

## Lesson 5: God created the Heavens and the Earth, pt. 2

Welcome once again to the Firm Foundation series, Lesson 5.

In today's lesson, we're going to look at God's creation of the world as found in Genesis. This teaching is not allowed in most classrooms today. Under threat of being fired, teachers are told to never mention "intelligent design." Professors target students who disagree with evolution with threats of failing their course.

Here in the U.S and England, evolutionists are seeking new laws to prevent the discussion or teaching of creationism. What is there about creation as taught in Genesis that they don't want you to know or even consider. Why is it not even possible to discuss creation in most classrooms today? Why is there such a heavy-handed indoctrination into believing theory of evolution? Why are teachers, professors and even scientists afraid to even debate the theory of evolution? Maybe it's because they don't have much in the way of facts on their side. In fact, it takes a greater amount of faith to believe in evolution than the biblical account that we're going to study today in Genesis.

But first, let's review last week's lesson.

### Review of Lesson 4:

1. Who, in the beginning, created the heavens and the earth? *God*
2. What did God use to make the heavens and the earth? *God didn't use anything. He made everything out of nothing.*
3. Why was God able to make the heavens and the earth? God is almighty. *There is nothing He cannot do.*
4. How did God know how to make the heavens and the earth? *God knows everything.*
5. Who taught God how to make everything? *No one taught God.*
6. Is there any person or any spirit who knows everything like God does? *No. Only God knows everything.*
7. What was the condition of the earth before God began to prepare it for people to live in it? *It was without form and in total darkness; no land and no life.*
8. What did God do in order to create everything? *He spoke and commanded that things appear.*

### A. Introduction:

No one has ever observed evolution taking place. There is no scientific evidence for macro-evolution.

"Evolution" mixes two things together, one real, one imaginary. **Variation (microevolution)** is the real part. The types of bird beaks, the colors of moths, leg sizes, etc. are variation. Each type and length of beak a finch can have is already in the gene pool and adaptive mechanisms of finches. Creationists have always agreed that there is variation within species. What evolutionists do not want you to know is that **there are strict limits to variation that are never crossed**, something every breeder of animals or plants is aware of.

Evolutionists tell us we cannot see evolution taking place because it happens too slowly. A human generation takes about 20 years from birth to parenthood. They say it took tens of thousands of generations to form man from a common ancestor with the ape, from populations of only hundreds or thousands. We do not have these problems with bacteria. A new generation of bacteria grows in as short as 12 minutes or up to 24 hours or more, depending on the type of bacteria and the environment, but typically 20 minutes to a few hours. There are more bacteria in

the world than there are grains of sand on all of the beaches of the world (and many grains of sand are covered with bacteria). They exist in just about any environment: hot, cold, dry, wet, high pressure, low pressure, small groups, large colonies, isolated, much food, little food, much oxygen, no oxygen, in toxic chemicals, etc.

There is much variation in bacteria. There are many mutations (in fact, evolutionists say that smaller organisms have a faster mutation rate than larger ones<sup>17</sup>). **But they never turn into anything new. They always remain bacteria.** Fruit flies are much more complex than already complex single-cell bacteria. Scientists like to study them because a generation (from egg to adult) takes only 9 days. In the lab, fruit flies are studied under every conceivable condition. There is much variation in fruit flies. There are many mutations. **But they never turn into anything new. They always remain fruit flies.** Many years of study of countless generations of bacteria and fruit flies all over the world shows that evolution is not happening today. Much of evolution is based on the evolutionary tool of natural selection. For natural selection to take place, all the right mutations must happen at this same time by pure chance, and that is physically impossible. To illustrate just how hopeless it is, imagine this: on the ground are all the materials needed to build a house (nails, boards, shingles, windows, etc.). We tie a hammer to the wagging tail of a dog and let him wander about the work site for as long as you please, even millions of years. The swinging hammer on the dog is as likely to build a house as mutation-natural selection is to make a single new working part in an animal, let alone a new creature. Another thing is that evolution defies the law of increasing entropy -- also known as the second law of thermodynamics -- stipulates that all systems in the real world tend to go "downhill," as it were, toward disorganization and decreased complexity. And, there are no such evolutionary transitions that have ever been observed in the fossil record of the past; and the universal law of entropy seems to make it impossible on any significant scale. We have not found any transitional forms from one species to another.

All that to say that today, we're going to look at what God says in Genesis. This is a teaching that is forbidden in most schools today, so I congratulate you on having the courage to consider what God says in His Word—After all, He is the Creator of the universe. He knows exactly how everything you see came into being, because He's the One who brought all things into existence.

If you'd like to learn more about the fallacies of evolution, here are some websites you can check out:

<http://creation.com>

<http://answersingenesis.org>

[www.darwinconspiracy.com](http://www.darwinconspiracy.com)

These website addresses are also listed in the notes for this lesson, found at: [www.foundationstudy.weebly.com](http://www.foundationstudy.weebly.com)

In our last lesson, we began to study what the Bible says about God in His mighty acts of creation.

