

FORMATIONS DAYS 1-4  
GENESIS 1:2-19

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GOD CREATES VV1-2

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WEEK 2

# FORMATIONS DAYS 1-4

## GENESIS 1:2-19

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### GOD CREATES VV1-2

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." (Genesis 1:1-2, NIV)*

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#### THE VERB "TO CREATE" IS USED EXCLUSIVELY OF GOD.

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*"He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals his thoughts to man, he who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the Lord God Almighty is his name." (Amos 4:13, NIV)*

*"I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the Lord, do all these things." (Isaiah 45:7, NIV)*

*"Then the Lord said: "I am making a covenant with you. Before all your people I will do wonders never before done in any nation in all the world. The people you live among will see how awesome is the work that I, the Lord, will do for you." (Exodus 34:10, NIV)*

*"Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me." (Psalm 51:12, NIV)*

*The verb never is used with a material as the words manufacture, form, or create might be.*

*This concept – that God did not use any pre-existing material is called "Ex Nihilo" or "From Nothing" creation.*

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## THE FIRST DAY

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### OLD EARTH, YOUNG EARTH –

#### THE MEANING OF THE WORD “DAY”

- The daylight part of a 24 hour period.
- A period of time identified by a common generation or activity.
- A period of time beginning with sunset and ending with sunset.
- The 24 hours necessary for the earth to rotate on its axis.

#### ARGUMENTS FOR THE DAYS OF CREATION AS PERIODS GREATER THAN ONE SOLAR ROTATION.

1. The created universe has an apparent age greater than the Bible’s chronology.
2. What happens in each creative day could not take place in a 24 hour period.

#### EXAMPLE 1, IF GOD CREATED BOTH ADAM AND EVE IN DAY 6, HOW COULD ADAM ...

- Discover that he was lonely.
- Name the animals
- Fall asleep for the creation of Eve.
- Name Eve

#### EXAMPLE 2, GOD CREATES THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS ON DAY 4 BUT THE TIME NECESSARY FOR LIGHT TO TRAVEL FROM MOST STARS TO THE EARTH IS GREATER THAN A DAY, MOST ARE AT LEAST A YEAR AND MANY ARE HUNDREDS OF YEARS AWAY.

1. The days could roughly approximate the geological periods.
2. God created science and would not violate the laws of his creation.
3. solar days are not created until the 4<sup>th</sup> day.

#### ARGUMENTS FOR 24 HOUR PERIODS

1. The plain and simple sense of the word is 24 hours.
2. God defines the word in the context as “Evening and Morning.”
3. God founds biblical principle – the Sabbath – on 24 hour periods and holds people accountable for its violation.

*"For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy." (Exodus 20:11, NIV)*

*"For six days, work is to be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day must be put to death. The Israelites are to observe the Sabbath, celebrating it for the generations to come as a lasting covenant. It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he abstained from work and rested." (Exodus 31:15-17, NIV)*

4. Some of God's creative acts may have begun on their respective days and continued through later time.
  - The animals created on day 6 do not immediately begin to reproduce.
  - Eve may have been created some days after Adam allowing him to understand God's plan. God, however, fully planned on day 6 to create male and female.
5. If we can assume that Adam was created fully mature then we can also assume that God created other structures – biological, geological, and astronomic in some condition of maturity.

#### **THE FIRST CREATIVE ACT – HEAVEN AND EARTH**

- Synonymous with everything
- Could be a summary statement in keeping with Hebrew grammar
- More likely a universal statement of elemental creation

#### **ITEMS IDENTIFIED IN THE CREATIVE ACT**

AN EARTH – THE SPECIFIC PLANET WHERE WE LIVE.

- NOT a statement denying heliocentrism
- A focus on God's redemptive theme.
- But undefined – Formless and void.

SOME SEE THIS STATEMENT AS AN INTRODUCTION TO A SECOND CREATION

*For example C.I. Schofield.*

In this theory, a pre-existent earth is destroyed to become formless and void. The theory attempts to explain angels and their fall which would have to happen prior to the "beginning"

*Jeremiah 4:23-27; Isaiah 24:1; 45:18 clearly indicate that the earth had undergone a cataclysmic change as the result of divine judgment. The face of the earth bears everywhere the marks of such a catastrophe. There are not wanting imitations which connect it with a previous testing and fall of angels.*

*See Ezekiel 28:12-15; Isaiah 14:9-14 which certainly go beyond the kings of Tyre and Babylon.*

*C.I. Schofield Note in 1917 edition*

*Also used to explain*

- dinosaurs,

the sons of God in Genesis 6,

*"When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose." (Genesis 6:1-2, NIV)*

the souls bound is Tartarus in 2 Peter.

*"For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment;" (2 Peter 2:4, NIV)*

- The apparent age of the earth.

DARKNESS –

Again, a statement identifying a lack of definition. There are shades of light, but darkness is darkness.

WATER –

Reminding ourselves that water is necessary to sustain human life, it cannot sustain human life. God orders his creation to support the pinnacle of creation so the statement that the earth was covered with water identifies that in its basic form, the world was not ready for what God would do.

Some would also take this reference as a statement of liquidity and not a statement of “water.” So, in their thinking, the world was molten and in the process of cooling from the “Big Bang.”

## THE SECOND CREATIVE ACT – LIGHT

*"And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day." (Genesis 1:3-5, NIV)*

- The act of bringing order to disorder
- The separation of darkness from light not the banishment of darkness
- The creation of time. Outside of solar markers, we have here the first measurable identifiers of time – evening and morning.

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## THE SECOND DAY

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*"And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day." (Genesis 1:6-8, NIV)*

## THE THIRD CREATIVE ACT – ATMOSPHERE

THE SECOND ACT OF ORDER FROM DISORDER, WHERE WATER ONCE RAN UNCONTROLLED IT IS NOW SEPARATED TO ORDER.

- This text seems to clash with scientific knowledge.
  - We know that the sky is not blue because we are under water.
- Some speculate that a water canopy existed up through the time of Noah's flood.

*"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened." (Genesis 7:11, NIV)*

- The existence of such a canopy would explain the lengthy ages of the pre-diluvian age.
- Water vapor continues to make up a part of our atmosphere.

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## THE THIRD DAY

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*"And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good." (Genesis 1:9-10, NIV)*

### THE FOURTH CREATIVE ACT – LAND

A CONTINUED ORDERING OF DISORDER – THE WATERS ARE GATHERED TO “ONE PLACE.”

- Some speculate this command to “one place” identifies all of the continents as a single land mass.
  - A geological study once showed that the continents were all one land mass that, even today demonstrate their interlocking characteristics.
  - The study theorized that a great cataclysm like an asteroid strike (could it have been a flood?) split the continents apart and caused their drift.
- This may explain anti-diluvian and post-diluvian migration
- It may also provide insight into geological changes that occur during the flood.

### THE FIFTH CREATIVE ACT – VEGETATION

*"Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day." (Genesis 1:11-13, NIV)*

- God gives the land purpose.
- God introduces reproduction – seed bearing

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## THE FOURTH DAY

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*"And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day." (Genesis 1:14-19, NIV)*

### THE SIXTH CREATIVE ACT – TIME APPRAISERS

- Not necessarily the creation of the sun, moon and stars,
- This may be the ordering of the sun, moon, and stars.
- The focus in the text is on their function marking
  - Seasons
  - Days
  - Seasons
  - Day and night
- Secondly, they give light to day and night.

### DAY 4 AND ALBERT EINSTEIN

- Einstein posited that light determined time.
  - If one could travel counterclockwise at the speed of light you could go back in time.
  - What if light is more complex than the sun?