

What Really Happened

Last week we talked about the fact that the Big Bang theory actually proves the fact that God is real. Nothing can come from nothing. There is an old story about Satan challenging God when God was creating the heavens and the Earth, and saying that he could do anything God could. So God scoops up a handful of dirt and makes Adam, Satan reaches down to also grab a handful of dirt and God says “hold it”, “make the dirt.” Obviously, this is a silly little story, but it does serve to illustrate a point. God created it all as only God could. As we saw last week, the Big Bang, the best alternative to divine creation, does nothing more than prove the existence of something that isn’t natural, it is something super-natural, God. What we are going to do in this lesson is take a brief look at **I** . Far too often we tend to lean towards compromising the word and our faith in that word to satisfy not being able to fight against what the world says happened. Physicists say that there cannot be a supernatural power that they know nothing about, geologists claim that the visible evidence of the makeup of the world absolutely points to an Earth that is billions of years old. There are many problems with that thought process. We just spent a week with Karen’s son Michael and his wife Monique. Monique’s father is an artistic craftsman. What I mean by that is that he is an artistic mason. He does artistic renderings with stone and cement. He uses stone and cement to create designs and mosaics on walls, buildings, walks, pretty much whatever the customer wants. He did the entrance walls to the home they had in O’Neals, up above Fresno. When I first saw that entrance, my first impression was that it was built in the 1800’s, but it wasn’t, he was able to create the impression that it was decades old when it wasn’t. Look at the work that the artisans of Disney do in creating the rides and exhibits in their parks. They make them look any way they want them to, even ancient in appearance. Now consider the greatest artisan to ever create, God. When God created man, did He make Adam a baby, unable to fend for himself? Did He make him a young child who had no idea how to keep the commandments God had given? Doesn’t seem plausible, does it? No, the most logical understanding is that God created man full grown, able to both understand and fulfill the commandments given to him. If Adam had cut down the first tree God created, how many rings would it have had? Just one? Where is the logic in that? Where is the common sense in that? No, obviously it would have had however many rings God had decided to put into it. When God created the mountains, and the deserts, and all the things of the ecosystems that make up the Earth, where is the logic in thinking that He created them as appearing to be newborn. It makes far more sense to understand that God created everything full grown, mature, maybe even appearing to be billion years old. Why could not the God who created this whole vast universe make them appear any way He wanted them to? In...

Gen 1:1-2

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

For the Christian, the man of faith, this is indisputable, God created. The how He did it is where some tend to question. Did He, in fact, use some sort of evolution to bring about life as we know it? Were the days of Genesis chapters 1-2 actually millennium long? As I said earlier, we want to look at creation in Genesis and see what the Bible says occurred. I recognize that there are many thoughts concerning the things we will be looking at, this is just one view...

When it all began God created the Heavens and the Earth.

2 x

Gen 1:2-3

2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 3 4

The scriptures are very plain here. God created all that we see and all that we don't see. He created the heavens and the earth. The Earth was formless and without light, Then God created light, not the source of light, not yet, just light. Then...

Gen 1:4-5

4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. 5

This is where the discussion begins. Was the day here a 24 hour day as we now know it to be, or was it some millennium long time period and is called a day just to give man a reference point. The scriptures don't say one way or the other, it comes down to faith. What does our faith tell us that God could or couldn't do? Could He have created everything appearing as ancient? Would He have created things to appear as being new born? That doesn't make sense. If you make something that is full grown, which is consistent with the story of creation, it stands to reason that it would be made appearing to be whatever age it was made to be. The discussion then concerning the day follows that thought pattern. Why would God say the...

6

“Evening and the morning were the first day?”

Yes the scriptures talk about how that God does not consider time as man does.

Ps 90:4

7

4 For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it passes by, Or as a watch in the night.

Or the very familiar passage from 2 Peter 3:8 where...

