUTH strikes TERROR! HORRIBLE Thought

NEVER be able to RUN FAST ENOUGH – God is Everywhere, Always, Forever

If God were not the Creator, he would be only part of the world process, coming and going, waxing and waning. He could not help us. If he is only a little bigger than we are, if he is only a big brother and nothing more... than there are not standards. There is no absolute. It is every man for himself, anything goes. What may be right today may be wrong tomorrow; so let us get through life as best we can... The Bible does not so speak. It tells us that God has created all things. That is why there is meaning in life, and why there are absolute standards that do not change. God tells us what is right and what is wrong, and why there is meaning in life. That is why you and I who believe in this God can very well say that our chief reason for existence is to glorify him and enjoy him forever. E. J. Young

EVOLUTION – Rests on WEAK SCIENTIFIC BASE – Great APPEAL – WHY?
MAN IS EXALTED – GOD IS ELIMINATED // Man is Highest Being of All

But God, if a God there be, is the
Substance of men which is Man.
Thou art smitten, thou God, who art smitten;
Thy death is upon thee, O Lord.
And the love-song of earth as thou diest
Resounds through the winds of her wings
Glory to man in the highest! For man is the master of things”
“Hymn of Man” Algernon Charles Swinburne

Do YOU want INFINITE CREATOR God to Run LIFE, Can You can do BETTER?
POWER TO CHANGE OUR CHURCH – CAMPUS – CITY - COUNTRIES

1. Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

The Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

Genesis 1: 1. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. 3. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4. God saw that the light was good, and he 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--the first day. 6. And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." 7. So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. 8. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning--the second day. 9. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. 10. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. 11. Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. 12. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. 13. And there was evening, and there was morning--the third day. 14. And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, 15. and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. 16. God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, 18. to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19. And there was evening, and there was morning--the fourth day. 20. And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." 21. So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." 23. And there was evening, and there was morning--the fifth day. 24. And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. 25. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.