- We discussed the fact that the Bible says about God in His mighty acts of creation.
- It's not about theory
- It is the truth.
- It has not and will not change.

We discussed the fact that the account of creation helps us see who God is.

- The sovereign Creator

- The all-powerful God
- The all-knowing One
- The God who exists by his own power
- The holy and perfect God.

And we discussed the first two days of creation.

We read that God created light just by speaking. He created the air and the sky and placed some water above the sky. Now we will read how God made the land and the seas and filled them with living creatures.

## **B. The Third Day: Dry land, ocean, and all Flora created. (Genesis 1:9-13)**

### **Read Genesis 1:9-10.**

God gathered the waters into seas and made the dry ground appear.

Have you ever witnessed the devastation caused by a flood or tidal wave. The tsunami that hit the Philippines on Nov. 10, 2013 is said to have taken 10,000 lives and destroyed 70-80% of everything that was in its path.

Now, imagine the power involved in shaping the seas—all in a day! Only Almighty God could command the waters encircling the earth to move and make dry ground appear.

### **Psalm 95:5 (NLT)**

<sup>5</sup> The sea belongs to him, for he made it. His hands formed the dry land, too.

God alone, who made the waters of the earth, can control them.

### **Genesis 1:11-13 (NLT)**

<sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came.” And that is what happened.

<sup>12</sup> The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>13</sup> And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

God made all the plants and trees.

- God alone has the knowledge to create plant life.

God in his infinite wisdom, was able to create all plant life and to perfectly suit every kind to the rest of the earth’s system that He was creating.

- God made the plants to produce seeds which would produce more plants like the originals.
- Now consider this: a Fir Tree doesn’t produce petunia seeds.

### **Discuss:**

Have you ever made something you liked, only to have it wear out? If you want another like it, you have to start over. But when God created plant life, He put within each plant the capability to bear seeds which could sprout into new plants like the first. God is the giver and sustainer of life. The plants we have today came from those God created in the very beginning.

Why did God make the plants and trees?

Did God need them?

God made the plants and trees for man, whom He was going to create next.

God made the plants to meet our physical needs.

- To provide us with food to eat.
- To give off oxygen for the air we breathe.
- To provide wood for building.
- And to provide many other things which are essential to our lives, such as medicines, furniture, etc.

**Consider this:**

God could've made everything in black and white. But instead, he created colors—colors that could be seen by the eyes of man whom he soon would create. Those of you watching this are probably too young to remember this, but there was a time when televisions were black and white, and nothing on television was broadcast in color. It was all black and white.

Towards the late 1960's, color television became fairly common, but it was still a big deal and shows would open up on NBC with the Peacock announcing the following program is brought to you in living color. Now, we take all that for granted, but there was a time when it was a big deal.

And we take the color in the world around us for granted, as well as all the various smells and tastes.

Everything could have been tasteless, but God created flavor and taste buds to taste it. He did the same with fragrances.

Look at a flower. Each flower of a certain kind has an identifying pattern that makes it recognizable as that kind of flower. The tiny seed from which it grew contained certain characteristics which always produce that kind of orderly petal and stem arrangement and the same fragrance, every time.

All this gives evidence to a Master Designer.

What if you took a handful of marbles and dropped them on the floor? Would they fall into a beautiful pattern?

What if they did happen to land in some pattern? Could you repeat the pattern over and over again?

Now, what if you took the marbles one by one and placed them into a pattern of your choosing? You could do this over and over, because you designed the pattern and insured its repetition. Your design would NOT be a product of chance; rather, it would reflect the work of a designer---you.

When you see a design, you need to bear in mind that there was also a designer. And when you see a design in plants, trees or flowers, keep in mind that God is the one who is reflected in the design.

Everything God created on this day was good.

- All the plants were beneficial, lovely—created perfect
- Thorns and weeds DID NOT exist.
- No fruit was poisonous.
- Vegetables and fruit did not get diseases or spoil.
- Everything was perfect in the beginning, because God is perfect, and everything He does is perfect.

### **C: the Fourth Day: Sun, moon, and stars**

#### **Genesis 1:14-19 (NLT)**

<sup>14</sup> Then God said, “Let great lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them mark off the seasons, days, and years.

<sup>15</sup> Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth.” And that is what happened.

<sup>16</sup> God made two great lights, the sun and the moon—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars.

<sup>17</sup> God set these lights in the sky to light the earth,

<sup>18</sup> to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>19</sup> And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.

