

**Steve Greenberg's Handout, Wednesday 7pm, January 14, 2025**  
**Week 2 Jan 14: Gen 1:24-2:1-3 Creation: Sixth and Seventh Day**

**Genesis 1:24-31 The Sixth Day**

**Gen 1:24** Then God said (**God spoke**), "Let the earth (**land**) bring forth the living creatures (**animals**) according to its kind (**limited to, consistent with their kind**): cattle and creeping thing and beast (**wild animals**) of the earth, each according to its kind" (**each producing offspring of the same kind**); and it was so (**God spoke and it happened they came into creation**).

We see the establishment of the specie and the reproduction according to the species. When we look at the variety of the animal kingdom we must be impressed with God's creative power, as well as His sense of humor. Look at the giraffe, elephant, or a Hippo?

**Gen 1:25** And God made the beast (**wild animals**) of the earth according to its kind, cattle (**livestock**) according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth (**Heb: remes**) refers to a broad category of small animals that move close to the ground and most biblical teachers believe it includes general creepers like insects (like ants and flightless insects), true bugs (like beetles and stink bugs), and other 'creepy-crawlies' such as spiders, mice and reptiles etc) according to its kind. And God saw that it was "**good**" (God affirmed what He did).

These scriptures group the land-dwelling animals into three general broad categories: beast (**wild animals**); cattle (**livestock**); and everything that creeps on the earth.

**Meaning of "According to Its Kind"**

This phrase indicates that God established distinct biological boundaries for reproduction.

**Reproductive Integrity**: Each "kind" was designed to produce offspring of the same sort.

**Orderly Design**: Instead of a chaotic or random process, life was structured into functional, stable groupings.

**Variety within Kinds**: While reproduction stays within a "kind," there is room for variation within that group (e.g., different types of cattle, dogs, spiders and beetles). As of 2026, scientists have identified and named approximately 400,000 different species of beetles worldwide. Approximately 30,000 species of beetles are known to live in the U.S. alone. God allows tremendous variation within a kind, but one kind will never become another kind.

**We must remember, God is not the author of confusion but of peace**

**1Cor 14:33** For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

**1Cor 14:40** Let all things be done decently and in order.

**Gen 1:26** Then God said, "Let "Us" (representing the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: speaking of the Godhead: Col 2:9, Rom 1:20 and Acts 17:29) make man (human beings) in Our image according to Our likeness (not physical, but a spiritual personality and moral likeness); let them have dominion (rule, reign and have complete authority) over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth (over the entire earth) and over every creeping thing that creeps (crawls, moves) on the earth."

While the Scriptures emphasizes that "the Lord (God) is One" (Deut. 6:4, Isa 44:6, 1Cor 8:6 Gal 3:20, Eph 4:5-6 and 1Tim 2:5), one God, represented in three distinct persons, scriptures teach one God show the three persons of the Godhead acting in unity:

At Creation (Gen 1:1-3, 26): "God"(the Father) (Elohim, a plural noun) created the heavens, the "Spirit of God" moved upon the waters, and the "Word" (Jesus) was the agent through whom all was made (John 1:1-3, 14; Col 1:15-19). God also says, "Let "Us" make man in our image"

At Jesus' Baptism (Mat 3:16-17): The Son is in the water, the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, and the Father speaks from heaven.

The Great Commission (Mat 28:19): Jesus commands baptism "in the name (singular one God, the Godhead) of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit".

The Blessing (2Cor 13:14): "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God (Father), and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all".

Also the Godhead's unified work in salvation:

The Father initiates and plans salvation.

The Son executes and procures salvation through His perfect sacrifice on the cross, burial, resurrection and ascension to His Father in Heaven.

The Holy Spirit convicts, applies and seals salvation, in the life of the believer

**Gen 1:27** So God created man (human beings) in His own image; in the image (likeness) of God, He created him; male and female He created them.

The term image of God can be seen as describing the ways in which man is different from all other created beings. It describes how humans resemble God in their ability to reason and think and solve complex problems, to communicate (with understanding), to understand right and wrong (moral conscience, make choices), to be creative (express unique and different ways), and to experience relationships with God and with one another. This allows men and women to represent God as they relate in unity and equality and exercise authority as His agents over the rest of creation.

We are not told the angels are made in the image of God. Angels cannot have the same kind of relationship of love and fellowship with God as we can have.

**1Pet 1:12** To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us (today) they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you (the death, resurrection, and glorification of Jesus Christ), through those who have preached the gospel (gospel of grace) to you by the (power of the) Holy Spirit sent from heaven--things which angels desire to look into.

**Male and female God created them: Jesus confirms Adam and Eve were at the beginning**

**Mat 19:4** And He(Jesus) answered and said to them (Pharisees questioning Jesus on divorce), "Have you not read that He(God) who made (created) them at the beginning, 'made them male and female,'

**Mat 19:5** "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?"

**Mat 19:6** "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

**Quote from David Guzik**

In our day, many (**foolish people**) say there is no real difference between men and women. This makes sense if we are the result of mindless evolution, but not if it is true that **male and female He created them**. To God, the differences between men and women are not accidents. Since He created them, the differences are good and meaningful.

ii. Men are not women, and women are not men. One of the saddest signs of our culture's depravity is the amount and the degree of gender confusion today.

iii. It is vain to wonder if men or women are superior to the other. A man is absolutely superior at being a man. A woman is absolutely superior at being a woman. **But when a man tries to be a woman or a woman tries to be a man, you have something inferior.**

**Gen 1:28** Then God blessed them (**granting them specific authority**), and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply(**increase in number**); fill the earth and subdue it (**keep under your power & control**); have dominion (**rule & have authority**) over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**Gen 9:1** So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.

