



In the Beginning

By Taylor Braswell on February 12, 2024

TODAY'S READING: Genesis 1

Genesis 1:1 says, *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."* I once heard a pastor say that it is no accident God is the subject of the first sentence of the Bible. Even from the very beginning of scripture, it is clear that the Bible is about God and His glory! Church, if you can believe Genesis 1 you can believe the rest of the Bible. God created the whole universe from nothing and all the science and evidence we have points to an intelligent designer. Some people find Genesis 1 hard to believe but do you know what I find even harder to believe? That the universe came from nothing, we are all here by random chance, and our lives do not matter because we are nothing more than space dust. I have studied this topic thoroughly and, in my opinion, a literal six-day creation is the correct interpretation of Genesis 1. I do not believe in evolution or even theistic evolution because there is no evidence for them. However, God could have created our universe already mature. For example, although Adam would have most likely looked like he was a 30-year-old man seconds after he was created, he was only seconds old. There is much debate as to how accurate carbon dating is, and even if we assume it is always accurate (which it is not), the earth may have the appearance of old age although it is only 6,000 years old. I could write forever on differing views on the age of the earth, but I want to focus on two things from Genesis 1.

First, God said, "Let there be light" in Genesis 1:3. Notice God did not create darkness. Darkness is the absence of light and when God created light, he called it good! All throughout scripture, light is associated with Jesus, God's Word, God's people, and God's blessings. Darkness, on the other hand, is always associated with Satan, death, sin, judgement, and spiritual ignorance. In Genesis 1:4 God separates the light from darkness. God is the one who defines what is good and evil and, even at the beginning of scripture,

He was already separating good from evil. In the Old Testament, God called His people to be set apart from other cultures for His glory. Today, God calls believers to be holy and set apart because God is holy!

Second, in Genesis 1:26 we see the first mention of God being three in one. When God says, "Let us make man in OUR image" he is referring to Father, Son, and Spirit. Although the word "Trinity" is not in the Bible, we see the triune God here and at Jesus' baptism (there are many more examples, but these are the main two). God is a perfect loving community that has existed from eternity past, present, and future and we are created in His image! We long for community, relationships, and love because God designed us. Lastly, notice that we are created male and female. Contrary to what our world believes today, gender is not a social construct, it is defined by God.

PRAYER: God, You are the creator and sustainer of life. Thank You for speaking life into existence. Thank You for setting me apart to do Your will. Help me to remember today that everyone around me has value because they are created in Your image.

TOMORROW'S READING: Genesis 3

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