

The Process for Creation / The Order of Creation Events

INTRODUCTION

Truth 1: The Process for Creation

How did the universe come into existence?

- Was it by some unknown chance accident, or is there an all-powerful, omniscient, eternal Creator?
- Our view of this process shapes almost everything we believe about the existence and nature of God.

Truth 2: The Order of Creation

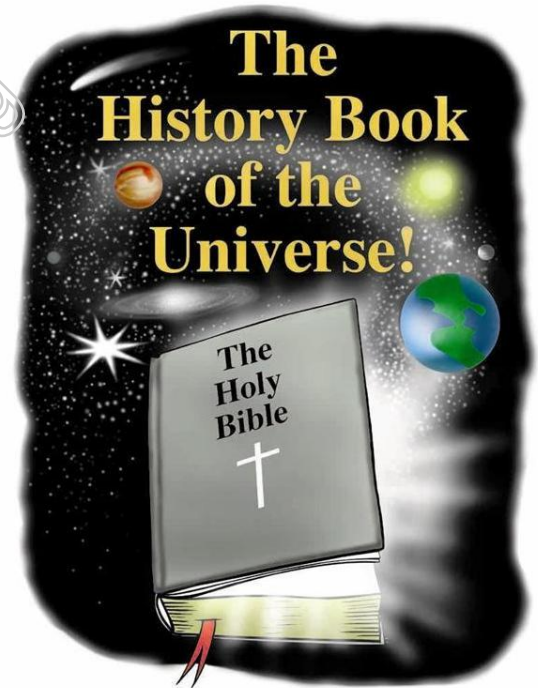
Should we take the Bible literally when we look at the order of creation, or is the order as laid out in the Bible merely poetical, or allegorical?

How difficult is it to understand what the Bible has to say about these two truths?

- Do we need to consult outside sources such as scientific journals to help us understand what the Bible says about them?

John MacArthur makes the following statement about the biblical creation account...

"I am convinced that Genesis (The Creation Account)...ought to be taken at face value – as the divinely revealed history of creation. Nothing about the Genesis text itself suggests that the biblical creation account is merely symbolic, poetic, allegorical, or mythical. The main thrust of the passage simply cannot be reconciled with the notion that creation occurred via natural evolutionary processes over long periods of time. And I don't believe a faithful handling of the biblical text, by any acceptable principles of hermeneutics, can possibly reconcile these chapters with the theory of evolution or any of the other allegedly scientific theories about the origin of the universe." – John MacArthur (9, pg. 19)



Scientific Truths

- *"Sometimes our understanding of science (what we observe, our interpretation of facts) is not correct. However, the track record reveals that given enough time, true scientific knowledge always supports the Bible." – Mike Riddle (1, pg. 8)*
- *"The more fully the facts of science are corrected and established, the more wonderful is the harmony which they show with all allusions of the Mosaic writings." – A.B. Simpson (5, pg. 2)*

- *“The Bible is supreme truth, and therefore it is the standard by which scientific theory should be evaluated, not vice versa.”* – John MacArthur (9, pg. 22)

BODY

A. How Did God Create?

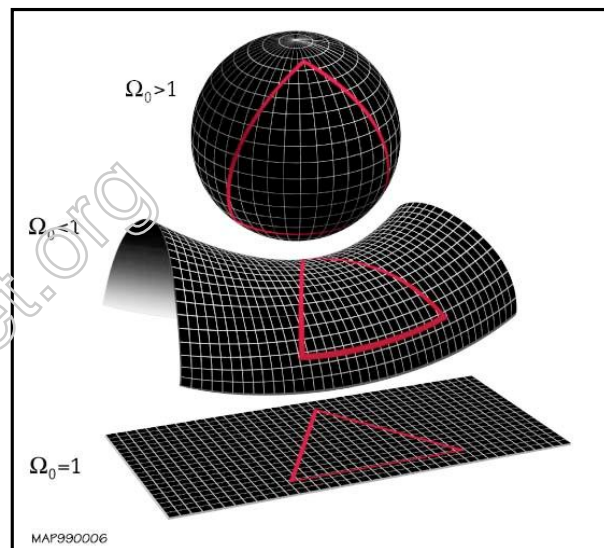
The Evolution Model

When we look at the process for creation (how everything came into existence), the evolution model claims that TIME plus CHANCE and NATURAL PROCESSES are all that is needed.

- This model is based on naturalism/materialism and holds to the following:
 - Nobody times nothing equals everything. There is no design and no purpose.
 - God was not involved at all in the creation of the universe.
 - Everything can be explained in terms of natural processes.

- Ask a naturalist what he believes about the beginning of all things, and you will likely hear about the big bang theory and evolution. Belief in these theories are strongly held despite the lack of answers to questions such as these:

- What was the first cause that caused everything else?
- Where did the matter come from?
- Where did energy come from?
- Why hasn't the universe wound down?
- What is keeping it going?
- Why hasn't entropy caused it to devolve? Instead it is developing into a more orderly and increasingly sophisticated system.



