

Genesis 1.26-2.7

“Dust and Glory”

Distant LIGHT of Stars in FARAWAY Galaxies MANY, Many YEARS Away!?

Some QUESTION – How could world be made in 6 – 24 Hour Days?

Genesis 1 Declares only 1 RIGHTFULLY Called AWESOME > God Himself

GOD is ABLE to Make UNIVERSE in 6 Minutes or 6 Million Years

SURE Statements of Scripture & Facts of Nature are in PERFECT Harmony

A Christian holding the strongest possible view of inspiration still does not claim exhaustive knowledge at any point. Francis Schaeffer

BELIEVING Bible is FULLY Word of God NOT MEAN Understand it ALL

NO ATTEMPT to RECONCILE > Chapter 1 with LATEST Scientific Findings

Jesus taught Genesis DID Not Attempt to Reconcile Moses and 1st C Scientists

NEITHER did Apostles – Augustine – Luther – Calvin – Edwards – Spurgeon

Aren't you GLAD they DID NOT TRY? > It would sound FOOLISH Today!

100 yrs from NOW – WISDOM of 21st C Scientists will be FOUND WANTING

Before the majestic declarations of Scripture we bow in humble reverence. How meager is our knowledge; how great is our ignorance! Dare we assert that only in such and such a manner the Creator could have worked? Are we really in possession of such knowledge that we can circumscribe him? Of course there is much in the first chapter of Genesis we cannot understand. There is one thing that by the grace of the Creator we may do, we can believe and never be ashamed. E.J. Young

- One Message

ONE UNIFIED Book of Genesis > ONE God who CREATED / 2 Presentations

2 Creation STORIES? – COMPLEMENTARY not CONTRADICTORY

Neither presentation complete without the other

Ch. 1 – Big Picture / Few Details of man and his world

Ch. 2 – Detailed account / leaves wondering about the big questions, who? How?

Pattern throughout Book of Genesis / Big Picture to Specific Details

from	to
Vast Universe	Earth
All of Creation	Man
Whole Earth	Eden
Sinful Mankind	Noah
All Peoples	Abram
Son of Abraham	Isaac
Sons of Isaac	Jacob
Sons of Israel	Joseph

- One Message, Many Sources

<i>Primeval Generations (2.4 - 11.26)</i> Heaven and Earth (2.4 - 4.26) Adam (5.1 - 6.8) Noah (6.9 - 9.29) Sons of Noah (10.1 - 11.9) Shem (11.10 - 11.26)	<i>Patriarchal Generations (11.27 - 50.26)</i> Terah (11.27 - 25.11) Ishmael (25.12 - 25.18) Isaac (25.19 - 35.29) Esau (36.1 - 37.1) Jacob (37.2 - 50.26)
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Heb "TOLEDOTH" = GENERATION (ASV) > "All the HOST of Them"

What follows is STORY of DESCENDENTS of the Person NAMED

Perhaps 10 BOOKS or ORAL SOURCES Gathered by Moses, led by Holy Spirit

2:4 These are the generations of the heavens & of the earth when they were created

5:1 This is the book of the generations of Adam.

6:9 These are the generations of Noah.

10:1 Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, & Japheth.

11:10 These are the generations of Shem.

11:27 Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah begat Abram...

25:12 Now these are the generations of Ishmael

25:19 And these are the generations of Isaac,

36:1 Now these are the generations of Esau

37:2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old...

5 X's from Adam to Abraham / and 5 X's from Abraham to Israel in Egypt

The use of ten is found in a number of places in Genesis, including Genesis 1 as ten words of creation (there are 10 commands) and the book of Genesis as ten words of generations.

Dan Burns

CONTINUE in Genesis 1 > BOW Heads & Hearst to MAJESTY & MYSTERY
 FOCUS OF CREATION STORY NOT ON DISTANT STARS & GALAXIES
 IN GOD'S SIGHT – MAN IS GREATER THAN THE STARS

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with
 glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put
 everything under his feet
 Psalm 8.5,6

Man is King of Earth – Image of God = MAN – RULER OVER ALL

LINEAGE longer than QUEEN of England > Way beyond Battle of Hastings
 All the way back to GARDEN of EDEN – 1st Mom & Dad > Adam & Eve

