



# Many Ideas, One Creator

**Text: Genesis 1:1-2:3**

Note: The Scripture references in this Bible study are taken from the New King James Version.

## **Read Genesis 1:1-2:3**

### **Why are you here?**

#### **What do you think your purpose is on earth?**

Think about this question as we go through this Bible study today and we'll come back to it at the end. Hopefully, if you don't know already, at the end of today's study you should have a pretty good idea what your purpose is on earth.

### **What is the most important part of a building that supports the walls and the roof?**

The foundation is the most important part of a building. If the foundation is flawed, the whole building is weak.

### **How is Genesis 1 the foundation of the Bible?**

It tells us how everything began, it provides the basis for our belief.

### **What do they teach in school about how everything came into existence?**

It all started with a big bang then evolution caused life to from.

### **Do they ever discuss where all that matter came from that was necessary for the big bang to occur?**

No, it is assumed that the matter in the universe has always been there oscillating from explosion to implosion for eternity. It is basically taken on faith that this assumption is true.

### **Does scientific evidence support the Big Bang theory?**

Scientists try to fit what they observe into this theory but they keep discovering new things that just don't support it. For example, scientists have recently determined that the stars and galaxies are accelerating away from each other.

### **How does the discovery that stars and galaxies are actually accelerating away from each other present a problem for people trying to find evidence supporting the Big Bang theory?**

Gravitational forces should be decelerating all the stellar bodies. This is necessary if matter will eventually collapse on to itself and start another Big Bang all over again. All

this begs the question, Who put everything in motion to begin with?

### **If you put any that at all into where everything came from, what do you have to admit?**

That God created everything.

### **Can you believe that God created everything and not believe the Genesis account of creation?**

Certainly. The Genesis account of creation is very specific. Many people believe that all God did is set the Big Bang in motion then kicked-back and watches it all unfold as a spectator rather than an active participant.

### **How is this contrary to what the Bible teaches?**

The Bible makes it abundantly clear that God does intervene in the affairs of mankind. People that acknowledge God exists but think He is no longer actively involved in His creation are called Deists. Deists have come to believe in God by reasoning and have not received a true revelation of Him from the Bible.

### **Why is the Bible so important as our source of authority?**

It is given to us by God...

2 Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

If God is Almighty, whatever He says is absolutely true and He is powerful enough to accurately give us and preserve His Word even using His error-prone creation.

### **How do people believe that both evolution and the creation account in Genesis is true?**

There are those that say the 7 days of creation are not literally 24-hour days, that each day in Genesis represents an age or phase of creation that could be millions of years each. Some believe that God used evolution as the mechanism to bring about the creation.

### **Can you be saved and believe in evolution? Can you be saved and believe that God brought about the creation using evolution?**

- I was when I was first saved so I know it is possible but I also know that I was an infant in Christ and that there is great danger in remaining an infant. If you don't grow in knowledge of the truth, you must question your own salvation.

Luke 16:31 - But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'

Well One has risen from the dead and most people have rejected His testimony. Likewise, those who spiritualize Genesis which was written by Moses are denying the Almighty nature of God and are in danger of failing to believe in Jesus.

**If you do not believe the Genesis account of the creation is literally true, how can you be sure that any of the Bible is literally true?**

- Unless you take God at His word and believe the Genesis account of creation is literally true, you can not be sure about anything the Bible says.  
If you start "spiritualizing" Genesis, where do you stop? If Genesis 1 does not mean what it says, maybe John 3:16 doesn't really promise a substantive eternal life to believers. It was a great relief and drew me closer to God when I appropriated the counsel, "if the literal interpretation makes sense, seek no other sense."
- You may say you are trusting in Jesus but many people trust in a Jesus of human definition and not the Jesus of the Bible.

**If God is Almighty, why didn't He bring about the creation just as He said He did? Why would He encode the simple truth and subject people to dependency on interpretations from others?**

If God is Almighty, He is powerful enough to accurately bring us His word and preserve it even using His error-prone creation without critical errors.

- In fact, the creation is a testimony to the omnipotent nature of God, *"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse"* (Romans 1:20).

**How is creation a testimony of God?**

- If were walking along a beach and found a watch, would you think that the watch washed up on the beach after being formed by wave action from the minerals in the sea? NO! If there is a watch, there had to be a watch-maker. Likewise, if there is a creation, there had to be a Creator.
- Examples from creation reveal God: the symbiotic relationship between algae and fungus in lichens... there are three varieties in the world and the only organism made up of two others that were made for each other and they work together, the fungus does not kill the algae that nourishes it.

**Is a correct understanding of the Lord's Almighty nature necessary for salvation?**

The Bible represents God as Almighty and in control of all things (see Colossians 1:15-17 and Hebrews 1:1-3 above). If you don't believe the God represented by the Bible, you don't believe God.

