

Design or Chance: Creation

Principal Contributor: Vera Kemunto

*In the beginning God created heaven and earth (**Gen.1:1**)*

In the world we live in, there is so much talk against creation. Over the years, people have come up with theories to try and support that the world was not created out of nothing and that it originated from something. The most common theory that we are familiar with is the evolution theory which, in itself, consists of many other theories. This proves it to be error because error is diverse within itself and always bears its own death within itself. You can see its falsehood even in its own light. But the truth is like those crystals which when split into the smallest fragments will still retain their natural form. You may break the truth of God and do whatever you want with it, but it remains the truth of God. So this truth of God about creation as revealed in His word is what we are going to focus on, and see what the Bible says about creation. This is important because the truths we believe in and the position God holds in our lives are dependent on what we understand about creation.

What was the state of the earth before creation?

***Gen. 1:2** “and the earth was without form, and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep.”*

How did God create the world?

***Ps.33:9** “He spoke and it was done, He commanded and it stood fast.” Truly, “the worlds were framed by the word of God” (**Heb 11:3**).*

It was by the word of the Lord that the heavens were made and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth (**Psa 33:6**).

How long did God take to create the world?

***Ex.20:11** “for in six days the Lord made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and all that in them is.” A mere six days saw the change from without form and void to a lush planet teeming with*

fully mature creatures and plant forms. Then God rested, stopping to celebrate, to enjoy. Forever, the beauty of those six days will be remembered because of His stopping.

Are the days of creation literal?

Yes. Typical of how the Old Testament people of God measured time, the expression the evening and morning (*Gen 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31*) specifies individual days with the day beginning at evening or sunset (*Lev 23:32, Deu 16:6*). The same one literal day in Leviticus is the same one literal day in Genesis.

Were they not literal, then the fourth commandment would be meaningless and equating them to a thousand years (*2Pe 3:8*) will not make sense because by the evening of the sixth day – his first day – Adam would have been much older than his total lifespan recorded in *Genesis 5:5*.

What about the two accounts of creation? Do they contradict each other?

The two accounts – one in *Gen 1:1-2:3* and the other in *Gen 2:4-25* – harmonize. While the first narrative recounts in chronological order the creation of all things, the second describes the place of man in creation. It gives more details of the creation of Adam and Eve and of the environment God provided in the Garden of Eden than does the first and informs us of the nature of humanity and of divine government.

What did God create in the respective days?

Day 1: God separated light from darkness and calls the light day and the darkness night (*Gen 1:3-5*)

Day 2: God created the heaven (*Gen 1:6-8*)

Day 3: God created the earth, sea and the vegetation (*Gen 1:9-13*)

Day 4: God created the sun moon and stars (*Gen 1:14-19*)

Day 5: God created the sea creatures and the birds of the air (*Gen 1:20-23*)

Day 6: God created the land animals and man (*Gen 1:24-31*)

Who was the creator God?

All members of the Godhead were involved in the creation, but the active agent was Christ, the second person in the Godhead (*Jhn 1:1-3, 14; Eph 3:9; Heb 1:2*)

What was the purpose of creation?

Love motivates all that God does for He is love.

Creation is to reveal the glory of God (*Psa 19:1-4*) because as we are drawn to God through His created works, we learn of his qualities which can also be incorporated to our lives and by reflecting His character, we bring glory to Him.

During creation, the command was given to multiply and fill the earth for God never intended it to be empty (*Gen 1:28, 2:20, 22-25*)

Did Christ teach about creation?

Matthew 19:4-6 “And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ 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’? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Did creation end with the creation week?

Psalms 51:10 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

No. His creative power is still there today. He is still able to create us anew and though we are fallen beings, He is able to create in us clean hearts, renew steadfast spirits within us and make us a new creation.

How significant is creation in our lives today?

It is an antidote to idolatry – His creatorship distinguishes Him from all other gods (*1Chr 16:24-27; Psa 96:5-6; Isa 40:18-26, 42:5-9*).

Creation is a foundation of true worship – our worship of God is based on the fact that He is our creator and we are His creatures (*Ps 95:6; Rev 14:7*).

It's the basis of true self-worth – we are created in God's image and so we are not to place a low estimate upon ourselves.

It reveals the sacredness of life, inspires personal stewardship and is the basis of true fellowship.

Finally

Creation forms the indispensable foundation of Christian and biblical theology and having a knowledge of how God created the world and everything therein ultimately helps us find our way to the new heaven and new earth for it helps us trust the God that has promised the latter.