MAN – NOT STRONGEST, LARGEST, or FASTEST Creature of God

MANKIND “male and female he created them” / God Conscious Personalities

MANKIND / Male and Female // DUST & GLORY / Mortal & Immortal

The creation story has stood as a bulwark against a succession of fashionable
 errors – atheism, polytheism, dualism, the eternity of matter, astrology – and not
 least, against every tendency to empty human history of meaning. It resists
 nihilism explicitly, in displaying man as God's image and regent. Derek Kidner

1. Mortal Man

NOT

a. Dependent MAN IS NOT CAPTAIN OF HIS OWN FATE / Autonomous

Word for CREATE NOT used on each of Six Days

1.24 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.

1.1 In the beginning God created

1.21 So God created the great creatures / CREATION OF LIVING ANIMALS

With MAN – WORD Create IS USED 3 TIMES

1.27 God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them

God put Exclamation Points here – 3 X's – Mr. Rogers was RIGHT U R Special 1 PERSON? Significant? Soon 7 Billion on Earth – YES! PRECIOUS to God Believers seek to Preserve Sanctity of Life: Natural Beginning to Natural End

4 Chapters LATER > SAME TRIPLE EMPHASIS: When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. He *created them male and female* and blessed them. And *when they were created, he called them man.* Genesis 5.1,2

EVE is called MAN > MRS. Adam > Word refers to WHOLE HUMAN Race Ancient Near Eastern Creation Stories > gods made people to SERVE THEM People were AFTERTHOUGHT of gods / Got TIRED and Needed their HELP BIBLE > People CENTER-PIECE / CLIMAX of God's Creation

The human brain processes more than a million messages a second... all the colors and objects you see, the temperature around you, the pressure of your feet against the floor, the sounds around you, the dryness of your mouth, even the texture of your keyboard. Your brain holds and processes all your emotions, thoughts and memories. At the same time your brain keeps track of the ongoing functions of your body like your breathing pattern, eyelid movement, hunger and movement of the muscles in your hands.

The eye...can distinguish among seven million colors. It has automatic focusing and handles an astounding 1.5 million messages -- simultaneously.

Evolution focuses on mutations and changes from and within existing organisms. Yet evolution alone does not fully explain the initial source of the eye or the brain -- the start of living organisms from nonliving matter.

MAN NEEDED WHAT GOD PUT IN THE CREATION

1.29 God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food"

MIGHTY MAN is MORTAL Man > Fully DEPENDENT on IMMORTAL God

'For in him we live and move and have our being.'

Acts 17.28

b. Dominion MAN DEPENDENT ON Creation / Creation dependent on Man

People are IN NATURE and at Same Time OVER NATURE

GOD'S VICE REGENT ON EARTH / Kommandant / Steward God's Property
 1.28 God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground"

2.5 "man to work the ground" / WORK IS PART OF CREATION, NOT CURSE

SWEAT ON BROW – Trouble IN Work is Curse / Work ITSELF is Gift of God

PERFECT HARMONY DESTROYED BY SIN / Distortion of Creation Order

CANNOT EVEN RULE OVER THE COCKROACHES IN OUR KITCHENS

INSTEAD OF RULING EARTH, MAN HAS OFTEN RAPED the EARTH

Destruction instead of Dominion / Pollution instead of Protection

Ground is full of Trash and the Air is full of Soot /

Not Steward of Earth but Sacrificed it to our Pleasures

ONLY ONE CAN TRULY MODEL RIGHT DOMINION SINLESS JESUS

MASTER OF WIND AND WAVES walked on water and calmed the storm

MASTER OF FISH told weary disciples where to throw their nets

MASTER OF SINGLE FISH held the coin with the tax for He and Peter

MASTER of WILD ANIMALS in DESERT left him alone during his 40 day fast

MASTER OF FRUIT of the VINE provided the best wine for wedding in Cana

MASTER OF LOAVES & FISHES a little boy's lunch became a huge banquet

MASTER OF DONKEY placed and ready for Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

MASTER OF ROOSTER crowed to reveal Peter's betrayal

MASTER OF DISEASES, DEMONS, AND DEATH fled at power of His Word

We see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
Hebrews 2.9

c. Dust 2.7 the Lord God formed the man from the DUST OF THE GROUND

Hebrew the word "man" is adam / word for "ground" is adamah

You would need enough potassium for one shot of a toy pistol, enough fat for 7 bars of soap, enough iron for 1 large nail, enough sulphur to delouse a dog, enough lime to whitewash a chicken coup, enough magnesia for one dose of medicine and enough phosphorus for a few boxes of matches! The total purchase would not fill more than a couple grocery bags. Dr. Charles Mayo

HOW COULD DUST BECOME AS BRILLIANT AS EINSTEIN, AS CREATIVE AS MOZART, AND AS BEAUTIFUL AS HELEN OF TROY??