**What are some difficulties that people who believe that God used evolution to bring about the creation have to overlook?**

- That there was no death prior to Adam's fall into sin.  
Evolution requires many generations of animals so there is a lot of death associated with it. When God created the world, it was perfect, complete. This is why He rested, no more work was required. In God's own words, *"indeed it was very good"* (Genesis 1:31). How could God call creation good if dying was part of His plan? God made it clear that death was a consequence of man's sin so there was no death until Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying God: *"just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men"* (Romans 5:12).
- Evolution calls for "survival of the fittest" where the weak die out making way for the strong. Scripture makes it clear that this is not how God works.
- That the Scripture goes to great pains to represent "day" as a 24-hour period since it refers to morning and evening.  
This is reinforced in the Ten Commandments; Exodus 20:8-11 establishes a memorial for the seventh day of the week as God did on the original Sabbath. The Hebrew word for "days" in this passage is the same whether it is applied to the days of creation or our own work week.
- The Second Law of Thermodynamics. From an introduction on a UC Berkeley Website:  
The second law is concerned with entropy, which is a measure of disorder. The second law says that the entropy of the universe increases. An increase in disorder (overall) is therefore spontaneous. If the volume and energy of a system are constant, then every change to the system increases the entropy. If volume or energy change, then the entropy of the system can actually decrease. However, the entropy of the universe does not decrease.

**How does the fact of entropy show that the theory of evolution is bankrupt?**

- Evolution holds that from simple matter, complex life spontaneously generated. Entropy says that this is just not possible without being acted on by an external force.
- Not only that but the evidence for intelligent design (non-reducible complexity) shows that the creation was directed, not random.

their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

**For evolution to work, what must there be a lot of?**  
Time.

**Is a literal biblical interpretation on the age of the earth necessary to be saved?**

- No, I would not allow myself to be burned at the stake over my convictions about the age of the earth. I consider this a "doubtful thing" (Romans 14:1) that is not worth splitting a church over. I know that what one believes about the age of the earth has no direct bearing on their salvation (thus making it a "doubtful thing").
- However I believe that a wrong view of the creation account can indirectly lead to dangerous doctrines that do keep people from being saved...  
Luke 16:31 - If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.

**Does science support the Genesis account of creation?**

- Unbiased science does, scientific understanding is a gift from God when it is properly motivated to seek to know the Creator through His creation. (Note that significant scientific discovery is a Western [Christian] phenomenon and all the early scientists were Christians.)
- Christians were the driving force behind the Renaissance taking the world out of the Dark Ages.
- There is a preponderance of scientific evidence supporting creation. I'll only summarize some representative points...

**How do fossils prove the truth of the Bible?**

- The mere existence of fossils is proof of the world-wide flood described in Genesis. When organisms die they generally do not start forming future fossils, they rot. Only a catastrophic event such as the flood could have caused the right conditions for fossils to form.
- World geological view holds that each layer of sedimentary rock represents millions of years yet there are occurrences of single petrified trees spanning multiple sedimentary layers. If it took millions of years for each layer of sediment to form, the tree would have rotted away long before it could become petrified.
- There are no "transitional forms" between species found in the fossil record which would be expected if evolution were true. Those holding on to the religion of evolution have had to come up with another theory to explain away the lack of evidence called "punctuated equilibrium" which says evolutionary change happened in spurts. This contradicts "uniformitarianism" one of the cornerstones of evolution and they don't bother to explain what caused these spurts.

Genesis 1:21 - So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to

**What kind of evidence is there for a young earth?**

There are many "earth clocks" which give evidence as to the age of this planet...

- The decay of the earth's magnetic field suggests that this steady process could not have been occurring longer than about 10,000 years.
- The formation of river deltas are only large enough to represent 5,000 years of soil erosion.
- Carbon-14 dates the oldest once-living matter within less than 10,000 years. This includes Neanderthal man bones, saber-tooth tigers, mammoths, coal, natural gas, crude oil, etc.
- The growth of the human population also indicates that this could not be occurring more than 4,000 years.
- The amount of top soil on the earth only accounts for 6,000-25,000 years of formation.
- The amount of solar wind gasses in moon rocks only accounts for 10,000 years.
- The amount of dust on the moon only accounts for 10,000 years.
- The growth of stalactites and stalagmites only accounts for tens of thousands of years.

There are at least 80 similar such points of evidence reinforcing the creation account of Genesis.

**How do you explain the millions of years scientists come up with for the age of rocks?**

Techniques used to date rocks are not as reliable as Carbon-14 which is limited to once-living matter. Rock dating techniques use the decay of radioactive isotopes but assumptions must be made as to how much radioactive material was present in the rock from the beginning. These assumptions are easily skewed to give results for which researchers are looking. It is common practice for rock dating services to ask their customers what age they expect the rocks to be based on fossils and sedimentary layers around them so they can "calibrate" their instruments. Studies on volcanic rocks from Hawaii known to be less than 200 years old, yielded ages from 160 million to almost 3 billion years using common rock dating techniques.

**If the Big Bang and Evolution Theories are wrong, why do they teach it in school?**

The alternative to this is that God brought everything into being. People get comfortable in the condition even if it is a condition of sin. Change is scary to the human mind-set so they would rather hang on to the lie instead of embrace the truth. Pride is a factor as well, people just don't like admitting they are wrong and need help from someone outside themselves.

**We said earlier that what a person believes about the age of the earth has no bearing on whether they are saved or not, but what must a person believe to be saved?**

Believe that Jesus Christ is God manifest in the flesh, that He paid the penalty for my sin, and that He is my personal Savior and Lord... A personal understanding of the good news about Jesus *"is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes"* (Romans 1:16).