- Naturalists refer to the creation account in Genesis as nothing more than *“stories.”*
 - *“It’s not coincidence that the Bible starts with Genesis, ...Most people really want to know where we came from and where everything around us came from. I like to strongly push the scientific answer. We have evidence. We no longer have to rely on stories we were told when we were young.”* (15, pg.35)
- English philosopher, Herbert Spencer (1820 – 1903), outlined five “ultimate scientific ideas”; TIME, FORCE, ACTION, SPACE, and MATTER. (11)
 - Everything that can be known or observed by science fits into one of these five categories, and nothing can be truly said to exist outside of them.
 - There is no room for anything spiritual in these categories. They are based on a materialistic presupposition that there is nothing outside of these five areas.

- Spencer was actually not far from the truth...
 - Compare his five scientific principals against Genesis 1:1.
GE 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*
Genesis 1:1 (NASB)
- Genesis 1:1 accounts for all of Spencer's categories.

TIME	FORCE	ACTION	SPACE	MATTER
Compared with				
<small>GE 1:1</small> <i>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.</i>				
<i>In the beginning</i>	TIME			
<i>God</i>	FORCE			
<i>created</i>	ACTION			
<i>the heavens</i>	SPACE			
<i>and the earth.</i>	MATTER			

- It's interesting to note that Spencer calls FORCE (God) "*the ultimate of ultimates.*" (11)

The Creation Model

The Bible states that God is the Creator of all things.

- However, while many Christians will agree that God created, they will say He could have created any way He wanted, and that the Bible does not say HOW He created, so it is open to interpretation.
 - John Clayton says, "*It (The Bible) does not tell us how God did it (creation). It does not tell us when God did it. The statement (In the beginning) is not scientific, but an indication that there was a beginning and there was a cause.*" John Clayton - (6, pg. 4)

Part of what they say is correct. God could have created any way He wanted, because He is God.

- However, the part about the Bible not stating how God created is completely wrong and is not open to interpretation.
- In the first chapter of Genesis we see the words, "*And God said...*"
 - Eight times in Genesis chapter 1 it states how God created. **He spoke the universe, and everything in it, into existence, out of nothing.**

GE 1:3 *And God said, Let there be light ...*

GE 1:6 *And God said, Let there be a firmament ...*

GE 1:9 *And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together ...*

GE 1:12 *And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass ...*

GE 1:14 *And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament ...*

GE 1:20 *And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature ...*

GE 1:24 *And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature ...*

GE 1:26 *And God said, Let Us make man in Our image ...*

Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 12, 14, 20, 24, 26 (KJV)

- Remember rule number 3 of Biblical interpretation, “*Let Scripture Interpret Scripture?*” Scripture re-states what we read in Genesis chapter 1, “*And God said...*”

PS 33:6 By **the word of the LORD** the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

PS 33:9 For **He spoke**, and it was done; **He commanded**, and it stood fast.

Psalm 33:6, 9 (NASB)

PS 148:5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, For **He commanded** and they were created.

Psalm 148:5 (NASB)

HEB 11:3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared **by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

Hebrews 11:3 (NASB)

There is **no room** in the process of creation for evolution. The Bible tells exactly how God created.

- The Bible declares that **God spoke life, the earth, and the universe into existence.**

Of course, we have hard time understanding the act of creating something from nothing. This is because we are created beings and live in a created world. But Scripture also tells us that nothing is impossible for God, He had no beginning and nothing is impossible for Him.

LK 1:37 “For nothing will be impossible with God.”

Luke 1:37 (NASB)

Isa 48:12 “...I am he; I am the first and I am the last.

Isa 48:13 My own hand laid the foundations of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens...

Isaiah 48:12-13 (NIV)

Jesus said....

LK 18:27 “The things that are impossible with people are possible with God.”

Luke 18:27 (NASB)

What is interesting is that current scientific theories are also based on the idea that all of creation came from nothing.

- “According to the standard theory, the universe sprang into existence as a ‘singularity’ around 13.7 billion years ago. What is a ‘singularity’ and where does it come from? Well, to be honest, we don’t know for sure. Singularities are zones which defy our current understanding of physics” (17)

- Merriam-Webster defines singularity as, “a point or region of **infinite** mass density at which space and time are **infinitely** distorted by gravitational forces and which is held to be **the final state of matter** falling into a black hole” (16)

- “...space didn't exist prior to the Big Bang. The singularity didn't appear in space; rather, space began inside of the singularity. Prior to the singularity, nothing existed, not space, time, matter, or energy - nothing. So where and in what did the singularity appear if not in space? We don't know. We don't know where it came from, why it's here, or even where it is. All we really know is that we are inside of it and at one time it didn't exist and neither did we.” (17)

When comparing the evolution model and the creation model what takes more faith, that the universe spontaneously popped into existence, or that God spoke it into existence?

God Created the Universe Out of Nothing

The Bible clearly states that God created the universe out of nothing.