COMPLEX PIECE OF DUST : One piece of Skin – 4 centimeters square – 3 million cells, 1 meter of blood vessels, 4 meters of Nerves, 100 sweat glands, 15 oil glands, and 25 nerve endings

QUITE A COMPLEX ACCIDENT - HAPPENED TO FORM OUT OF DUST

CURSED TO RETURN TO DUST

...you will return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return
Genesis 3.19

Abraham: "I am nothing but dust and ashes"
Genesis 18.27

KANSAS sang > "Dust in the Wind, all we are is Dust in the Wind" 1977

SYMBOL of Repentance "I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes" Job 42.6

Word of HOPE "He knows our frame and remembers that we are dust" Ps 103.14

2. Immortal Man

Complementary Truths / Man is Dust and Glory / Mortal and Immortal

Immortality GIFT from God / Not Inherent Quality / Grace Transcendent God

a. **Breath of God** 2.7 the Lord God...breathed into his nostrils the breath of life
 PICTURE OF A LIFEGUARD – breathing into a drowned man

God: “the breath of man that I have created” Isaiah 57.16

Hebrew / Greek / Latin - SAME WORD FOR BREATH AND SPIRIT

Jesus told Nicodemus “Spirit gives birth to spirit” John 3.6

God is the CREATOR of All Earth’s Creatures: “When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust”
 Psalm 104.29

“The first man Adam became a living being; (Jesus) the last Adam a life-giving spirit”
 1 Corinthians 15.45

ADAM EXISTED BY BREATHING IN – Cannot Survive on His Own

CHRIST BREATHEs OUT – GIVES LIFE – HAS LIFE IN HIMSELF

RISEN JESUS ENTERED LOCKED ROOM TO MEET DISCIPLES

“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. And with that he breathed on them and said, Receive the Holy Spirit” John 20.21

Formation of a New Creation / Established New Kingdom in Christ

b. **Image of God** 1.27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them”

DOES NOT MEAN – Physical Likeness / God has no Body / God is Spirit

1) **Personality** – Knowledge, Feelings, and Will / God has these and so do we

SOME WOULD SAY “My Cat has more personality than most people I know”

Your Cat – Can React to Stimuli / but not Reason

Your Cat – Can Organize a Home in Cardboard Box / but not Create

Your Cat – Can follow you to Church / but it cannot Worship

Your Cat – Can Reproduce / but it cannot Love

Love – Worship – Creating – Reasoning GOD GIVEN PERSONALITY

2) Morality – includes FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY

Man and Woman are under God's Moral Standard / held Accountable

Original Man – words of Augustine – “able not to sin”

Fallen Man – “not able not to sin” / Limited Freedom in Fallen State

Since God made man in his own image, man is not caught in the wheels of determinism. Rather man is so great that he can influence history for himself and others, for this life, and the life to come. Francis Schaeffer

To Be IN CHRIST “put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness” Ephesians 4.24

“to put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator” Colossians 3.10

3) Spirituality – made for Communion with God who is Spirit

God shaped vacuum placed in the heart of every man Blaise Pascale

“you gotta serve somebody, it may be the devil or it may be the Lord, but you gotta serve somebody” Bob Dylan

WE ARE MADE TO WORSHIP / body has a spirit to meet with God

2.7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul.

Some Christians DEBATE – Tripartite or Bipartite Man / **Like Splitting Hair**

OT & NT / Hebrew & Greek / Use words for SOUL & SPIRIT Interchangeably

Very DIFFICULT to PROVE – Man is Definitely TWO or THREE Parts!

