

"In the Beginning, God" (Genesis 1:1-3)(8.13.23)

Genesis 1:1-3 Amplified Bible

The Creation

1 In the beginning God ([a]*Elohim*) [b]created [by forming

from nothing] the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was ^[c]formless and void *or* a waste and emptiness, and darkness was upon the face of the deep [primeval ocean that covered the unformed earth]. The Spirit of God was moving (hovering, brooding) over the face of the waters. ³ And God said, ^[d]"Let there be light"; and there was light.

The word of God for the people of God.



LET US PRAY.

Title: "In the Beginning, God" INTRODUCTION:

A boy asked his father, "Dad, what is the size of God?" Then the father looked up at the sky and

saw a plane and asked his son, "What is the size of this plane? The boy replied, "It is very small. I can hardly see it." Then the father took him to the airport and as they approached a plane, he asked, "Now, my son, how big is this plane?" The boy replied, "Wow, Dad, it's huge!" Then the father told him, "God's size depends on how close or far you are to Him. The closer you are to him, the greater and greater He will be in your life!"

My friends, there is so much packed into these three verses, even the first verse alone requires in-depth study. The Bible is a book of revelation; it slowly unfolds. There are several places in the Bible that speak about the creation and we will look at some of them. BUT, it is very significant that the Holy inspired, inerrant word of God starts, In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

There was a beginning. Before the beginning nothing existed EXCEPT God. AND, God is the Creator. As we will see, creation happened in an ordered, planned and controlled manner. Elohim prepares us to see the Triune Godhead involved in Creation. Here we see God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. In a few minutes we will see the Lord Jesus' part in Creation.

This verse is a stumbling block for a lot of people. They bring their previously established worldview and try to impose it on their interpretation of what is clearly stated in this Book of Genesis. They sincerely believe they are applying reason and logic through the lens of science, but we will see a couple of problematic approaches.

My hope today is to inspire some awe in the goodness, the greatness, and glory of God Almighty. Do not prejudge what you are about to hear. It is a proclamation of God. Give God the Holy Spirit an opportunity to operate on your heart, your mind, and your spirit.

We will see that God Himself establishes that the origin of all creation and life as foundational to Who He Is – the Great I AM. In the Beginning, God. Isaiah 45:6-7 (NIV84)

so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other.

I form the light and create darkness,
 I bring prosperity and create disaster;

I, the Lord, do all these things.

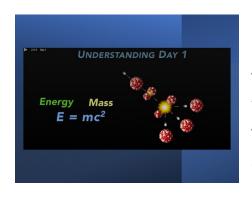
Pastor John MacArthur preached, "The foundation of a small country is morality. But the foundation of morality is belief. The foundation of belief is the Bible. The foundation of the Bible is the book of Genesis. Genesis is the ground floor of the entire revelation given to us by God known as the scripture. The book of Genesis gives us vital information concerning the origin of all things and therefore the meaning of all things."

BODY:



Now, let us take a look at this RightNow Media video on the Creation account.

I deliberately left the "To be continued" message because it seems so fitting.



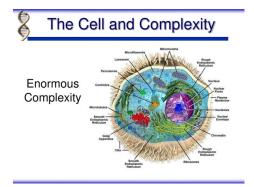
Colossians 1:16 (NIV84) For by him [Jesus] all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Protons, Neutrons, Electrons, make molecules. God created all things using the atom as His building block.

This past Friday, it was reported "New measurements of subatomic particles known as muons have confirmed earlier results in much greater accuracy while potentially pointing to a previously undiscovered fundamental force in the universe." This is humbling. Apparently, the human race isn't quite as smart as we thought we were.

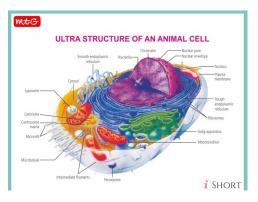


This is not an exhaustive list but gives you a pretty good idea how Almighty God knew exactly what He was doing to create our planet to support life.



When I was in 7th grade biology back in the late 60's we learned that the cell was the basic building block of life. Here is what Wikipedia says: The **cell** is the basic structural and functional unit

of all <u>forms of life</u>. Most plant and animal cells are only visible under a <u>light microscope</u>, with dimensions between 1 and 100 <u>micrometres</u>. The number of cells in plants and animals varies from species to species; it has been estimated that the <u>human body</u> contains around 37 trillion (3.72×10¹³) cells. The <u>human brain</u> accounts for around 80 billion of these cells.