- The Latin phrase *ex nihilo*, "out of nothing" is frequently used.
 - This means that before God began to create the universe; nothing else existed except God

- himself. God did not use any previously existing materials when he created the universe.
- The word nothing does not imply some kind of existence, as some scientists have taken it to mean. MIT physics Professor Alan Guth makes the following statements,
 - *“To the average person it might seem obvious that nothing can happen in nothing. But to a quantum physicist, nothing is, in fact, something.”* (10, pg. 35)
 - *“All matter plus all gravity in the observable universe equals zero. So the universe could come from nothing because it is, fundamentally, nothing.”* (10, pg. 36)

- This what Scripture says:

GE 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*
Genesis 1:1 (NASB)

PS 90:2 *Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*
Psalm 90:2 (NASB)

ISA 45:18 *For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, But formed it to be inhabited), “I am the LORD, and there is none else.*
Isaiah 45:18 (NASB)

JN 1:3 *All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*
John 1:3 (NASB)

AC 4:24 *And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, “O Lord, it is You who MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM,*
Acts 4:24 (NASB)

AC 17:24 *“ The God who made the world and all things in it...”*
Acts 17:24 (NASB)

COL 1:16 *For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through Him and for Him.*
Colossians 1:16 (NASB)

HEB 11:3 *By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.*
Hebrews 11:3 (NASB)

REV 4:11 *“ Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.”*
Revelation 4:11 (NASB)

REV 10:6 *and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE EARTH AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE SEA AND THE THINGS IN IT, that there will be delay no longer,*
Revelation 10:6 (NASB)

- This reminds us that God rules over the entire universe and that nothing in creation is to be worshiped instead of God, or in addition to him.



- The fact that God created the universe out of nothing is that it has meaning and purpose. God, in his wisdom, created it for something. We should try to understand that purpose and use creation in ways to fit that purpose, namely, to bring glory to God Himself.

The Creation of the Spiritual Universe

- The creation of the entire universe includes the creation of an unseen, spiritual realm of existence.
- God created the angels and other kinds of heavenly beings as well as animals and man.
- The creation of the spiritual realm is in all the verses above that speak of God creating not only the earth but also "*heaven and what is in it*" (Rev 10:6; Acts 4:24; Col 1:16).

- The prayer of Ezra states very clearly,

*NE 9:6 " You alone are the LORD. You have made the heavens, **The heaven of heavens with all their host**, The earth and all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them And the heavenly host bows down before You.*

Nehemiah 9:6 (NASB)

PS 148:2 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts!

PS 148:3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light!

PS 148:4 Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens!

PS 148:5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded and they were created.

Psalms 148:2-5 (NASB)

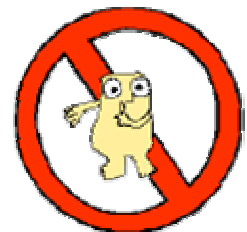
Note what the Bible does NOT state about the creation process

- Nowhere in the Bible is it stated or implied that God used evolution.
- Nowhere in the Bible is it stated that it took God long periods of time for His creation.
- When discussing God's creation the Bible always uses the words, "God created," "God spoke," or "God made," nowhere does it imply or say that "God let it evolve."
 - Stating that God used evolution as part of His creative process would be an example of adding information into the Bible.

Argument From Silence

Even if the Bible did not say how God created, which it does say how He created, it is a logical fallacy to say that He could have used evolution.

- John Clayton is making an argument from silence when he states, "*It (The Bible) does not tell us how God did it (creation). It does not tell us when God did it (creation).*" John Clayton - (6, pg. 4)



This logical fallacy is a well-known principle called making an "Argument from Silence."

- "*The argument from silence is that the silence of a speaker or writer about X proves or suggests that the speaker or writer is ignorant of X. Whether reasonable or not, it would be a logical fallacy to say that you have proven the premise to be false solely on the basis of argument from silence.*" (8)

What can we conclude about the process for creation, about how God created?

1. Is it possible to combine the Bible and evolution?
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2. Did God use evolution as part of His creative process?

Not according to what the Bible says. The Bible says that God spoke the universe into existence out of nothing.

God is still involved with His Creation

God is still very much involved in creation, for it is continually dependent on him for its existence and functioning.

The Bible is the story of God's involvement with his creation, and particularly the people in it.

- Job affirms that even the animals and plants depend on God...

JOB 12:10 *In whose hand is the life of every living thing, And the breath of all mankind?*

Job 12:10 (NASB)

- In the New Testament, Paul affirms that God...

AC 17:25 *...He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things;*

AC 17:28 *for in Him we live and move and exist...*

Acts 17:25, 28 (NASB)

- In Christ...

COL 1:17 *He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.*

Colossians 1:17 (NASB)

- He continually...

HEB 1:3 *...upholds all things by the word of His power*

Hebrews 1:3 (NASB)

- God's transcendence and immanence are both affirmed in a single verse when Paul speaks of

EPH 4:6 *one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.*

Ephesians 4:6 (NASB)

This is clearly distinct from materialism, which is the most common philosophy of unbelievers today, and which denies the existence of God altogether.

- Materialism would say that the material universe is all that there is.

B. The Order of Events for Creation

Can something be both true and not true at the same time? No it can't, this is called the Law of Non-contradiction formulated by Aristotle.

- *"It is impossible for the same thing at the same time to belong and not belong to the same thing at the same time and in the same respect."* – Aristotle (7)
 - For example, the year 2003 cannot come both before and after the year 2004.
- This law also applies to the order of creation. There can only be one order of creation events.

Contradictions between the order of Creation in the Bible and Evolution/Day-ages	
Biblical account of creation	Evolutionary/long-age speculation
Earth before the sun and stars	Stars and sun before earth
Earth covered in water initially	Earth a molten blob initially
Oceans first, then dry land	Dry land then the oceans
Life first created on the land	Life started in the oceans
Plants created before the sun	Plants came long after the sun
Land animals created after birds	Land animals existed before birds
Whales before land animals	Land animals before whales

When we examine the order of created events, the creation model and the evolution model do not line up in the same order. In the examples listed in the table above the order of events are opposite. This fact alone makes it impossible to combine evolution with the Bible.

