



Lesson 4: Creation



Icebreaker: What ideas do people have about where humans came from? List as many as you can. >>

Where did we come from?

- Native American: Great Bald Eagle molded clay figure of a man and he grew, woman made from eagle feather, awoken by wings flapping
- Evolution: Big Bang theory results in universe, people evolved from apes
- Pastafarianism: Flying Spaghetti monster got drunk and created universe
- Buddhism: no explanation
- Hinduism: many different stories
- Mormonism: Jesus created the world with the Father's help out of preexisting elements
- Jehovah's witnesses: The Father created Jesus and Jesus created everything with His power



As a Christian, how do you picture or think about what it was like in the beginning? What pops into your mind?



In the beginning...

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:1–3
- ▶ The earth was formless, void, dark, and empty
- ▶ There was not even any substance (matter) to make anything out of, just nothingness
- ▶ But who was there?
Read Genesis 1:1–2, 26, John 1:1–3, 14



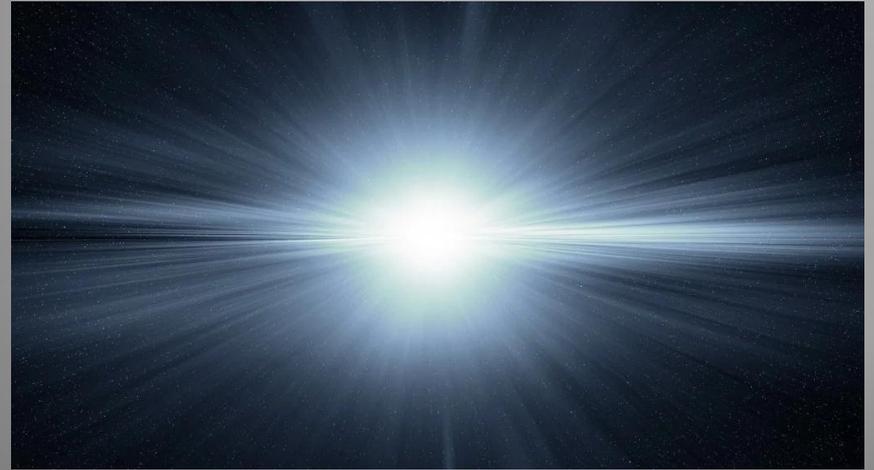
Who was there?

- ▶ Only God existed at that time, because God has always and will always exist
- ▶ Read Psalm 90:2 and Revelation 1:8 to further reflect
- ▶ In Genesis 1:26, we see God says “us,” meaning our triune God was there in the beginning: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit



In the beginning...(continued)

- ▶ The nothingness ends when God speaks and brings something into existence
- ▶ Now that there is matter, God arranges it and brings order to everything
- ▶ After 6 days, He says everything He's created is good, meaning it is perfect and that there is nothing wrong with it



Day 1 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:3–5
- ▶ God creates light
- ▶ Separates light from darkness
- ▶ Creates time, day/night, evening/morning



Day 2 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:6–8
- ▶ God creates the sky as a barrier and division, in order to introduce “space” into the world
- ▶ The sky divided the waters above from the waters below
- ▶ At this time, the earth was watered not by rain from above, but by waters coming up from below, until the Flood



Day 3 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:9–13
- ▶ In order to create dry land, God makes the waters below go together, so that there was space to live outside of the water
- ▶ On the dry land, God caused plants to grow in order that His creation could eat and so that an ecosystem could be formed to support life



Day 4 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:14–19
- ▶ God creates the sun, the moon, and the stars to fill the sky and give light during the days and nights
- ▶ God creates cycles of time: seasons, days, weeks, years
- ▶ Signs does not mean astrology, predicting the future, destiny, horoscopes, etc.
- ▶ It means the positioning of the sun, moon, and stars are indicators of the cycles of time



Day 5 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:20–23
- ▶ God makes creatures to fill the sea
- ▶ God creates birds to fill the skies
- ▶ God tells them to reproduce and fill the earth, so that there will be plenty of them to serve as sources of food and as a source of beauty



Day 6 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:24–25
- ▶ God fills the dry land with all kinds of land animals large and small, wild and tame



Day 6 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 1:26–31, Genesis 2:6–7,
- ▶ God makes people, male and female
- ▶ God makes people in His own image
- ▶ God gives them dominion over every other creature He had made

Male and female

- ▶ Read Genesis 2:18–25
- ▶ God knew that there needed to be two kinds of people
- ▶ First, because he wanted His creation to continue by being fruitful and multiplying by reproducing
- ▶ Second, because there needed to be balance
 - In our world, men aren't good at everything and women aren't good at everything, but if they work together, things are better
 - In marriages, your spouse can often make up for whatever you are lacking in



What do you think it means
to be made in the image of
God? What does it mean to
be given dominion?

Image of God

- ▶ God created everything else by speaking, but God made Adam and Eve in special ways to set them apart
- ▶ So you are special!
- ▶ Not just a physical resemblance, like an image in the mirror
- ▶ It means we are God's representatives here in the world, with some of His best traits
- ▶ It also means we are caretakers of all that God has made



Dominion

- ▶ Dominion is a word often used with kings and kingdoms
- ▶ It means to rule over something
- ▶ God made human beings superior to the animals he made and they're often called "the crown of creation"
- ▶ As rulers, they have a responsibility to care for creation and are not to take that lightly



Day 7 of creation

- ▶ Read Genesis 2:1–3
- ▶ God rested from all the work that he had done
- ▶ God set aside a day for us to rest
- ▶ What should a Sabbath Day of rest include? What barriers do we face?



Sabbath Rest

- ▶ Not working (whatever it is that you consider work)
- ▶ Time with family and/or friends
- ▶ Time of prayer/reflection upon God's Word
- ▶ Barriers include:
 - Demands of our job
 - Distractions
 - Satan's temptations and accusations



It only took 6 days?

- ▶ God creating the world in 6 days seems impossible to us, so people try to make it more believable
- ▶ They say each day stands for a longer period of time
- ▶ But then, you need to explain Genesis 1:14, which talks about days, years, and seasons
- ▶ To see what Biblical people thought about it, Read Exodus 20:8–11



Homework

- ▶ If not done already, go through and complete all of lesson 4 and write in your answers when asked for
- ▶ Hand in your workbooks so I can see what lessons you've completed