2 Peter 3:8

8

8 But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

The difference in wording and description seems to be readily apparent. The passage in Psalms, like the passage from 2 Peter are contrasting how God views time as opposed to how man views time. Man has defined limitations on his view of time where God does not. But the passage from Genesis is not making that type of comparison, it is defining a set time period, ***evening and morning***. We don't see where God says He created a tree and now it is rock. When God defined the elements that He created in the Genesis account, they haven't changed. It doesn't seem to make

sense then, that the day defined by evening and morning there would be different than the 24 hr. day defined by evening and morning now.

Coming back to the account now in Genesis, we read...

Gen 1:6-8

6 Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” **7** God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. **8** God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

9

Take note that at the end the second day, the earth still seems to be void and without form. Light has been created and separated from darkness and the waters above the firmament are separated from the waters below. I understand this to indicate that God originally created a water canopy or cocoon that surrounded the Earth. This would have protected it and all life on it from the harmful, deteriorating effects of the sun’s rays. The separation of verse 7 then is the water below or on the earth, from the water canopy above.

Gen 1:9-13

9 Then God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. **10** God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. **10**

God gave form to the Earth. He separated the water from the land, creating dry land and the oceans. Then...

11

11 Then God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them”; and it was so. **12** The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. **13** There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

The third day God created every growing thing, trees, grass, all vegetation.

Gen 1:14-15

12

14 Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; **15** and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so.

It seems to me that the best way for me to understand this, is that in verse 1 when we are told that God created the heavens and the earth, that the heavens there illustrates the vastness of space, though containing nothing as of yet. We now see here in verse 14 God creating the light of the skies, we know this to be the stars of space.

Gen 1:16-19

13 **16** God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. **17** God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, **18** and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. **19** There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

These lights are specific to the Earth, the greater light, sun, and the lesser light, the moon, reflecting the light of the sun to the Earth.

Gen 1:20-23

14 **20** Then God said, “Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens.” **21** God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good. **22** God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” **23** There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

On the fifth day God filled the oceans with every living creatures that inhabits them and th skies with every bird. And then on the sixth day, He decided to get busy...

Gen 1:24-25

15 **24** Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind”; and it was so. **25** God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

Now to me that seems like that was plenty, but God wasn't yet done on the sixth day...

Gen 1:26-27

16 **26** Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” **27** God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

In His own image God created man. This statement is unique to the creation of man. It isn't said of the fishes, the birds, or the animals, only man. Some say this refers to the creative intelligence that man has, the ability to reason and invent. I think it speaks more specifically to that which man has that no other of the creation of God does, his immortal soul. In...

1 Cor 15:50-54

17

50 Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. **51** Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, **52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. **53** For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Paul writes that the fleshly bodies we have now cannot move on from this world. They are mortal and fated to die. But the soul that God gave us is immortal, and will live on after the body has died, but for it to live on in eternity it must be given a new body, one that is not destined to die but will be just as immortal as the soul that will live within it. Nowhere do we see that the animals have it said of them that they will live on in eternity, this is unique to man. Man was created to have dominion, rule, over every other living creature...

Gen 1:28-31

READ

28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." **29** Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; **30** and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food"; and it was so. **31** God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Man was created to have free-will, choice to decide his own fate. Will he live in eternity with God, or live an eternal death with Satan? That is our choice. We choose to believe in God. We choose to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, we choose to believe that the Bible is their message to us sent through the Spirit, and we choose whether or not we believe what God tells us in His Word about the creation. We choose to have faith. And remember...

2 Cor 5:6-7

18

6 Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord— **7** for we walk by faith, not by sight

Faith comes from hearing God's word

Rom 10:17

Without faith we cannot please Him

Heb 11:6

If we believe, we must obey...

John 3:35

19

36 He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

John shows the unique relationship between belief and obedience here. The one who believes in Christ has eternal life, but the one who does not obey is lost. The point is simple,

20

You CANNOT believe without obeying !!!

21

In the beginning