Conclusion on the Order of Creation Events

1. Is it possible to combine the Bible and evolution?
2. Did God use evolution as part of His creative process?

Based on the order of creation events, the two models are complete opposites, which makes them incompatible. To state that God used evolution means we have to change the order of created events in the Bible. Again, evolution cannot be combined with, or into, the Bible.

The Days of Creation

Day 1 (Earth, Space, Time & Light)

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

GE 1:2 *The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.*

GE 1:3 *Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.*

GE 1:4 *God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.*

GE 1:5 *God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.*

Genesis 1:1-5 (NASB)

Day 1 saw the creation of earth, space, time, and light.

- The creation of time is implied by the words "*In the beginning...*" Before this, there was no measurement of time and no passage of time.

God Himself existed outside of time, in a realm we cannot imagine. This is a difficult concept to grasp, but this is exactly what Scripture teaches.

2PE 3:8 *...with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.*

2 Peter 3:8 (NASB)

- What this verse is saying is that God is not limited by time; he is the Creator of time.

PS 90:2 *Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*

PS 90:4 *For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it passes by, Or as a watch in the night.*

Psalms 90:2, 4 (NASB)

JOB 36:26 *"Behold, God is exalted, and we do not know Him; The number of His years is unsearchable.*

Job 36:26 (NASB)

REV 1:8 *"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, " who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."*

REV 4:8 *"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY is THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME."*

Revelation 1:8, 4:8 (NASB)

HEB 13:8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

Hebrews 13:8 (NASB)

- Verse 1 continues "*...God created the heavens and the earth.*"

- Note that the plural word "*heavens*" is used.

- The Hebrew for heaven from the Goodrick/Kohlenberger Number Definition is *shaw-meh*, (שׁוּמַיִם וְעוֹלָמוֹת), meaning: *region above the earth: the heavens: place of the stars, sky, air; heaven: the invisible realm of God.*

- The Hebrew word for heaven could refer to one of three different heavens: the sky, space, or the spiritual heaven. In fact the same Hebrew word is used in Genesis 1:8



- when God created the expanse on day 2 and called it heaven.
- Keeping things in context and looking at surrounding scripture, and since the word is plural referring to more than one heaven; God must be referring to the heaven of space and the spiritual heaven. The third possibility for heaven, the sky (atmosphere), is not created until day 2.
- Also in verse 1 the earth was created by God's command, out of nothing.
- We know from verse 2 that the earth existed in a formless, barren state, shrouded in darkness and water. The raw material was there, but it had not yet been given form.
 - The original water state of the earth is referred to in Psalm 104:5-6.
 - PS 104:5 He established the earth upon its foundations, So that it will not totter forever and ever.*
 - PS 104:6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters were standing above the mountains.*
 - Psalm 104:5-6 (NASB)**
- Verse 2 concludes with *"...and the Spirit of God was moving..."*
 - We will explore the Trinity in creation latter in the course, but for now we can say that the Hebrew word for "moving" means to *tremble, shake; to hover*.
 - This Hebrew word is used only two other times in Scripture, in Deut 32:11 and Jer 23:9. The word evokes the image of an eagle hovering over her chicks. The word is indicating that the Spirit of God was supervising, caring and nurturing the creation process.
 - Scripture also testifies to the Spirit of God's involvement in creation.
 - Job 26:13 By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens...*
 - Job 26:13 (KJV)**
 - PS 104:30 You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the ground.*
 - Psalm 104:30 (NASB)**
- God also created light on day 1, *"Then God said, 'Let there be light.'"*
 - What form this light took is not clear. Was it a glow, or a light that emanated from a specific source? The Bible doesn't say.
 - Actual lights, such as the sun, moon and stars will not be created until the fourth day. But light itself, the reality of light, was created on day 1.
 - Perhaps nothing in all of physics is more fascinating, or more mysterious, than light. Light is the single most important source of energy and heat on earth. Without light, life on earth would be impossible. That's why light was the vital starting point in the process of creation.
 - In verse 4, *"God saw that the light was good."* This statement stresses the divine origin and perfection of God's creation.
 - The creation of light also started the measurement of earth's time by periods of night and day. The earth was obviously set in motion revolving on its axis, with light illuminating one side and darkness the other. In verse 5 we are told, *"God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day."*

Day 2 (Atmosphere)

GE 1:6 Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

GE 1:7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so.

GE 1:8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

Genesis 1:6-8 (NASB)

God commanded the water to separate, and He placed an expanse between the water that remained on the earth and the water that rose above the expanse.

- The work of this day was the separation of the sea and the sky; of the terrestrial region from the aerial region, here called the expanse, or firmament in the King James.
 - The word firmament is not a good translation because it literally means something solid.
 - The Hebrew word for expanse is *raw-kee-ah* (Strong's, 7549, ['yqir :) which means *visible arch of the sky*.
- To this expanse above the surface of the earth God gave the name heaven.
 - According to Genesis 1:1, the heaven of space had already been created. So the expanse described in verses 7-8 is the earth's atmosphere, the sky.