Here is a more 3-dimensional view of a cell. Now, in my school science education on evolution we were taught that a crystal, if under the right circumstances, had energy infused into it, eventually that crystal would

become cell-like and be able to reproduce itself.

I believe that if you investigate this theory, and consider carefully the complexity of a single cell, you might agree with me (and Creation Scientists) the non-life crystal will never reach the complexity of a living cell. No matter how many times you spin the roulette wheel, the ball will never drop on a number higher than 36. Why? Because it simply isn't possible.

But, I asked Mr. Google about this hypothetical situation and he offered this example. It was on the website called newscientist.com under the title, "Artificial life made in lab can grow and divide like natural bacteria

By Layal Liverpool – Except as we read the article, we find out the headline lies.

<u>SYNTHETIC cells</u> made by combining components of *Mycoplasma* bacteria with a chemically synthesised genome can grow and divide into cells of uniform shape and size, just like most natural bacterial cells.

In 2016, researchers led by Craig Venter at the J. Craig Venter Institute in San Diego, California, announced that they had created synthetic "minimal" cells. The genome in each cell contained <u>just 473 key genes</u> thought to be essential for life. {but where did the genes they used come from? – they didn't create them}

But on closer inspection of the dividing cells at the time, Venter and his colleagues noticed that they weren't splitting uniformly and evenly to produce identical daughter cells <u>as most natural bacteria do</u>. **Instead**, they were producing daughter cells of **bizarre** shapes and sizes.

"[The creators of JCVI-syn3.0] had thrown out all the parts of the genome that they thought were not essential for growth," says Elizabeth Strychalski at the US National Institute of Standards and Technology. But their definition of what was necessary for growth turned out to be what was needed to make beautiful colonies growing on an agar plate, she says, rather than what was needed to produce cells that divide in a uniform and **lifelike** way.



I have another reservation about evolution. The Bible speaks about Creation always as a fait accompli: finished, done. Evolution speaks about creation

always evolving; hence the name. Genesis uses the terminology "created after their kind" or "according to their kind." They are distinct.

One more issue for me. Humankind was made in the image of God. God is Spirit and we are spiritual beings inhabiting our mortal bodies. If humankind developed along the lines of apes or monkeys, when in the name of the missing link, did our soul evolve? For what purpose? And to what end? How was it necessary for the survival of our species?

Here is another place that records Jesus' part in Creation, the Gospel of John: John 1:1–5 (NIV84) *The Word Became Flesh*

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning.

John 1:14 (NIV84)

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.



Romans 1:20 (NIV84)

²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are

without excuse. {Show Nature Pictures PP}

CONCLUSION:

In Adrian Rogers sermon, The God of Creation, he preaches, "You see, the finite mind can never prove nor disprove the infinite God. He does not lie in the realm of proof. To try to prove God by looking through physical, material things would be like tearing a piano apart trying to find the George Frederick Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus."



This inspired me to marry the Hallelujah Chorus to pictures taken by the Hubble Telescope. They are truly magnificent photos, inspiring, and glorify God, Who created all things IN THE BEGINNING.

{Show Hubble Telescope Pictures PP}

Apollo 8 was the first human spaceflight mission to leave Earth & voyage to another celestial body, The Moon. Aboard were Astronauts: Commander - Frank Borman Command Module Pilot - Jim Lovell and Lunar module Pilot - William Anders.

They were the first human beings to see the earth as a whole & the moon's near & far sides close-up with their own eyes. On December 24, 1968 they rounded the Moon for the ninth time, & then their second television transmission began in what was the most watched television broadcast at the time.

Borman introduced the crew, followed by each man giving his impression of the lunar surface and what it was like to be orbiting the Moon. Then the crew of Apollo 8 read in turn from the Book of Genesis as they orbited the moon. William Anders, Jim Lovell, and Frank Borman recited verses 1 through 10, using the King James Version.

Then William Anders closed with "We are now approaching lunar sunrise and, for all the people back on Earth, the crew of Apollo 8 has a message that we would like to send to you. Good night, good luck, and Merry Christmas -- and God bless all of you, all of you on the good Earth."

Amen and amen. Let us pray.