

***(Gen 1:1) In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Gen 1:2) And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*** This passage tells us our origin. God created heaven and earth and it was created without form and void. This marks the absolute beginning of the temporal world. The following verses tell us how and when God spoke everything else into existence.

█ The term God comes from the Heb word *Elohim*. The “*im*” ending indicated a plurality. We understand that God the Father was there; but so was God the Son. █ ***(Col 1:16) For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: (17) And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*** This passage tells us that all things were created by Jesus. Jesus emphasized this in the gospel of John. █ ***(John 1:1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) The same was in the beginning with God. █ (3) All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.***

Not only was God the Father/Son present in the creation, God the Spirit was also there. V2 reminds us that the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the earth which is an indication of the creative activity of the H. S. So we have Elohim created. This spiritual trinity spoke and it was done – And God said... (v3). This is the first of a highly structured series of events led to the creation of all things. The creation was accomplished in a four part sequence. First there was the announcement – “God said.” After the announcement, there was a command – “Let there be ...” Then thirdly there was a summary word of accomplishment – “And it was so” followed by a evaluated approval – “and it was good.” This was the order of each of six days.

In v 3-4 we have the light divided the form of darkness and the light was called “day” and the darkness “night.” (v5) thus we have the first day of creation. Now there has been a lot of speculation about whether this time frame was a literal 24 hours or a long period of time, which would lend itself to the process of evolution. A passage often used is ***(2 Pet. 3:8) But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*** So the conclusion is that with God, one day can be like a thousand years. In context the passage in Peter is talking about time means nothing to God; particularly regarding the promise that Jesus will one day return.

Consider this. Day 3 God created vegetation. █ As we understand the effects of photosynthesis, we know that for plants to survive, they have to have sunlight. The sun, moon stars, etc were created on day 4. Now if the plants were created on day three and if the day was thousands of years; that would mean the plants existed all those years without the presence of sunlight; which defiles both logic and science.

Verses 14-15 tells us that one of the purposes of the sun, moon, etc was to mark time. They were to provide signs and seasons; they were also to provide days, months, and years. For this to happen, days have to be 24 hours.

Turn with me over to Exodus 20. This is where Moses was given the 10 commandments. Notice verses 8-11. (*Exo 20:8*) **Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. (9) Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: (10) But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: (11) For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.** Clearly the Sabbath day has reference to a 24 hour period and Moses likens that period of time to the six days of creation. The Genesis account was a literal six 24 hour days.

What about all the scientific dating that links things to be billion of years old. The accuracy for some of those dating techniques is questionable at best. But more important, how old did things look when God created them? For instance, when he spoke the trees into existence, how old did that tree look five minutes after it was created. Notice v 12 says that the herbs and grasses yielded seed and the trees yielded fruit. They were mature plants. If you were to cut one of those trees down and analyzed the rings, it would show several years of age while only being five minutes old. Your dating process would not be accurate. How old did man look five minutes after he was created? He was an adult, not an infant. So he too appeared to be several years old while in reality he was only five minutes old. God can and did make things appear older that they really were.

What about the dinosaurs; the Bible never talks about them someone asks. Well really the Bible does allude to them. Notice the latter part of the book of Job. Chronically, Job is thought to be the first book of the Bible to be written. That means it was the closest writing to the flood. It seems that during the time of Job there existed animals of great magnitude and strength. These could easily have been the time frame of dinosaurs.

Things changed after the flood. The world was different and the food supply was different. We see this in the age of man. Before the flood man lived 800-900 years of age. A few years after the flood, Abraham was described as an ole man at the age of 100. Things changed. It seems that these huge animals lived after the flood but apparently because of the environmental change, they eventually became extinct. We see that with the quail population here in our area. Look at the Leviathan in Job 41. The chapter begins by emphasizing that you can't be tamed it. (*Job 41:19*) **Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. (20) Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron. (21) His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth. (22) In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him. (23) The flakes of his flesh are joined together: they are firm in themselves; they cannot be moved. (24) His heart is as**

*firm as a stone; yea, as hard as a piece of the nether millstone. (25) When he raiseth up himself, the mighty are afraid: by reason of breakings they purify themselves. (26) The sword of him that layeth at him cannot hold: the spear, the dart, nor the habergeon. (27) He esteemeth iron as straw, and brass as rotten wood. (28) The arrow cannot make him flee: slingstones are turned with him into stubble. (29) Darts are counted as stubble: he laugheth at the shaking of a spear. (30) Sharp stones are under him: he spreadeth sharp pointed things upon the mire. (31) He maketh the deep to boil like a pot: he maketh the sea like a pot of ointment.* This gives a pretty good description of a dragon doesn't it? Smoke coming from his nose, fire from his mouth. Flakes of his flesh join together such as to repel darts and spears describes his scales. His strength is in his neck.

One chapter before we have another huge beast called the behemoth. *(Job 40:15) Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox. (16) Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly. (17) He moveth his tail like a cedar: the sinews of his stones are wrapped together. (18) His bones are as strong pieces of brass; his bones are like bars of iron. (19) He is the chief of the ways of God: he that made him can make his sword to approach unto him. (20) Surely the mountains bring him forth food, where all the beasts of the field play.* This certainly fits the picture of a dinosaur.

The point is if Job cannot master the marvels of the physical strength of God's creation; how can Job expect to compete against God? God has shown that he is wise, just and powerful and Job would do well to humbly and trustfully bow down before him; which he did. Since God has the majesty to create the world and everything in it; including man; we too ought to have a reverence and awe toward him. *(Psa 19:1) The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. (2) Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. (3) There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.* Evidence of creation is all around us as the heavens are a universal proclamation of that there is a God.

In the beginning, God on day 5 created living things. *Genesis 1:21-23 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. (22) And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. (23) And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.* Vegetation was plentiful and the seasonal climates were in motion. Everything was now ready for life.

In day six God created all the earthly animals. *Genesis 1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.*

Finally God concluded with the creation of man. ***Genesis 1:26-27 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*** Note that man was created in “our” image. Two points to be made here. The first is that the term “our” included the three personalities of the god-head. How are we made in their image? It’s not brown hair and blue eyes or any physical characteristic for flesh and blood will not be in heaven. The way we are like the image of God is having a soul for all eternity. **█ *Genesis 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.*** When a person dies, his body returns to the earth but his spirit shall return to God who gave it (Eccl 12:7)

The second point is that God had a purpose for man and that was to be a worker for the Lord. Adam had a job to do. In addition to naming all the animals, he was a gardener. **█ *Genesis 2:15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.*** There has never been a place in God’s plan for a lazy person. Even today we are expected to be workers. ***1 Corinthians 3:8-9 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. (9) For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.***

So in the beginning God created and everything was good until he got to man to which he said that creation was very good. You and I are special to the Godhead and he wants us to be saved. **█ *1 Timothy 2:3-4 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; (4) Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.*** Paul would tell us in 1 Cor. 15 that people were saved by receiving and obeying the gospel. Have you obeyed the gospel?

Invitation. God is all power and spoke the world into existence. He also prepared a way of salvation. Are you right with God?