Verse 6 tells us that God took the waters and put some above the expanse and some below the expanse. Where do you think the "waters above" are located?...In the atmosphere.

- Clouds cover approximately 40% of the earth's surface. (14, pg. 28)
- There are approximately 3,100 cubic miles of water in the atmosphere. A cubic mile is about 1 trillion gallons. (13)



What does God place in the expanse on Day 4?

GE 1:20 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."

Genesis 1:15, 20 (NASB)

Day 3 (Dry Land & Plants)

GE 1:9 Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

GE 1:10 God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good.

GE 1:11 Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; and it was so.

GE 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good.

GE 1:13 There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

Genesis 1:9-13 (NASB)

The special work of this day was another separation, this time of land and water. Up until now the earth was an ocean. But now, whether by volcanic upheavals or supernatural forces, the landmass of the earth is shaped and the waters fall into their basins.

2PE 3:5 ...by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water,

2 Peter 3:3-5 (NASB)

The Psalmist describes the same thing.

Ps 104:5 He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.

Ps 104:6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

Ps 104:7 But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight;

Ps 104:8 they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them.

Psalm 104:5-8 (NIV)

Modern science tells us that global tectonic changes occur slowly over millions of years, through the same natural processes we observe on earth today. The National Academy of Sciences makes the following statement in their National Science Education Standards.

- *“The earth processes we see today, including erosion, movement of lithospheric (tectonic) plates, and changes in atmospheric composition, are similar to those that occurred in the past.”* (19, pg. 160)
- But Scripture is not talking about earth processes. Scripture is describing the creative work of God, with whom all things are possible.
MT 19:26 ...with God all things are possible.
Matthew 19:26 (NASB)
- If we say that the laws of nature set limits on the creative power of God, we might as well rule out miracles altogether. But since God created the laws of nature there can be no limits placed on what He can do.
GE 18:14 “ Is anything too difficult for the LORD?... ”
Genesis 18:14 (NASB)

Jer 32:27 “I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?”
Jeremiah 32:27 (NIV)
- Our understanding of science should never govern whether we take God’s Word literally or not. Scripture gives a consistent account of how the land rose from the sea and its boundaries were set. The action is always attributed directly to God. There is no reason to try and explain it in natural terms, it was a creative miracle.

It is interesting, and ironic, that scientists are trying to explain the origin of the earth with scientific principals, which seem more and more to point to nothing short of a miracle. According to an article in the Los Angeles Times:

“The Big Bang is looking more supernatural all the time. About 20 years ago, the late Carl Sagan famously said that Big Bang science would eventually show that the universe was created without any creator. Since then, the picture has changed quite a bit, one reason why, in the years before his 1996 death, Sagan himself began to advocate science-and-religion studies. The leading contemporary development in Big Bang thinking is a theory called ‘cosmic inflation,’ which holds that the entire universe popped out of a point with no content and no dimensions, essentially expanding instantaneously to cosmological size. Now being taught at Stanford, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other top schools, this explanation of the beginning of the universe bears haunting similarity to the traditional theological notion of creation ex nihilo, ‘out of nothing.’” (20)

The article goes on to quote *“ one of the world’s foremost astronomers, Allan Sandage of the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution in Pasadena, who recently proposed that the Big Bang could only be understood as ‘a miracle,’ in which some higher force must have played a role.”* (20)

In the end, only a miracle can account for the existence of the universe. As Christians, we believe in the limitless miracle working ability of God. Therefore it should not tax our faith when we read that dry land and plant life rose up out of the sea in a day’s time at the command of God.

As He did on day 1 and day 2, God named what He had made. He called the land “*earth*” and the water “*seas*.” There is now earth, sea and sky, an eco-system ready for life. “*And God saw that it was good.*”

Then God said, “*Let the earth sprout vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them; and it was so.*”

- Plant life appeared because God commanded it. It was not the result of a long evolutionary process, it was immediate.
- Vegetation of every kind appeared instantly. Notice that when God created trees, they already had seed and fruit on them. They didn’t start with a little seed that grew and developed; they were already producing fruit. He made them mature, already fully rooted and developed. As we see consistently throughout the Genesis account, from the moment He creates something, it appears as if it has been there for some time.

The seed contained in the vegetation was preprogrammed with DNA (genetic information) to assure that each plant would reproduce “*after their kind.*” The Hebrew word for “*kind*” is *meen* (Strong’s, 4327, םַיִּמִּי) and means *to portion out; a sort*.

- Man-made classification systems using terms like species are not necessarily in harmony with the biblical measure of what constitutes a biblical “*kind.*”
- The fact that creatures reproduce according to their kind is a fundamental rule of genetics.
- Today a system developed by Carolus Linnaeus (1707 - 1778) is used to classify life. The Linnaeus System works by placing each organism into a layered hierarchy of groups. Each group at a given layer is composed of a set of groups from the layer directly below. The groupings (taxa) of taxonomy from most general to most specific are: **Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species.**
- The category “*kind*” is probably closer to the taxa of genus, or family.

Clearly and in plain language Genesis 1:11-12 describes the creation of all vegetable life. God Himself looked at it and saw that it was good. And then day three signs off with “*There was evening and there was morning, a third day.*” Nothing about the language suggests it was a figurative day.

