

Sample Story Retelling - The Creation

In Genesis 1 and 2 the Lord records how he made the universe. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was originally surrounded by water, and God's Spirit was hovering over the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God called the light, "day" and the darkness he called, "night." There was evening and morning the first day. Each day had a light and dark time just like our 24-hour days today.

On day 2 God made the sky. On day 3 God made the dry land and bodies of water. He made plants grow on the land. He made the plants with seeds in them and able to reproduce after their different kinds. On day 4 God made the sun, moon, and the stars. He made them to give light on the earth and to measure days and seasons and years. On day 5 God filled the sky and the seas with living creatures—birds and fish—all able to reproduce after their various kinds. God told them to fill the sky and the sea.

On day 6 God made all the land animals according to their kinds. He also did something very special: he made the first human beings: Adam and Eve. Before he made Adam and Eve the persons of the Trinity said to each other, "Let's make man in our image to rule over the birds of the sky and the fish of the seas and over every animal on earth." So God made man and woman in his image—that means they were without sin and knew God's will. He told them reproduce and take care of the earth. All animals on earth were to eat plants.

God saw all that he had made and it was very good; it was perfect. On the seventh day God rested. He stopped creating new things and so this day was set aside a special holy day.

The creation account is important to me because it tells me the truth about where this world came from and my place in it. The world around me wants to deny God's existence and power, so I'm told that the universe and life in it is all an accident, all a product of random chance, without any larger design or purpose. God's Word tells me otherwise. Genesis 1 and 2 show me that God is all powerful—he made everything with just his word! Because God is so powerful he can surely provide me with all I need for my soul and life and protect me from every danger! The balance and detail and abundance of the world around me also show me he is also good and wise. It shows me that life is no accident, nor are people an accident. Humans are a special creation of God with a body and soul made to have a relationship with him. We are not just highly evolved animals! We were made to serve our God and rule and take care of the earth.

God made perfect people and a perfect beautiful world to show them his great love—the same love he still has for us today. Yes, God knew that Adam and Eve would eventually sin and ruin his perfect creation, but in his wisdom he had a plan for that too: his Son would be our Savior.

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