



In the Beginning

A study of Genesis Chapters 1 - 11

Christian Life Assembly

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The Journey 2018

In the Beginning

- Psalm 19:1 *The heavens proclaim the glory of God.* The skies display his craftsmanship.
- Romans 1:20 For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. *Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature.* So they have no excuse for not knowing God.
- The theory of evolution exists solely for the purpose of discrediting God, and to try to steal His glory.



In the Beginning

- “If the solar system was brought about by an accidental collision, then the appearance of organic life on this planet was also an accident and the whole evolution of man was also an accident. If so, then all our present thoughts are accidents. The accidental byproduct of the movement of atoms. This holds for the thoughts of the materialists and astronomers as well as for everybody else. But if their thoughts are merely accidents, why should we believe any of them? I see no reason that one accident should be able to give me a correct account of all the other accidents.” C.S. Lewis



In the Beginning

- “Each particular thought is valueless if it is the result of irrational causes. Obviously then, the whole process of human thought, what we call reason is equally valueless if it is the result of irrational causes, hence every theory of the universe which makes the human mind a result of irrational causes is inadmissible, for it would be a proof that there are no such things as proofs, which is nonsense. But naturalism (evolution) as it’s commonly held, is precisely a theory of this sort.” C.S. Lewis



In the Beginning

- Nobel prize winner, George Wald reflecting on his own path to believing in evolution - “The reasonable view was to believe in spontaneous generation. The only alternative was to believe in a single primary act of supernatural creation. There is no third position. One has to contemplate the magnitude of this task to concede that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is impossible. Yet, here we are, as a result, I believe of spontaneous generation”



In the Beginning

- On day #1, God added light and so separated the darkness from the light. (darkness was not removed)
- On day #2, God created a space for life in the midst of the waters by separating the waters into “waters below” and “waters above”.
- On day #3, God separated the waters from the dry land and created vegetation, plants and trees.
- On day #4, God will set the sun, moon, and stars in place.



In the Beginning

- Gen 1:14 Then God said, “Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. 15 Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth.” And that is what happened. 16 God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, 18 to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.



In the Beginning

- We have here in this text the answers to many of the questions astronomers have asked for centuries – how did all of the galaxies, planets, moons, and stars come to be?
- The evolutionists have to twist themselves into pretzels with exotic explanations of where all of the celestial bodies came from.
- Proverbs 3:5 **Trust in the Lord with all your heart**; do not depend on your own understanding.



In the Beginning

- We see a phrase in our text today that appears 6 times in the account of creation – “and that is what happened”. (and it was so in the KJV)
- Verses 7, 9, 11, 15, 24, and 30 all contain this phrase.
- According to the Jewish writer, Umberto Cassuto, the phrase is a way of saying something is fixed or set, and this further undermines the arguments of evolution for if something is fixed, it is not progressing and evolving.



In the Beginning

- Scientists would agree with what the Bible tells us – the universe is expanding.
- Does this mean that the universe is larger today than it was on day #1 of creation? (YES, Ken Ham at Answers in Genesis affirms this as more than a theory)
- For scientists without an anti-God agenda, they deduce that if the universe is expanding then we should be able to use the speed of light and regression models to find out when it started. (the big bang in their thinking)



In the Beginning

- To re-focus us remember where we started – with the expansion of the universe.
- There are no credible debates as to whether the universe is expanding or not – both secular and Christian scientists agree on this.
- What staggers our minds is just how large this ever expanding universe already is. It so big that the only way to keep the numbers manageable is to use light years as our measuring stick.



In the Beginning

- Then God said, “Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years.”
- There is a certain symmetry here in this respect:
 - Day 1 Light, Day 4 Lights
 - Day 2 Waters are separated, Day 5 Sea Life
 - Day 3 Living Plants and Trees, Day 6 Animals and People



In the Beginning

- Throughout the Biblical creation we see, “then God said” and His creation appeared.
- That is to say there was no process, there was no need for time to pass, there was no evolution – God spoke and His creation came to be.
- And as George Wald said, either everything just happened on its own, or there is a Creator – there are no other propositions.