Day 4 (Sun, Moon & Stars)

^{GE 1:14} Then God said, “*Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;*

^{GE 1:15} *and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so.*

^{GE 1:16} *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.*

^{GE 1:17} *God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,*

^{GE 1:18} *and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.*

^{GE 1:19} *There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.*

Genesis 1:14-19 (NASB)



As we arrive on day 4, we enter a second phase of God’s creative work. Notice the correlation between days one through three, and days four through six. There are unmistakable parallels.

Phase 1	Phase 2
Day 1: light	Day 4: luminaries
Day 2: the expanse and waters below	Day 5: birds and fish
Day 3: dry land	Day 6: land creatures

The work of this day included the heavenly bodies in their relation to the earth, and the adjusting of the laws, which regulate them. Not only were they made for the purpose of giving light, but also *“for signs and for seasons and for days and years”* (1:14). The entire array of heaven including the moon, the sun, the stars, and countless galaxies was complete and fully functioning on the day God made it.

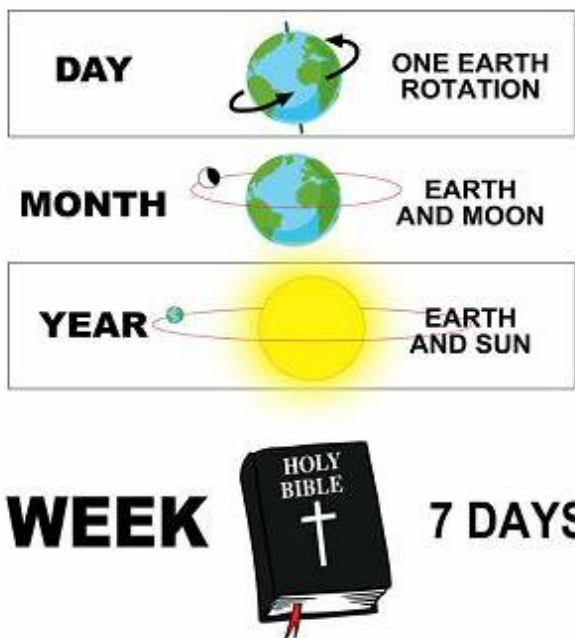
The Heavenly Bodies Created on this Day Perform Three Functions

1. Separation

- The stars and heavenly bodies were given to separate day from night. There are two “great lights,” the greater (the sun), to govern the day, and a lesser (the moon), to govern the night.
 - *“If the brightness or temperature of the sun were increased or decreased by only a few percentage points either way, life as we know it would soon end on earth.”* (9, pg. 111)
 - *“The moon, like the sun, helps keep the perfect balance of earth’s life sustaining environment. Ocean tides are caused by the moon’s gravitational pull. High tides align with the moon on both sides of the earth. The earth bulges slightly both toward and away from the moon, and this affects the water level of the oceans.”* (9, pg. 111)
- Scripture speaks of how the heavenly bodies govern our days, nights, months, and years, and thus our life patterns.

2. Regulation

- Not only do the heavenly bodies mark the passing of night and day, but also they would serve as permanent signposts: *“Let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years”* (1:14).
- They set our calendars. They determine the length of a year. They divide the year into seasons. And they mark the passage of our days and nights.
- The sun determines our days. The moon determines our months. And the stars, sun, and moon all determine our seasons.
- Because the earth is tilted on its axis, the sun’s rays strike different parts of the earth at



different angles throughout the year. This produces seasons that are critical for the rejuvenation of life, the growing of crops, and life on earth.

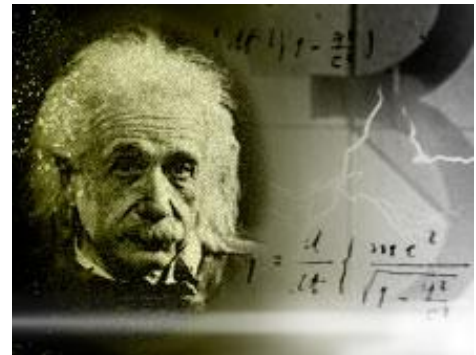
- The stellar bodies determine when we eat, when we work, and when we sleep. And all of this was set in motion perfectly on day four of creation.
- We know the stellar bodies are where we get our day, month and year. Where do we get our week? The creation week of Genesis 1. It was the period of time in which God created the universe, and ever since, it has governed how humanity makes time.

3. Illumination

- The third and most obvious reason for the heavenly bodies is to provide permanent light that illuminates the earth. Genesis 1:15 says, *"and let them be for lights."*
 - By whatever means God had previously illuminated the earth, whether a supernatural light source, glow, or just by energy, it was no longer necessary. The sun, moon and stars would henceforth give light permanently to the earth.

Note the closing of Genesis 1:16, *"He made the stars also."* The economy of the words is staggering considering the vast array of billions of known galaxies each containing billions of stars. Some of these stars are unfathomably large, millions of times larger than our own sun.