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139.14

IMAGE OF GOD – DISTORTED BUT NOT DESTROYED – by Fall in Sin
 God told Noah after the flood “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man” Genesis 9.6

Yes – Biblical Support for DEATH Penalty – NOT because GOD is BARBARIC

But because MAN in the IMAGE of GOD is SIGNIFICANT, UNIQUE

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND MAN transcends Creation

Not connected to Heaven & Earth / H&E are Gone / Relationship continues

4) Unity 1.27 ...male and female he created them”

Man and Woman in MARRIAGE > TWO become ONE

Reflect IMAGE of God who is THREE in ONE

Jesus > UNITY of Genesis CHAPTER 1 & 2 links 2 Verses / 1 Each Chapter

"But at the beginning of creation God `made them male and female.' `For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." Mark 10.6-9

BIBLE teaches EQUALITY of MAN and WOMAN > ONE in CHRIST

SUBORDINATION of Wife to Husband is FREE CHOICE of WOMAN

NOTHING in Bible says ALL Women are Subordinate to ALL MEN

Woman does NOT want to be Subordinate > DO Not MARRY

MARRY Man who Understands & Follows Bible > Treasured and LOVED

Maleness and femaleness are good and meaningful, just as other aspects of God's creation are good and meaningful. Men are not women. Women are not men.

One of the saddest things in the universe is a man who tries to be a woman or a woman who tries to be a man. "But who is superior?" someone may ask. I

answer: A man is absolutely superior to a woman – at being a man; a woman is absolutely superior to a man – at being a woman. But let a woman try to be a man or a man try to be a woman, and you have a monstrosity. James Boice

c. Rest of God – clearly shows this ETERNAL RELATIONSHIP

2.2,3 By the 7th day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the 7th day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Egyptian Creation Account – god Ptah RESTS

Mesopotamian Creation Account – god TIRED > Tells PEOPLE to do Work!

CREATION OF MANKIND – Greatest Act of Creation / NOT CLIMAX

CLIMAX OF STORY IS THE 7TH DAY / GOD RESTS – not Tired!!

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary
Isaiah 40.28

PICTURE – Sovereign King enthroned over His Perfect Kingdom

v. 31 “God saw all that he had made, and it was VERY GOOD”

Gen 1 & 2 – World Before Sin / All is Perfect / God REIGNS IN GLORY

You have made us restless, until we find our rest in you Augustine

Moses gives law to Weary Israelites / slaves for 400 years / made Pyramids

Worked for 400 years with No DAY OFF / Gathered their own Straw

4th Commandment – 6 Days Work / 7th REST / Why? – God’s Sabbath Rest
WE ARE INVITED TO ENTER INTO HIS REST / RELATIONSHIP

SOMETHING SPOILS THAT RELATIONSHIP – SIN / Separation

GOD TOLD HIS COVENANT PEOPLE WHO DISBELIEVED

“They shall never enter my rest” Psalm 95.11 / Wandered 40 yrs died in Desert

GOD HAD A BETTER PLAN – Sent His Own Son

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest”
Matthew 11.28

HEBREWS “There remains, then, a Sabbath rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest” Hebrews 4.9,10

COMMON IDEA – I will find God by what I do / prayers, works, tithes

GOD SAYS REST – I HAVE DONE ALL NECESSARY WORK

REST BY FAITH IN SACRIFICE OF CROSS / VICTORY OF RESURREC.

How special is Creation of Man?

GOD'S OWN SON became MAN / DIED FOR MAN / INVITES US TO REST

Jesus INCARNATION is PROTOTYPE – We look like JESUS – Perfect Man
 He did NOT Come to be LIKE US, Came like Us > We were MADE Like Him
 Question? – Are you Restless or are you Resting? / Empty or Full?

Keep Sabbath Rest? – Not Primarily a Day but a Relationship / Faith in Christ

Lord's Day / Celebration Entered Rest / Communion with God and His People

ANTICIPATION – Now God's Children, Not Yet Experienced Fullness

Expectation pictured in Worship / Meet God and His People

Who will we see? What has God been doing? What is His Plan?

We see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with
 glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might
 taste death for everyone. Hebrews 2.9

We are RESTLESS until we have found our REST IN CHRIST

Genesis 1:26. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 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 said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." 29. Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground--everything that has the breath of life in it--I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

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

Genesis 2:1. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. 2. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. 4. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens-- 5. and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, 6. but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground-- 7. the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.