

THE CREATION OF THE WORLD

Genesis 1:2 - 2:3

Genesis 1 and 2 tell the story of creation in three phases: Genesis 1:1 might be considered the topic sentence which covers the scope of the whole story: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:2-2:3 goes into detail as to what was created on each day. Genesis 2:4-25 then minutely describes just how man was created. Study below the second phase of the creation story:

A. The Events On the Days of Creation:

1. What was the condition of the earth at first? Genesis 1:2a

2. List the various items which God created on each day:
- The First Day: _____ (1:3) which was called _____ (1: 5a); and was separated from _____ (1:4b) which was called _____ (1:5b).
 - The Second Day: A firmament (FUR-ma-ment: The vault or arch of the sky) which was called _____ (1:8a); and was divided from the _____ above and below (1:7).
 - The Third Day: Separated the _____ which was called _____ (1:9, 10a) from the _____ which were called _____ (1:10b); and caused the earth to bring forth _____, _____ and _____ (1:11, 12), which we would call _____ life.
 - The Fourth Day: _____ (1:14a) _____, _____ and _____; a greater light which we would call the _____ to rule the day; a lesser light which we would call the _____ to rule the night; and the _____ (1:16).
 - The Fifth Day: Water creatures which we would call _____; and _____ which we would call _____ (1:20, 21).
 - The Sixth Day: _____, _____, _____, _____; and _____ (1:24, 25) which we would call _____ life; and _____ (1:26, 27) which we would call _____ life.

- NOTE:** An image is an imitation or likeness of any person or thing. Human beings were made in the image of God in the sense that they were like Him (1) in their sinless character; (2) in their personality, which included the ability to think (mind or intellect), to feel (heart or emotions) and to choose (will or volition); and (3) in their dominion over other creatures (See 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Colossians 3:10). They were not like Him in a physical sense. This would be impossible, since God is a spirit (John 4:24), and is not limited to a body.
3. What did God do for the human beings as soon as He had made them? Genesis 1:28a
4. What three things did He tell them to do? Genesis 1:28b
- _____
 - _____
 - _____

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5. What did God give for food:
a. to human beings? (Two items) Genesis 1:29

b. to other creatures? Genesis 1:30

6. What did God do on the seventh day? Genesis 2:2

7. Therefore, what two things did He do to the seventh day? Genesis 2:3

NOTE: Sanctify means to make sacred or holy; to set apart to sacred use. The seventh day (Saturday) thus became the day of worship for all, and continued to be observed as such until after Jesus' resurrection, when Christians began meeting on the first day of the week in honor of that event (see John 20:1, 19, 26; Mark 16:1-6; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2), although Jews continued to observe Saturday. Seventh Day Adventists and a few others also now observe Saturday as their day of worship.

8. How long do you think each day of creation was? Is there anything to indicate that it was a normal, 24-hour day? _____

that it was longer than a normal day? _____

9. Notice that there are three separate acts of creation: one for the physical world (1:1), one for the animal world (1:21), and one for human beings (1:27). Therefore, could human beings be just highly developed animals?

B. The Significance of the Order of Events On the Days of Creation:

1. Can you see a relationship between the first and fourth days? second and fifth? third and sixth?

2. For whom does it seem that all the items were being prepared?

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Does it seem that God planned the order of events in creation, or did He just create haphazardly, whatever came to His mind next?

2. How should I feel when I see all that God has provided for me as a human being? (See Psalm 8:3, 4) Do I trust God to prepare logically and carefully for each part of my life in the future?