- Taking the Bible literally, concerning creation, the universe would be no more than ten thousand years old. If this is what Scripture teaches, how can we see light from a galaxy over a billion light years away be possible?
- According to Einstein's Theory of Relativity; time and space are not constants.
 - *"Special Relativity, proposed that distance and time are not absolute. General Relativity proposed that gravity, as well as motion, can affect the intervals of time and of space. The gravity of any mass, such as our sun, has the effect of warping the space and time around it. For example, the angles of a triangle no longer add up to 180 degrees and clocks tick more slowly the closer they are to a gravitational mass like the sun."* (21)
- There is also evidence that the speed of light is not constant.
 - *"The crux of Einstein's theory of relativity – that $E = mc^2$ – is under challenge, following evidence that the speed of light might be slowing down."* (22)
 - *"According to the theory of inflation, the Universe grew by a factor of 10 to the sixtieth power in less than 10 to the negative thirty seconds, so the 'edges' of the Universe were expanding away from each other faster than the speed of light."* (23)
 - *"For generations, physicists believed there is nothing faster than light moving through a vacuum -- a speed of 186,000 miles per second. But in an experiment in Princeton, New Jersey, physicists sent a pulse of laser light through cesium vapor so quickly that it left the chamber before it had even finished entering. The pulse traveled 310 times the distance it would have covered if the chamber had contained a vacuum. Researchers say it is the most convincing demonstration yet that the speed of light -- supposedly an ironclad rule of nature -- can be pushed beyond known boundaries. 'Our experiment does show that the generally held misconception that nothing can travel faster than the speed of light is wrong.'" (24)*
 - *"In their laboratory, Hau and her colleagues have been able to slow a pulse of light, and even stop it, for several-thousandths of a second."* (25)



- The authority of the Bible should never be comprised by mankind's "scientific" proposals. Remember, one small piece of unknown evidence can drastically change a theory, so that what was once fact is no longer so.
- Science can only attempt to explain these mysteries by means of ever changing theories. But the testimony of Scripture stands sure and unchanging.

What does this verse tell you about why God created the universe?

PS 19:1 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

Psalm 19:1 (NASB)

Psalm 147:4 tells us something amazing.

PS 147:4 He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

Psalm 147:4 (NASB)

"There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day." (v. 19). On this day, for the first time, evening and morning were marked by light from the moon and light from the sun.

Day 5 (Sea & Flying Creatures)

GE 1:20 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."

GE 1:21 God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

GE 1:22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

GE 1:23 There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

Genesis 1:20-23 (NASB)

By day 5 the creative work of God will now consist primarily in filling the earth with living creatures. Once again the means of creation is a decree from God. *"Then God said..."*

- He spoke the full array of sea creatures and birds into existence immediately, out of nothing.
- Notice that the sea creatures could already swim and the birds could fly. These weren't skills acquired through any evolutionary process.
- *"And God saw that it was good"* (v. 21).

Scripture makes a clear distinction between animal and plant life.

- Trees and plants are nowhere in Scripture referred to as *"living creatures."* This designation is reserved for animals, insects, birds, fish, and man. Things that move and have a central nervous system.
 - Plants are of course living in a sense that they have a genetic makeup and can reproduce, but they do not have conscious life.
- In verse 21, the Hebrew noun in the expression *"every living creature"* is *neh-fesh* (Strong's, 5315, $\nu\text{p}, n\neq<$), which means *a breathing creature*. It speaks of soulish life, creaturely life, as opposed to the mere organic life of plants.

Genesis 1:22 says, *"God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.'"* Scripture is expressly teaching that God completed His creation of all the sea creatures and birds before He gave the order to reproduce. If evolution were true, it would mean that animal reproduction must have already been going on for millions of years before so many sea creatures and birds could emerge.

- The message of this passage is that God created all the various birds and sea creatures with all of

the unique features in place, with all of the genetic variability established, and with the ability to reproduce according to their kind.

- Notice that the expression, *“after their/its kind,”* which appears twice in verse 21, twice in verse 24, three times in verse 25, and once each in verses 11 and 12. It is used every time procreation is mentioned in the Genesis account. It underscores the very truth evolution denies: that when living creatures reproduce, they can produce only creatures similar to themselves.

Genesis 1:23 continues the measure of creation days by the familiar pattern: *“There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.”*

Day 6 (Land Animals & Man)

GE 1:24 Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind”; and it was so.

GE 1:25 God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

GE 1:26 Then God said, “Let Us make man 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 cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

GE 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

GE 1:28 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.”

GE 1:29 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;

GE 1:30 and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so.

GE 1:31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Genesis 1:24-31 (NASB)



Creation now makes its highest advance, and reaches the nobler forms of animal life, the beasts of the earth, and at last, the human family. The distinct word *“create”* is used for the third time in verse 27. In the first verse it used with regard to the entire universe in its original form, in the 21st verse with respect to the first creation of life, and now here, to mark the final stage of creation, man himself.

As day 6 dawns, we have the introduction of all kinds of land animals: *“cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind”*

- Once again, the biblical account makes it very clear that these creatures did not evolve from lower life forms. All of them were created instantaneously.
- Scripture names three categories that God created: cattle, creeping things, and beasts of the earth.

1. Cattle

- The Hebrew word translated *“cattle”* is a word that speaks of livestock and animals that are capable of being domesticated (sheep, goats, and oxen).

2. Creeping Things

- The Hebrew word for “*creeping things*” is *reh-mes* (Strong’s, 7431, רֶמֶס), which means *a reptile or any other rapidly moving animal that creepeth*.
- This includes reptiles, insects, and perhaps small rodents.

