



# In the Beginning

A study of Genesis Chapters 1 - 11

Christian Life Assembly

Jim Hoffman

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# In the Beginning

- If you believe the Bible is true and the only source for truth when it comes to salvation, why would we not trust it when it speaks of our origin?
- No one, but God, observed creation so why we would not accept His testimony about it?
- Our method in this study will be to take God at His word and when His word is not supported by what the scientific community knows, we will affirm the Bible as being true.





# In the Beginning

- The New Testament affirms that the creation is a one time historical event.
- Matt 13:35 This fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet: “I will speak to you in parables. I will explain things hidden since the creation of the world.”
- Col 1:16 For through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and for Him.



# In the Beginning

A few slides of review from the last lesson.

If there were a credible theory of our existence that is not the biblical one, secular scientists would grab hold of it because by their own discoveries, “evolution” is a absurd.



# In the Beginning

- Gen 1:1 - Imagine a potter and a lump of clay – the potter has a grand plan for his lump of clay, in fact, he has all that he needs, he just needs to shape it.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:5 They deliberately forget that God made the heavens long ago by the word of His command, and He ***brought the earth out from the water and surrounded it with water.***
- Do you see what Peter said? He brought the earth out of the water and surrounded **“it”** with water as if to say, “there was once just land mass”.







**2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:5 “and he brought the earth out from the water and surrounded it with water.”**



# In the Beginning

- It would probably be a mistake to assume that in Genesis 1:1 that our planet earth was round – “the earth was formless”.
- Proverbs 8:27 “When He established the heavens, I was there, when *He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep.*”
- It would seem that His first shaping act had to do with making the earth into a sphere.





# In the Beginning





# In the Beginning

- Gen 1:2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, *and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.*
- The *Spirit of God* is “hovering”, He will superintend the entire process of the creation of all things. *(Jesus)*
- In Gen 1:1 He created all of that He needs, now He will begin to shape it.



# In the Beginning

- Another place this word, “hovering” is found in the O.T. is in Deut 32:11 – “Like an eagle that rouses her chicks and hovers over her young, so He spread His wings to take them up and carried them safely on his pinions.”
- The picture is that of utter reliance on the one who hovers for shape, for sustenance, for safety, and for survival.
- The mother eagle will superintend the growth and formation of her young through their maturity. (***the difference is that all parts of creation’s maturity was instantaneous.***)





# In the Beginning

- The idea of “hovering” strongly suggests that God was directly and personally involved in creation – He was hovering, He was commanding, and He was directing.
- Job 26:13a “By His Spirit He adorned the heavens”.
- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 *All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*



# In the Beginning

- Psalm 33:6 The Lord merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born.
- The creation that we see, though beaten by the effects of sin as it is, has the fingerprints of God all over it.
- From the smallest of the small, to the largest of the large, it all declares His glory.





# In the Beginning

- Gen 1:3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.
- The doubters raise this issue at this point – “how can there be light on day#1 of creation when the sun is not created until day #4?”
- Rev 21:23 *And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light.*



# In the Beginning

- “The speaking into existence of the created light is the first of a series of three separations accomplished by the creator which were essential to making the chaos into a cosmos. On day one, light separates day and night. On day two, the firmament separates the upper waters from the earth, constituting an atmosphere or breathing space. On day three, the waters below the heavens are collected into seas, and thus separated from the dry land. These three separations show the mighty hand of God shaping and organizing the dark, watery mass in the direction of a beautiful garden, a fit and lovely dwelling place for plants, animals and mankind.” Douglas Kelly (banneroftruth.org)





# In the Beginning

- Now let's add in this phrase that is repeated six times in the creation account, "And evening passed and morning came, marking the \_\_\_\_ day".
- The language here is quite plain and is intended to be forthright – the same marking we use for 24 hour cycles was used by God to indicate these are solar days.
- So, you must wonder how this can be when the sun and moon were not created until day #4.



# In the Beginning

- Let me suggest two answers – 1) God said it and I believe it. 2) While it is clear that God used the sun from day #4 forward, He did not need the sun to produce light.
- 1st Tim 6:16 16 He alone can never die, and *He lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach Him.* No human eye has ever seen Him, nor ever will. All honor and power to him forever! Amen.
- God, who is the Creator of all light, set in motion a cycle on day #1 that would be supported by something He would create on day #4.





# In the Beginning

- Think about it – if God created all there is in verse #1 in an unorganized, and unshaped form, why would it be so hard to believe that unshaped, unfinished light existed in verse #1.
- If the shaping of the Earth is possible, and if God will form and shape a man out of the dust of the Earth on day #6, why is it so hard to imagine a form of light on day #1?



# In the Beginning

- If we have no trouble believing that God could create the sun from nothing on day #4, why must He be tied to natural means for light on day #1?
- Perhaps this gives us some insight into exactly when this newly shaped sphere we call “Earth” began to rotate?
- If the eventual normal process for initiating day and night, (light and dark) is the rotation of the Earth, then the Earth probably began to rotate on day #1.





## In the Beginning

- Gen 1:6 Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.”  
7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.
- The KJV uses the word “firmament” instead of “expanse” – the original word “RIWX” means an expanse or the visible arch of the sky.
- On day #1 God separated light from dark, and here on day #2 we find that He separates the waters “of the earth” from the waters “of the heavens”.