Scriptures teaches us that Adam is the federal head of the human race (1Cor 15:22, 45-49; Acts 17:26). The concept is that Adam acted on behalf of all humanity, and Christ acts on behalf of all who are "**in Him**" (In Christ). Romans 5:12–21: Summarized Paul

explains that "sin entered the world through one man (Adam)" and "death through sin," which then spread to all people. He contrasts Adam's one act of disobedience (which brought condemnation) with Christ's one act of righteousness (which brings justification and life).

**Gen 1:29** And God said, "See, I have given you every herb (bearing plant) that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth (or surface of the entire earth), and every tree (fruit trees) whose fruit yields seed; to you, it shall be for food (they shall be food for you to eat).

In the beginning, God explicitly prescribed a vegetarian diet for all living creatures. At this stage, there was no death or predatory animals it was "very good" the world God had made.

It was only after Noah and his family left the ark (after the worldwide flood had subsided, the environment was different) God officially permitted the consumption of animal flesh.

**Gen 9:3** "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.

**Gen 9:4** "But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.

**Gen 1:30** "Also, to every beast (and all the animals) of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps (moves) on the earth, in which there is life (breath of life) (Lit. a living soul), I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so (as God commanded it).

**Job 38:41** Who provides food for the raven, When its young ones cry to God, And wander about for lack of food?

**Gen 1:31** Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed (said) it was "very good" (validating completely all He did). So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

When God pronounced the creation good, there was no death or decay on the earth. God was pleased with His creation, and so are we!

### **Genesis 2:1-3 The Seventh Day**

**Gen 2:1** Thus (the creation of) the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them (inhabitants), were finished (completed).

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

**Gen 2:2** And on (or by) the seventh day God ended (finished, completed) His work, which He had done, and He rested (ceased, stopped) on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

**Exo 31:17** 'It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested (**ceased**) and was refreshed.' "

**Gen 2:3** Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it (**set it apart as His own holy day, separate from other days**), because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. (**This does not imply that God was tired and weary from all His labor and he needed to rest**).

God has now completed the process of putting his creation in order and then rested. God rested and gave a pattern to man regarding the structure of time (work six days and rest on seventh-day)

#### God's instruction to his people, rest on the seventh day, Sabbath day

**Exo 20:8** "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

**Exo 20:9** Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

**Exo 20:10** but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.

**Exo 20:11** For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

#### Jesus is our ultimate Sabbath rest

**Col 2:16** So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,

**Col 2:17** which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

**Fulfillment:** Once the "substance" (**Jesus**) arrived and we accept Him as savior, the ceremonial "shadow" (**the specific day**) was no longer a binding legal requirement for believers' standing with God.

**Freedom:** Christians are free to observe a specific day of rest, but their righteousness and ultimate rest now comes through Jesus' finished work, not their own religious performance.

Scripture makes it clear that Christians are not under obligation to observe the Sabbath Day, because Jesus fulfilled the purpose and plan of the Sabbath for us and in us. Christians do not lose the Sabbath day of rest; every day is a day of rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ. Every day is special day set apart to worship and rest in Jesus Christ (**God**).

**Gal 4:9** But now after you have known God (**been born again**), or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements (**worthless religious**

duties), to which you desire again to be in bondage (**enslaved again to religious duties that you have been set free from**)?

Gal 4:10 You observe days (**Sabbaths**) and months and seasons and years (**Why? Christ set you free from that requirements & laws**).

Gal 4:11 I (**Paul**) am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain.

Just as God rested from His creative work on the seventh day, believers "rest from their own work" regarding salvation by trusting entirely in Jesus' work on the cross.

Heb 4:9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.

Heb 4:10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

Heb 4:11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves (**your works**); it is the gift of God,

Eph 2:9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand (**He did it all**) that we should walk in them (**the finish work of what Christ did**).

Just a reminder: Jesus invites the "weary and burdened" to come to Him to find "rest for your souls."

Mat 11:28 "Come to Me, all you who labor (**for special benefits, religious duties & legalism, works, self-sufficiency**) and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Mat 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Mat 11:30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

### The Pattern

There is a clear pattern throughout creation that's being established here. God creates a place first, and then creates what will live, dwell, or occupy that place or space.

### Recap:

Heaven / Space – created for everything, including celestial bodies

Atmosphere / Earth / Water – created for all living creatures

Living creatures – fish, birds, animals, insects

Man – created last, as the purpose of all creation

God made man in His own image, knowing that man would reject Him, fall into sin, and need redemption. That is why Scripture says that Jesus was crucified from the foundation of the world.

The ultimate purpose of creation is that God would dwell with man—with him and in him. God was creating a being in whom He could dwell and with whom He could have fellowship. Not because God needed this—He is completely self-sufficient and knows all things