3. Beasts of the Earth

- The Hebrew word for “*beasts of the earth*” is *khah-ee* (Strong’s, 2416, חַיָּוִי), which means *wild beast*.
- This would include all other animals.

Genesis 1:25 repeats the familiar phrase that gives us God’s assessment of His creation, “*And God saw that it was good.*”

The Direct Creation of Adam and Eve

GE 1:26 Then God said, “Let Us make man 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 cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

GE 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

GE 1:28 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.”

Then God said, “Let Us...”

- The plural word *Elohiym* is used here, again showing the work of the Trinity in creation.
- It cannot be believed that God discussed the creation with the angels and included them as participants in His decision to create man.
 - John 1:1 affirms that the Word was God, and in the beginning was with God, and that without Him there was nothing made that had been made.
 - JN 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
 - JN 1:2 He was in the beginning with God.*
 - JN 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*
- **John 1:1 (NASB)**
- This supports the thought that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit (revealed in Genesis 1:2 as active in the creation) should be understood as included in “*Us*” and “*Our*” here in verse 26.

“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...”

- As to the manner in which God made man in His likeness, it is significant that man himself is a “trinity” of sorts; having mind, spirit, and body.
- Other phases of human likeness to God are seen in such things as freedom of will, moral responsibility, intellectual achievement, and creativity.

“And let them rule...”

- The intention of God in the creation of man is revealed to have been the placement of man over the earth and all that is in it..

“God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

- Just to be sure there is no misunderstanding note how the Scripture restates three times in verse 27 that God created man. Evolution cannot be read into this passage.

- This means that woman was also made in the image of God.

“God blessed them; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth...”

- The procreation and nurturing of further generations upon the earth is a command.
- *“Fill the earth”* is sometimes translated replenish the earth. Replenish is not a correct translation.
 - The Hebrew word for *“fill”* is *maw-lay* (Strong’s, 4390, אָלַם; <), which means *to fill or be full off*.
 - This does not mean a re-population of the earth.
 - There is no record of previous populations that are sometimes alleged from what is written here to have existed prior to humanity. The passage should be translated, Fill the earth and subdue it.

GE 1:29 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;

GE 1:30 and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so.

GE 1:31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

The dominion of man over the animal creation was stated in Genesis 1:28; and here that dominion is extended to the plant world as well. The lesser dominion of the animals over the plant world was also noted in verse 30.

“And behold, it was very good...”

- The goodness and wisdom of God are thus attested to by his creation.

Day 7

GE 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.

GE 2:2 By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

GE 2:3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

Genesis 2:1-3 (NASB)

The last day is called the Sabbath and signals the completion of God’s creative work. It implies that God has completed the material universe.

CONCLUSION

The universe was created in six days, not billions of years

EX 20:11 “ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Exodus 20:11 (NASB)

EX 31:17 “ It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased from labor, and was refreshed.”

Exodus 31:17 (NASB)

Summary of the days of creation

PR 8:22 *“The LORD possessed me at the beginning of His way, Before His works of old.*

PR 8:23 *“From everlasting I was established, From the beginning, from the earliest times of the earth.*

PR 8:24 *“When there were no depths I was brought forth, When there were no springs abounding with water.*

PR 8:25 *“ Before the mountains were settled, Before the hills I was brought forth;*

PR 8:26 *While He had not yet made the earth and the fields, Nor the first dust of the world.*

PR 8:27 *“When He established the heavens, I was there, When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep,*

PR 8:28 *When He made firm the skies above, When the springs of the deep became fixed,*

PR 8:29 *When He set for the sea its boundary So that the water would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth;*

PR 8:30 *Then I was beside Him, as a master workman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,*

Proverbs 8:22-30

Is there anywhere in the Bible that teaches (or even suggests) that God used evolution as part of His creative process?...NO

- If not, then why do you suppose so many people believe God used evolution?

1. Some people believe that scientists have proven evolution to be true. This occurs mostly because of the education system, which teaches evolution as a fact. In most school systems the textbooks used have censored out any scientific information refuting evolution.
2. Some people do not want to be ridiculed because of a belief in creation therefore they adopt a worldview based on evolution.
3. Peer pressure. Christians who work in the education system (especially universities) will adopt an evolutionary worldview to keep their job or remain in good standing with their peers.
4. Lack of knowledge. Sometimes Christians are unwilling to even investigate the evidence for creation.
5. *“Many in the church are too intimidated or too embarrassed to affirm the literal truth of the biblical account of creation. They are confused by a chorus of authoritative-sounding voices who insist that it is possible – and even...necessary – to reconcile Scripture with the latest theories of the naturalists.” – John MacArthur (9, pg. 17)*

There is no hint of the development of the forms of creation out of the earlier species of life that had successfully appeared, but all are distinct acts unlike any that preceded it.

- *“The Bible is not directly intended to be a book about natural science, yet it never contradicts the real facts of nature (once they are fully understood); and in many things has been found to be a truly marvelous anticipation of the most remarkable discoveries of modern science. Even the statements and allusions which at one time were criticized by science as incorrect and ignorant have been found by latter discoveries to be in real accord with the constitution of nature, although opposed to what was once supposed to be scientific truth.” – A.B. Simpson (5) pg. 18*

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