Discuss the vastness of the universe:

*In the days before telescopes, when an observer could count a few thousand stars in the night sky, many considered the universe too small and unimpressive to be the work of an almighty, all-knowing Creator. Only an infinite cosmos, they said, would befit an infinite deity. But then, others argued, an infinite cosmos might eliminate the need for a Creator.*

*Thanks to the Hubble space telescope, scientists now see that the universe contains roughly 200 billion large- and medium-sized galaxies and about a hundred times as many dwarf galaxies. The stars in those galaxies add up to about fifty billion trillion, and they comprise a mere one percent of the mass of the observable universe.*

*Because of the travel time of light, the universe humans can observe is really the universe of the past. What researchers know about the expansion and geometry of the universe informs us that the universe of today is at least several hundred times more enormous than the universe we can see. The universe is trillions of trillions of times larger and more spectacular than what the earliest astronomers presumed!*

*And yet, this new knowledge of the vastness of the universe has led to new complaints. In his book, *God: The Failed Hypothesis*, Victor Stenger says, “If God created the universe as a special place for humanity, he seems to have wasted an awfully large amount of space.” Stephen Hawking, in the best-selling science book of all time, *A Brief**

*History of Time, shares Stenger's view: "Our solar system certainly is a prerequisite for our existence. . . . But there does not seem to be any need for all these other galaxies." So now the universe is too big to befit the all-wise, all-powerful God of the Bible.*

God spoke, and the sun, moon and stars came into being.

**Isaiah 44:24 (NLT)**

<sup>24</sup> This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer and Creator: "I am the LORD, who made all things. I alone stretched out the heavens. Who was with me when I made the earth?"

**ILLUSTRATE:**

Dr. Brian Thomas writes that God as creator has made himself known to us by the interdependence that is seen time and time again in microbiology.

An interdependent system is one in which at least two parts mutually depend on each other for proper function. Sometimes one part needs another part without requiring anything in return for the system to function. For example, correct walking depends on feet, and correct speaking depends on the tongue. It's easier to concoct ways that nature, apart from a Creator, might have generated a part on which another part or system depends. For example, maybe early humans swung from trees, so they didn't need to walk with proper feet until later. Or maybe early humans communicated nonverbally while they were supposedly evolving into full humanity, so they didn't need articulate tongues. **When it comes to explaining the origins of an interdependent system, however, these conjectures strain naturalistic scenarios—that by definition exclude God—past the breaking point.**

A classic example of interdependence is that of DNA and proteins. Within each cell, proteins manufacture, repair, and access DNA. So, DNA depends on proteins. But DNA provides the blueprints for protein structure, so proteins also depend on DNA. **These two system parts stand and function only when working together, and they fall apart when separated from each other.**

Relationships like this set up a "chicken-egg" origins dilemma. **If both parts were required from the start, then how could one part have been added long after the other part was in place?** Sometimes, asking people a question like "Which part came first?" is all they need to begin a critical evaluation of their faith in nature-only origins.

How could this be? There is only one answer—One Designer created everything, from the smallest organism to the largest. God and God alone created the universe and everything in it, down to the cells in our body and our DNA.

God's design is deeply imprinted in every part.

## **Theme: God is everywhere all the time.**

We can only see a tiny part of the endless reaches of the universe, and now scientists believe that our universe is just a tiny part of many universes that extend on forever. You see, God created even the most remote galaxies and stars, as well as the cells and DNA and vast molecular structures and machines that microbiologists are discovering.

God is everywhere, but we can't imagine the immensity of the universe; much less can we comprehend the greatness of God!

Although God is everywhere present in the universe, He is distinct from it.

- The idea that God is everything and everything is God is a concept that is totally foreign to Scripture.
- There is ONE TRUE GOD—not many “gods”.
- The Bible refers to the universe and everything in it as God's creation, not as part of His being.
- New Age and pantheistic religions believe that God is everything and in everything.

## **Theme: God is all-knowing.**

### **Jeremiah 10:12 (NLT)**

<sup>12</sup> But God made the earth by his power, and he preserves it by his wisdom. With his own understanding he stretched out the heavens.

- God's infinite wisdom and knowledge are displayed in the universe He created.

As scientists have studied and experimented, they have discovered physical laws that apply consistently throughout the known universe. These laws govern the physical behavior of all matter.

Knowing these laws, men have been able to do amazing things, such as travel in space. Yet, these “discoveries” are actually established by God and put into effect in the beginning when He created the universe. You see, we only discover what God allows us to discover.

## **Theme: God never changes.**

You don't have to be an engineer or scientist to see God's laws at work. All of us depend on these laws every day, just to keep our feet on the ground.

Has there ever been a day in your life when the sun didn't rise or set? How about the moon? Did you know that calendars and tidal charts can be made years in advance because of the movement and position of the moon and earth and sun are completely predictable? This certainly isn't happening by chance; it was designed that way by God Himself

### **Psalms 104:19-20 (NLT)**

<sup>19</sup> You made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to set.

