



In the Beginning

A study of Genesis Chapters 1 - 11

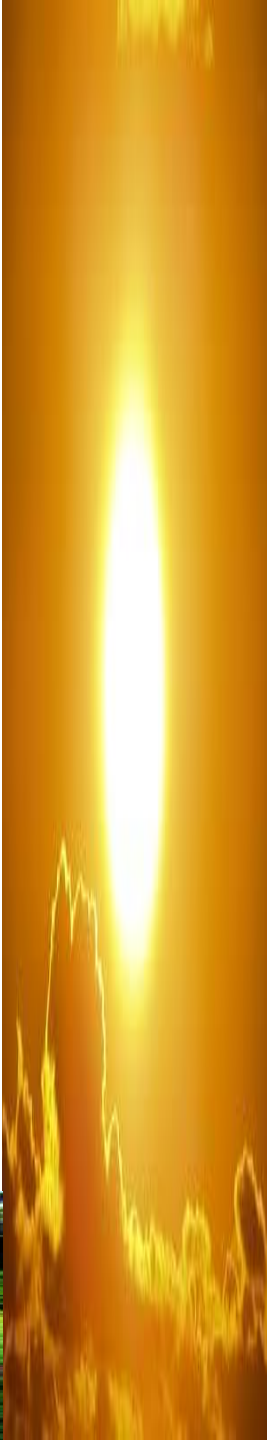
Christian Life Assembly

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The Journey 2018

In the Beginning

**In the beginning, God
created the heavens and
the earth.**



In the Beginning

Gap Theory

**Old Earth /
Young Earth**

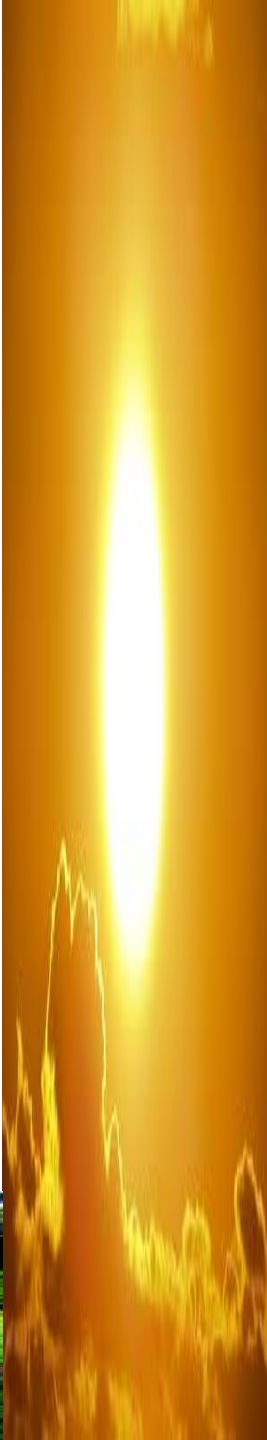
**How long did
creation take?**

**Intelligent
Design**

Ex-Nihilo

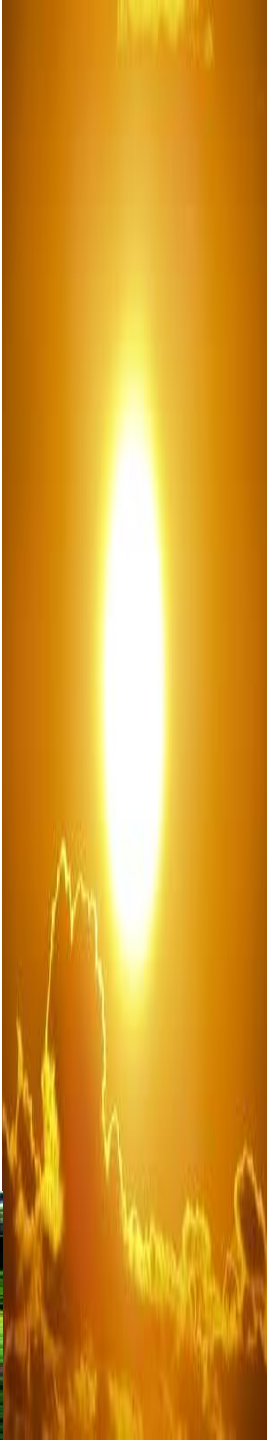
**Theistic
Evolution**

**Why Darwin
was wrong**



In the Beginning

- This is a study of origins – the place from which something begins, or arises.
- I am a student of the Bible, not of science, so this will be a study of what the Bible says.
- I will assume every word that God gave us is true even if (or when) science says otherwise.



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- Here is a plain fact for all of us – no one existed when the universe was created except for God.
- If He has chosen to disclose to us how everything began, we can either dismiss it, or we can embrace it because no one else even claims to have been an eye witness. 😊
- It is a matter of faith in the Word of God, but not a blind faith because everything God said either has, or will be affirmed to be true.



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- Heb 11:1 Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. 2 Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. 3 *By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.*
- If more than 300 O.T. prophecies about Messiah have already come to pass exactly as predicted, I think my risk is small to take God at His word when it comes to creation.



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- All of us have been bombarded with the theory of evolution and, in many cases, it is no longer called a “theory” – it is an assumed fact.
- Now why would the world be so intent on convincing people that we evolved from some lower form of life?
- Because we are in a spiritual battle, and if you can discredit the first words of the Bible, then you can cast doubt on all of its claims?



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- For example, when The Revelation of Jesus Christ says that God “uncreated” the heavens and earth and then recreated them – why should I believe that God can do that if I do not believe He was the Creator from the start?
- Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.
- Rev 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away.



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- If the Bible cannot be trusted on the first things it asserts, then why should I trust it when I come to the Gospels?
- You see if one can undermine the veracity of the creation account, then it only makes sense that the rest of the Book is suspect at best.
- Evolution is scientifically impossible and I will attempt to convince you of that as we move through this study.



