



In the Beginning

A study of Genesis Chapters 1 - 11

Christian Life Assembly

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The Journey 2018

In the Beginning

- One hold over point from last week on the case for a young earth and a 6 day creation –
- Some argue that, given the size, scope, and variations in all that is in the universe we must allow for more time to accomplish it all. (any creator would need more time)
- But that argument is a bit perverse because it actually argues for a smaller and less powerful God.



In the Beginning

- Job 26:14 These are just the beginning of all that he does, merely a whisper of his power. Who, then, can comprehend the thunder of his power?
- **Omnipotence** means that God has all power, over all things, at all times, and in all ways.
- When we buy into the secular arguments and try to help God explain Himself better than He did, we err.



In the Beginning

- “Let the earth produce every sort of animal” – do I need to say it, God spoke and the elements obeyed.
- God spoke and animals were created instantaneously and fully mature.
- We know this because the Bible says so, **AND** because it would not pass the “common sense” test of scripture to have infant everything and expect that they survive.



In the Beginning

- On the 6th day God created all of the animals of the earth and man, but before we move on to man, let's deal with what we commonly call "dinosaurs".
- Those who believe in a younger age for the earth tend to agree that the Bible does mention dinosaurs, though it never actually uses the word "dinosaur."
- Instead, it uses the Hebrew word "tanneen", which is translated a few different ways in our English Bibles. (from gotquestions.org)



In the Beginning

- Sometimes “tanneen” is translated as “sea monster,” and sometimes it’s “serpent.” It is most commonly translated “dragon.”
- These “tanneen” creatures appear to have been some sort of giant reptile.
- They are mentioned nearly thirty times in the Old Testament and were found both on land and in the water.



In the Beginning

- Gen 1:21 “And God created great whales”.
(tanneen) (great sea creatures NKJV, and great sea monsters in the NASB)
- Isaiah 13:21 “But wild beasts of the desert will lie there” (tanneen)
- Jer 14:6 “they snuffed up the wind like dragons”
(tanneen)

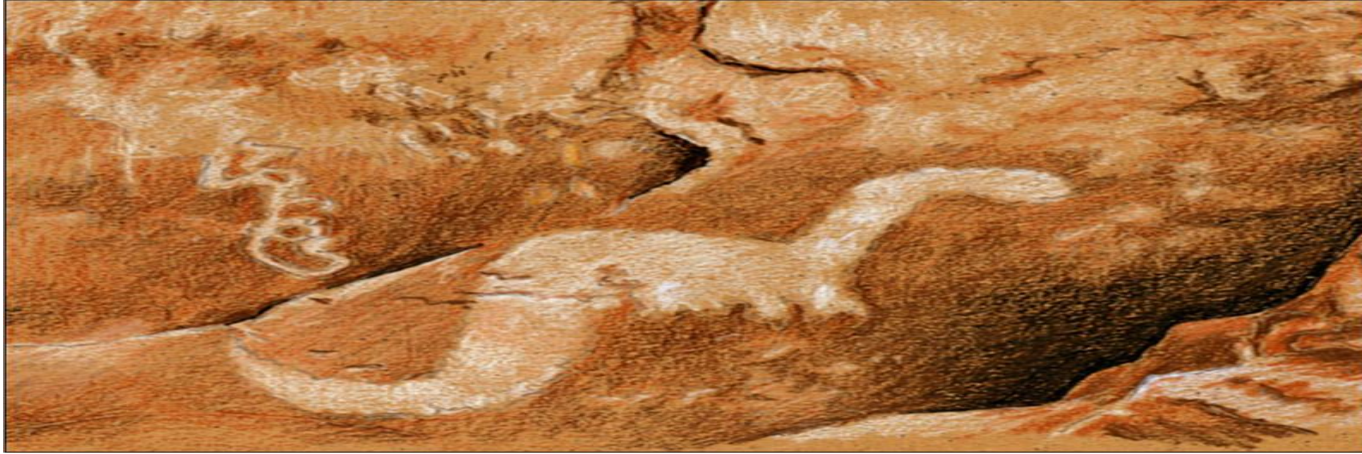


In the Beginning

- Nearly every ancient civilization has some sort of art depicting giant reptilian creatures that look like what we would call dinosaurs.



In the Beginning



- The Romans, the Mayans, and the Babylonians all had drawings of giant dinosaur like creatures they had evidently seen, or had been told about.
- So what we call dinosaurs were created by God and existed for a time, but what happened to them?



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- Assuming they were still alive at the time of Noah's flood, two of each "kind" of dinosaur would have been led onto the ark. (by the way, in order for the Romans, the Mayans, and the Babylonians to have seen them, they would have had to survive the flood)
- By necessity, the very large "kinds" would have had to have been juveniles. (although the ark was huge)
- The smaller "kinds" of dinosaurs would easily fit on the ark.



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- Since there are no large dinosaurs around today we can conclude that they became extinct either due to environmental conditions, or perhaps more likely, due to man's hunting of them.
- Large blue whales would most likely be extinct were it not for laws that were passed to protect them – the same would be true for buffalo and elephants.
- In a fallen world, where sin reigns, there is no law that says species and kinds must always continue to be.



Komodo Dragons



Dinosaur Fossils



In the Beginning

- Conclusions on dinosaurs – God made them for His glory; the same purpose as every other living thing was made.
- They are not present today, so they must have become extinct.
- There is enough fossil evidence to conclude that large creatures (dinosaurs) existed.



In the Beginning

- Gen 1:26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”



In the Beginning

- On day #6 God is going to form man out of the dust of the ground – so why is man above the animal when they were both formed out of the ground?
- Because in Gen 2:7 we read, “He breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person”, or a “living soul” (KJV).
- Man becomes the first living thing with a spirit and is the only living thing that is self-conscious.



In the Beginning

- So what does it mean to be “self conscious”?
- As people we are aware of our presence morally, spiritually, and environmentally – another way to say this is that we know that we exist.
- We think about our existence, we contemplate our future existence, and we think about things like cause and affect.



In the Beginning

- We also have a sense that our existence matters and that what we do in life has at least an echo in eternity.
- We, mankind, are able to appreciate beauty and art – how things look matters to us. Making improvements or changes to our world matters to us.
- We can think abstractly and we ponder the morality of our actions especially when we sin.



In the Beginning

- It should not take us by surprise that we have qualities and properties about us that are unique because we are the only creature made in the image of God.
- Images are created for the sole purpose of imaging – to show off the one from whom the image originates.
- We should celebrate the one whose image it is that we bear, and perhaps more importantly we should seek to be people who show God to the world.



In the Beginning

- Think about a mirror... when you look in a mirror what do you see?
- You see an image of yourself – an exact image of yourself that is an exact likeness of who you are. The image you see is not you, but wow does it look like you!
- That's what God had in mind when He made us – beings who would reflect His glory in this world. (an exact likeness of Him)



In the Beginning

- Man reflects the Lord and therefore is not the Lord. We are creatures, and, consequently, we are dependent, finite, and derived.
- But we do occupy a sacred space in creation because nothing else was made in the Creator's image.
- Man is distinguished from the animals. We are subordinate only to the Lord, not to the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. (we rule over God's creation)



In the Beginning

- With our position of “ruler” on the earth comes great responsibility – we are to be caretakers of all that God created.
- What we often mock in the modern day environmental movement is not without at least a shadow of what God intended.
- We see the extremes of Green Peace and other radical environmental groups, but the underlying impulse to care for the creation is God-given.



Imago Dei



Questions