<sup>20</sup> You send the darkness, and it becomes night, when all the forest animals prowls about.

I remember in the early 1960s when space travel was really new phenomenon, I along with the rest of the world, watched as Apollo 11 lifted off the launch pad on July 16, 1969. I got up before daybreak to watch all the preparation and see the 3 astronauts enter the spacecraft. Then I watched in amazement on July 20 as Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon and uttered the words, “one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” We sat in amazement watching these grainy black and white images being transmitted all the way from the moon to here on earth.

But as amazing as that was, and all the research and effort that went into launching that shuttle into space, it pales in comparison to God’s knowledge. Imagine this: God spoke and the entire universe was created, at that moment—not over millions or years, but instantly created.

**Psalm 19:1-3 (NLT)** <sup>1</sup>

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.

<sup>2</sup> Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.

<sup>3</sup> They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.

What the Psalmist is saying here is that when you look up into the sky at night, the heavens declare the glory of God. The heavens speak to us of God’s existence. They make Him known.

The Heavens are a message that God is sending to us.

The Bible says that Everything God made on the fourth day was good.

--You see, God is perfect and everything He does is perfect.

--God was very pleased with His creation.

**D. The Fifth Day: All sea life and birds created.**

**Genesis 1:20-23 (NLT)**

<sup>20</sup> Then God said, “Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.”

<sup>21</sup> So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>22</sup> Then God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

<sup>23</sup> And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

Imagine the beauty that suddenly filled the water and the skies!

--Just as He had one in His creation of plant life, God made numerous kinds of water creatures and birds with countless, colorful designs and shapes.

The more we search the ocean depths and the remote places on earth, the more kinds of fish and birds we discover.

Why did God create such variety and beauty?



He did it to show His love for us. He did it to show us His creative power and understanding.

### **Theme: God is All-Powerful.**

Can we even make one of the tiniest creatures? Can we make a sparrow? We might make a model or imitation, but we can't create a sparrow that reproduces itself again and again.

Even the tiniest, most ordinary creatures in God's creation are incredibly complex in their design.

As I mentioned earlier in regard to Microbiology, we are learning that even the simplest of all living systems on earth today, bacterial cells, are exceedingly complex objects. Although, the tiniest bacterial cells are incredibly small, weighting less than 10-12 gms, each is in effect a veritable microminiaturized factory containing thousands of exquisitely designed pieces of intricate molecular machinery, made up altogether of one hundred thousand million atoms—and far more complicated than any machine built by man and absolutely without parallel in the world.

### **E. Sixth Day: The creation of the Animal World**

#### **Genesis 1:24-25 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so.

<sup>25</sup> And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

God created an unbelievable number and variety of animals.

- Some animals are very familiar to us as a part of our daily lives.
- Some can be seen at the zoo.
- Though television and books, we learn about many more animals.
- God created each kind of animal with unique characteristics, and each kind of animal is capable of reproducing only other animals like itself.

In other words:

- Dogs have puppies
- Cats have kittens.
- Horses give birth to ponies
- Cows give birth to calves.

Even the smallest animal has the stamp of the Master Designer.

Only God has the power to create animals.

Man has NEVER created, nor will he ever be able to create an animal.

All of the living things that God made on the fifth and sixth day were good.

Everything He made was good.

Because God is perfect and everything He made was perfect.

## F. Conclusion

Daily, we are surrounded by evidences of:

- God's existence
- God's infinite power and knowledge
- God's love
- God's order
- God's holiness

We are surrounded by reminders of a Master Designer who created with skill and purpose.

We can learn a great deal about God by observing the things He has made, but our true understanding of Him and how He created everything must be based on what God has told us in His Word, the Bible.

### Hebrews 11:3 (NLT)

<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

God, the Creator, the One who was there before the beginning, has given us His record of creation in His Word.

#### This week:

Look for evidences of the Designer, the Creator of all things, and think about what we have studied in His Word.

#### Questions:

1. Why was God able to command the ocean to go back and stay where He wanted it? *Because He is all-powerful and He created the ocean.*
2. Why did God create everything beautiful, and why did He create water and all different kinds of fruit and vegetables to eat? *He made them because He is loving and kind. He prepared everything on earth for us.*
3. What did God say about all the things which He created? *God said that they were good.*
4. Why was God able to make all things perfect? *Because He is perfect.*
5. How was God able to create such a vast universe, with so many stars, so far apart? *God is all-powerful, and He is everywhere, all the time.*
6. Why did God create the sun to rise and set each day and the moon and stars to follow the same path every year? *God did it because He is a God of order. He placed the sun, moon, and stars in the sky to show us the days, the months, the seasons, and the years and to give order to our lives.*

7. Upon what principles do scientists and engineers depend for everything they study and design? *God's laws, set forth in the creation of the world.*

**Next lesson 6: God created man**