In the Beginning

- There are two stated purposes for the luminaries – to separate day time from night time, and to mark seasons, days, and years.
- The lights, according to verse #14, were set in the sky (the firmament) – that expanse that was created by separating the waters below from the waters above.
- Remember, God created light on day #1 – so there was light around day on #3 when He created the vegetation that needs light – now He creates “lights” perhaps to sustain the light He created on day #1. (we are not given that detail)



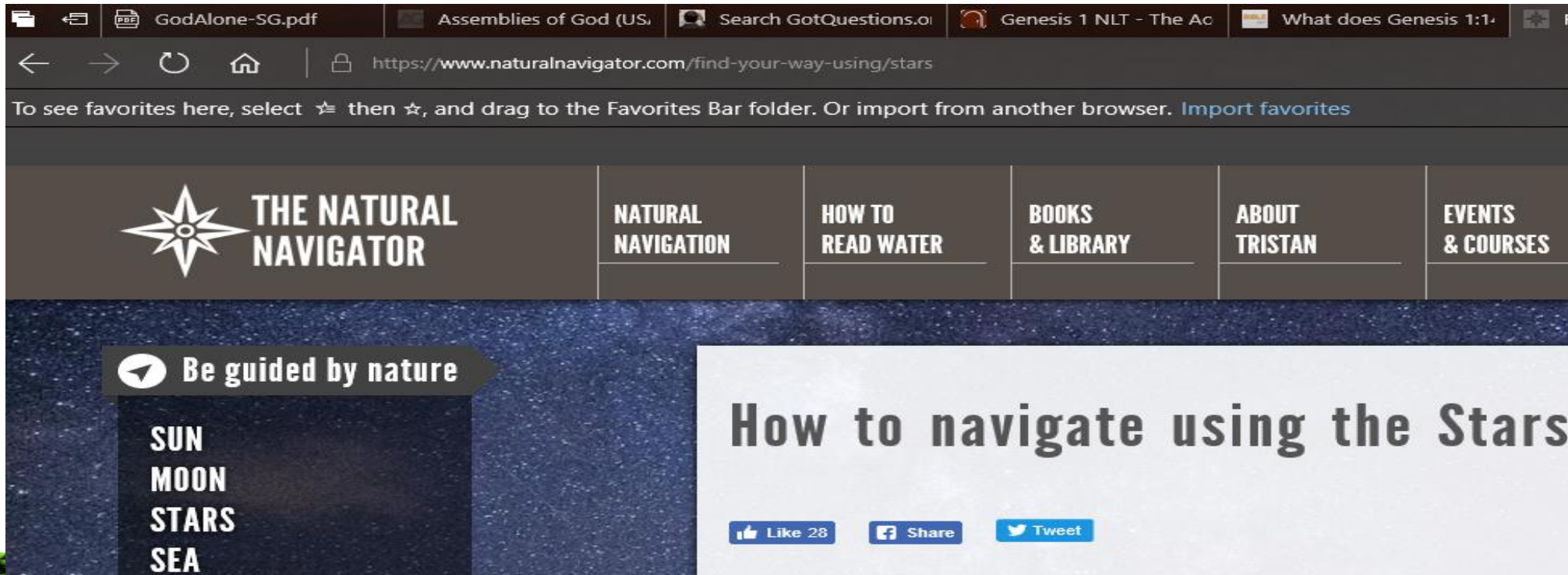
In the Beginning

- “The only difference is this that the light was before dispersed, but now proceeds from lucid bodies, which in serving this purpose, obeyed the command of God.” John Calvin
- The “lights” not only separate day from night, but they also play roles in our months and seasons.
- Think about the role of the sun in determining our seasons as the earth orbits the sun. (summer, fall, winter, spring)



In the Beginning

- The other way that the lights are “signs” is for navigation – if you know the sky well, and can see it well enough, you can steer a ship by them at night.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with several tabs open, including 'GodAlone-SG.pdf', 'Assemblies of God (US)', 'Search GotQuestions.o...', 'Genesis 1 NLT - The Ac', and 'What does Genesis 1:1...'. The address bar shows the URL 'https://www.naturalnavigator.com/find-your-way-using/stars'. The website header features a logo for 'THE NATURAL NAVIGATOR' and a navigation menu with the following items: 'NATURAL NAVIGATION', 'HOW TO READ WATER', 'BOOKS & LIBRARY', 'ABOUT TRISTAN', and 'EVENTS & COURSES'. Below the header, there is a dark blue banner with a starry background. On the left side of the banner, there is a white arrow icon and the text 'Be guided by nature'. Below this, there is a dark blue box with the text 'SUN', 'MOON', 'STARS', and 'SEA' stacked vertically. On the right side of the banner, there is a white box with the title 'How to navigate using the Stars' and three social media sharing buttons: 'Like 28', 'Share', and 'Tweet'.