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- What we believe about our origins, how we and the universe came to be, has rippling effects on our thinking and our actions.
- If there is no Creator, then to whom am I accountable?
- If there is no Creator, then to whom can I go to who is bigger than me when my problems get bigger than me?



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- If there is a Creator, then there must be a design, and if there is a design, then there must have been “intent” and “purpose” behind His design and a destiny for His creation.
- Conversely, if there is no Creator, then we can assume there is no intent or purpose.
- The choice between having a Creator, or believing that all of this that we see just sort of happened on its own has mammoth implications for how we think, act, and conduct our lives. (our world view)



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- Some Christians do try to grab some middle ground in the debate between creationism and evolution by affirming theistic evolution, and we will explore that path.
- Any time you veer away from the plain claims of scripture, you have veered off the road of truth.
- In the end, you either believe the Bible or you don't, and if you don't then may God have mercy on you.



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- Scientist and Sociologist, Herbert Spencer said everything that exists, exists in one of these categories: ***time, force, action, space, or matter.***
- I have found no evidence that Mr. Spencer is a Christian, but his “categories” can be seen in the creation account in the Bible.
- Gen 1:1 “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”



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- Gen 1:1 “In the beginning, (*time*) God (*force*) created (*action*) the heavens (*space*) and the earth (*matter*).”
- All of the elements that Spencer identified as necessary for anything to exist are all met in the first verse, of the first book of the Bible.
- God stated from the start what it took mankind roughly 6,000 years to articulate.



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The argument of the evolutionists

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“nobody X nothing = everything”



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- According to the evolutionists, “**nobody times nothing equals everything**”, but that does not make rational sense.
- In the end, the evolutionists, to the extent that they actively seek to discredit Him and His Word, are simply enemies of God .
- Most are probably not even remotely aware of their war with God, but that is the gist of their position.



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- "I have no ethical right to use my superiority, achieved purely by chance, to violate the rights of other animals, who through no fault of their own didn't evolve the same abilities." Marvin Lubenow's quote of an animal rights activist
- "The religion of social Darwinism belongs to the most dangerous elements within the thoughts of the last century. It aids the propagation of ruthless national and racial egoism by establishing it as a moral norm. If Hitler believed in anything at all, then it was in the laws of evolution, which justified and sanctified his actions and especially his cruelties." Eric Fromm



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- Among the political implications of rejecting the creation account in the Bible we find atheistic communism and socialism.
- More than 100 million people have been murdered or starved to death in the last 100 years under such governments.
- You see if mankind is just a slightly more evolved animal who has no purpose or destiny, then why treat us as anything but cattle who are in the way of progress?



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- What do the abortion advocates tell us?
- Babies, these little unplanned blobs of cells, can be a real drag on your wallet, your career, and your life.
- So, if there is no Creator, no plan, and no purpose for individual lives, then why wouldn't we just cast the unborn away before they can see the light of day?



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- We cannot know for sure all of the reasons why evolutionists fight so hard for a position that cannot be supported by real science.
- The reason might be as simple as they have been blinded by Satan and are just his pawns.
- Or, the reason may be more rooted, not in their rejection of a Creator, but in their fear of a Creator.



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- For if there is a Creator, then there is one who is greater than mankind – in order to create mankind and everything else, one must assume the one who did the creating would be superior to us.
- If the Creator is superior to us, then it stands to reason that we at might be accountable to him.
- And therein is the rub – sinful men do not want to be accountable.



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- Even setting truth aside, which of these positions would you think of as more attractive?
- ***The universe just evolved somehow on its own and you have no eternal purpose, or God created you in His own image with an eternal purpose.***
- On just a human emotional level, what the Bible teaches is infinitely more appealing, unless your mindset is so blinded that you cannot imagine an eternity with purpose.



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- Francis Schaeffer, said “if he had an hour to spend with a person on an airplane, a person who didn't know the Lord, he would spend the first fifty-five minutes talking about man being created in the image of God, and the last five minutes on the presentation of the gospel of salvation that could restore man to that original intended image. Christianity does not begin with accepting Jesus Christ as Savior. Christianity begins in Genesis 1:1. God created the heavens and the earth for a purpose and destiny which He Himself had determined. Understanding and believing the doctrine of creation in the book of Genesis is foundational in accepting that the Holy Bible is to be taken seriously when it speaks to the real world.”



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- In large part, the debate of “evolution versus creation” is driven by an irrational drive by the evolutionists to reduce mankind to just another animal.
- It is important to their world view that man be nothing more than a “highly evolved” animal.
- For if man is something different – say a being that is not just highly evolved, but a being made in the image of God, then there must be a God.



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- Evolution is impossible because of what we have learned about DNA and “mitosis”.
- Mitosis is the name used to describe how cells in all living things divide and replicate.
- In order for living things to stay alive they must constantly produce new cells that are exact copies of themselves.



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- In short, that means that liver cells only ever produce liver cells because the “daughter” cells produced by mitosis are exact copies of the “mother” cells.
- Contained within each cell is the DNA that carries the “code” for what the cell is to do and what function it serves in the body.
- DNA strands within our cells can be as long as 7’ in length and carry as much as 3 billion characters of code specifying exactly who you are.



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- So not only are the cells replicated exactly, but so are the DNA strands and the information coded therein.
- DNA functions in machine like fashion - there is even a process within the process of mitosis that checks the accuracy of the replication before each cell divides into new cells.
- Ergo, monkey cells cannot become anything but monkey cells – it is a scientific impossibility.



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- This has mostly been philosophical to this point – next week starts the hard work of digging into nearly every phrase of every verse of the Genesis account of creation.