# In the Beginning

- What happened on day #2 was that God created a space for life in the midst of the waters.
- On day #3, He will separate the waters from the dry land.



# In the Beginning

- Gen 1:7 God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 God called the expanse heaven.
- So if I take God at His word, on day #2 He separated the waters – He lifted some of the water upwards in order to create what the writer calls, “heaven”.
- This is not the heaven we long to go to after death, this is the sky above, the space for the birds to fly and extending upward to where the sun, moon, and stars will be.



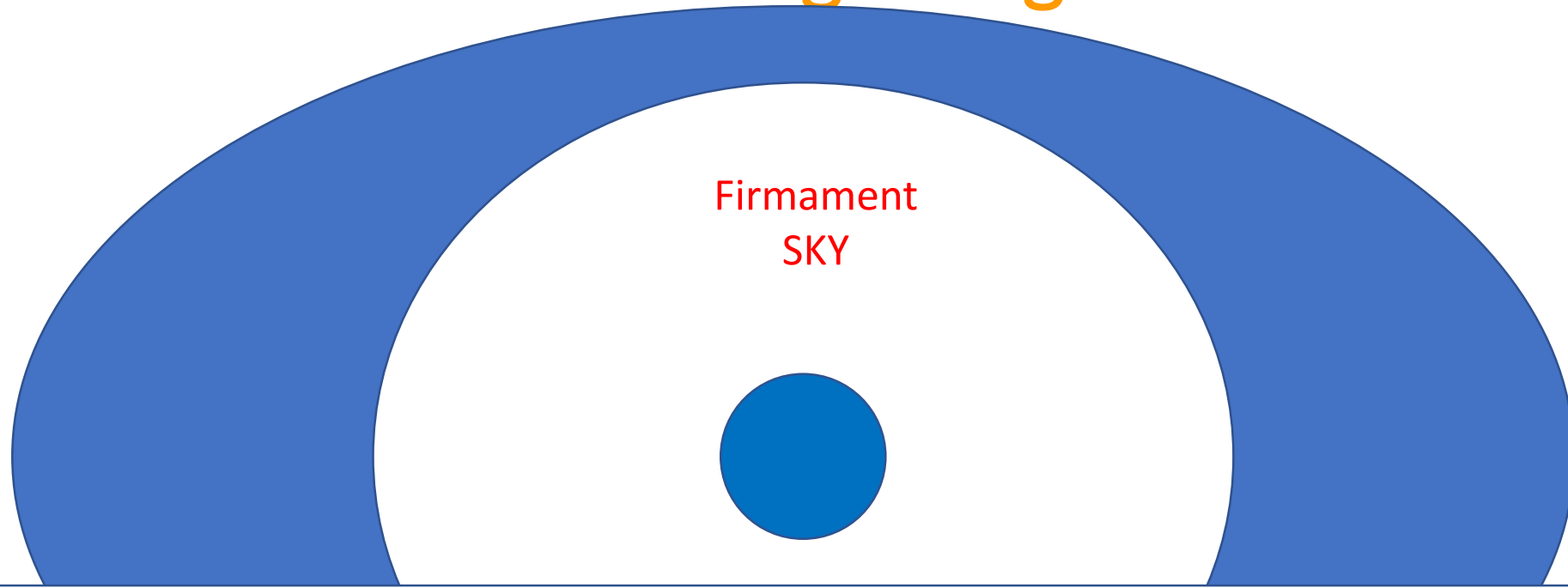


## In the Beginning

- “From this we may infer that immediately after its formation the firmament occupied of its own accord the place appointed for it by the will of God, which is the sight of the heavens as we know it. Thus as soon as the firmament was established in the midst of the layer of water, it began to rise, arching like a vault.” Umberto Cassuto



# In the Beginning



Firmament  
SKY

**A lot has been said about how this water canopy may have shielded the earth and its inhabitants from ultra violet rays of the sun and allowed the people to live longer and some creatures to grow larger – I suppose that is possible, but we just don't know. Others have said that this water canopy was released in Noah's day to cause the great flood. Again, maybe, but there is no way to know for sure.**





# In the Beginning

- Verse #7 ends with “and it was so”. That phrase is repeated in verses #7, 9, 11, 15, 24, and 30.
- It was not said about the creation of light on day #1 because light was not a fixed constant, in fact God decreed there would be light and darkness.
- But when it comes to certain parts of creation that are “fixed” and constant, He adds, “and it was so”.



# In the Beginning

- The “and it was so” phrase also points to something God wants us to acknowledge – the biblical account of creation is matter of fact history.
- Did your mother ever say to you, “because I said so”?
- That was intended to answer any and all arguments you may raise – things are as they are because I said so.





# In the Beginning

- The biblical account of creation is as God revealed it to Moses – if you want to argue with God He need not offer any additional proof beyond His word.
- People may object, people may complain and raise all sorts to objections to the Word of God, but God's answer will not change.
- “and it was so”. 😊



# In the Beginning

- One more tidbit of information at this point – we are now at the end of day #2 and we have not yet seen that phrase, “and God saw that it was good.”
- That will not happen until after the earth is ready for habitation in verse #12.
- Gen 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and **God saw that it was good.**





# Questions