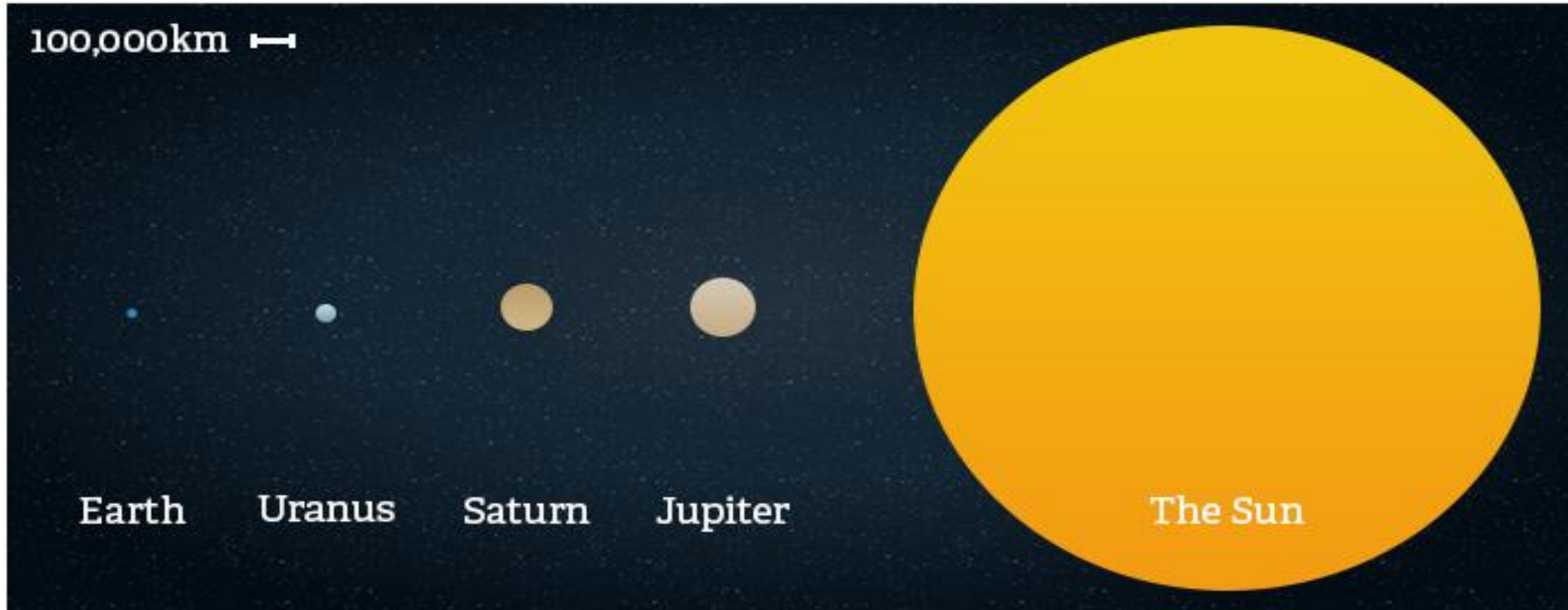
In the Beginning

- 16 God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night.
- Verse #16 is clearly speaking of the sun and the moon so, given what we know now about the size of the universe and other stars why did He call these the “great” lights?
- Because the sun and the moon were the closest lights and therefore were greatest by virtue of their proximity. All other stars, planets, etc, looked small by comparison.



In the Beginning

- Our sun – 93 million miles away, and large enough to house one million objects the size of the earth.



In the Beginning

- Our moon is roughly 238,000 miles from the earth, is $\frac{1}{4}$ the size of earth, and is outweighed by the earth by 80 times.



In the Beginning

- By the way the idea of “governing” or “ruling” in verse #16 has nothing to do with authority as many early pagans thought and worshipped the sun god and the moon god.
- It simply means what you think it means – when there is light of any kind or strength, it will always dominate the darkness.
- “He also made the stars.” – this may well be the most under-stated phrase in the Bible.



In the Beginning

- Scientists, from both the Christian and secular communities agree that to count the stars would produce a number in the billions – and that count is attained before we ever look beyond our own Milky Way galaxy!
- Psalm 147:4 *He counts the stars* and *calls them all by name*. 5 How great is our Lord! *His power is absolute!* *His understanding is beyond comprehension!*



In the Beginning

The Incredible Size of Our
Universe



In the Beginning

- Gen 1:20 Then God said, “Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.” 21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 Then God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.” 23 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.



Questions

