

Genesis 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

Genesis 1:26-31 *And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. ²⁸And God blessed them, and God said unto them, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." ²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat [food]. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat [food].:" and it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.*

I. Introduction

A. God declares Himself to humanity – general revelation

1. Through the wonders of His physical creation

Romans 1:19-20 *Because that which may be known of God is manifest [clearly shown] in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. ²⁰For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

- There is Someone much bigger than ourselves
- #### 2. Through the image of God within all humans (not animals), verses 26 - 27

B. Special revelation – God’s written and recorded history of Himself

- #### 1. The living Word of God – Jesus of Nazareth
- #### 2. The written Word of God – the Scriptures (the Bible)

II. Testimony of the Creator

A. God reveals Himself to His creation as written in the Scriptures

Job 38: 4-5¹ *Where wast thou [Job] when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵Who hath laid the measures thereof [Who decided how large the earth would be], if thou knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it [who decided what the limits of the land]?*

Psalm 104:5 *Who laid the foundations of the earth, That it should not be removed for ever*

B. His revelation

1. General revelation

Psalm 19:1 *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament [the expanse above the earth] sheweth his handywork.*

2. Showed His power

Hebrews 1:10-12 *And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: ¹¹They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax [become] old as doth a garment; ¹²And as a vesture [suit of clothing] shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.*

a. God made the physical universe in beginning of time

b. Physical universe is growing old as time passes

3. Showed His self-existence

a. Living Word of God is God & made all things

John 1:1-3 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God. ³**All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.***

b. Jesus of Nazareth always existed & has no beginning or end

Revelation 1:8 *I [Jesus] am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, **which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.***

c. God is eternal, with no beginning and no end. No one created God. Nothing was before God because God created time.

Isaiah 43:10 *Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: **before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.***

¹ Job chapters 38 – 41 are a series of questions from God directly to Job regarding the way God created everything. From this general question about the creation of the earth (38:4-5) God asks Job a series of questions about why the oceans don't swallow up the land (38:8-11); why the dawn wakes up the day as it does (38:12-15); how the cycles of rain and snow water the land as they do (38:16-30) and many other questions Job simply can't answer. God's questions are to get Job to think about the wonder of the world God created for us to live in.

C. His reliability

Colossians 1:17 *And he [Jesus] is before all things, and by him all things consist [hold together].*

1. Jesus is above every thing
2. Jesus holds physical universe together by the word of His power

III. Testimony of the Creation²

A. Word “create” or “creation” used 53 times in Scripture

B. Its product

Genesis 1:16-17 *And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. ¹⁷And God set them in the firmament [expanse] of the heaven to give light upon the earth,*

1. Example in God’s physical creation of stellar bodies such as sun, moon, stars
2. God set in motion orbits of all stellar bodies (moons, planets, solar system, galaxies)
3. Unique perfection of creation for mankind
 - a. Sun at correct temperature to give light & heat
 - b. Earth at correct distance from sun in its orbit to create habitable zone for life where water is in its liquid state, does not permanently freeze, or evaporate out to space
 - c. Life possible on earth only within $\pm 5\%$ radius of earth’s orbit around sun
 - d. Moon correct size & distance from earth to affect ocean tides
 - e. Jupiter’s huge size in solar system correct size & weight to collect space “junk” away from earth

C. Its purpose

Colossians 1:16 *For by him [Jesus] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him, and for him:***

Revelation 4:11 *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

² The word “Creation” is used in two ways. 1) An artist can say he created a painting/sculpture, which is true to an extent. Before the artist began there was no Mona Lisa painting or sculpture of David. But the artist began with things that already exist, and reformed them into the work of art he “created.” The same can be said of an engineer or architect “creating” a bridge or building: they started with pre-existing material to form their masterpiece. 2) Only God can say He created the universe from nothing. Hebrews 11:3 says “...that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear [were not made of pre-existing material].” Even time itself has a beginning which God started and which God will end.

1. All things were created by Jesus
2. All things created for Jesus
3. All things created for God's pleasure

D. Its perfection

1. God made everything very good

Genesis 1:31 *And **God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.** And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.*

2. Father of lights in heaven gives every good & perfect gift

James 1:17 *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights [God], with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning [He is always the same no matter which perspective you look at him from].*

3. Detailed & intricate work of growing human baby in its mother

Psalms 139:14 *I will praise thee [God]; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.*

IV. Testimony of the Conflict

A. Realm of rebellion

1. Messenger of rebellion (the Devil)

- a. Satan (often called the serpent; see Revelation 12:9 for his other names)

Genesis 3:1 *Now the serpent was more subtile than any beast of the field which the God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

- b. Satan is also called Lucifer ("son of the morning"). This is how Lucifer became Satan, the devil:

Isaiah 14:12-14 *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! ¹³For thou hast said in thine heart, **I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like The Most High.***

- c. Also called 'the god of this world'

2 Corinthians 4:4 *In whom the god of this world [Satan] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them*

2. Message of rebellion

- a. Current social equation based on human philosophies is 'Nothing' times 'No one' = Everything

Romans 1:21-22, ²⁵ *Because that, when they [people who suppress the truth] knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²²Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools...²⁵Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.*

- b. Darwin's philosophy in science of only current physical processes since the beginning of time

2 Peter 3:3-4 *Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers [mockers], walking after their own lusts, ⁴And saying, "Where is the promise of his [Jesus'] coming? for since the fathers fell asleep [since our ancestors died], all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."*

B. Road to restoration

Acts 20:20–21 *And how I [Paul] kept back nothing that was profitable unto you [Ephesian church elders], but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, ²¹Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks [Gentiles], repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1. Repentance is changing your mind about your current sin

- a. God said that He created every thing
- b. God said that He created mankind in God's image
- c. God said that He created "male & female"

Matthew 19:4-5 *And he [Jesus] answered and said unto them [the Pharisees], "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, ⁵And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain [the two] shall be one flesh?"*

2. Faith is in Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God

V. Conclusion

- A. Christians are not called to convert someone into Creationism
- B. No person can intellectually argue anyone into a personal relation with Jesus Christ the Lord
- C. Jesus of Nazareth is God's revelation to every human
- D. No person comes to God without the Word of God working in their lives.
- E. A human must decide to come to God for himself