

Day One

Genesis 1:1- “In *the* beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

Most would agree that when reading a book, you start at the beginning. It sets the stage for what’s to follow. There are some who cannot stand the suspense and will read the last page to satisfy their impatience. Back in the High School days, Cliff’s Notes were popular as some would choose not to read the entire book but settle for a “condensed” version. This approach may have satisfied homework requirements but too often it left out much of the substance.

The Bible is one of the exceptions as every word in it is of importance and reading it in any order will benefit the reader, even more if their heart is in the right place. When reading and studying God’s Word, proceeding with a hunger for His truth, we cannot hope for understanding with any “condensed” version. Speed reading will produce nothing. Dissecting *every word* may take a little longer but it can become a fun challenge in revealing God’s truth in discovering how scripture *supports* scripture. For learning purposes and laying a foundation, we will simply examine the first day in Genesis 1 which starts with creation itself.

Breaking down the words in Genesis 1:1, *the* beginning, “the” is italicized as it emphasizes this beginning is the beginning of all beginnings. Not to turn this into a riddle, but it provides an overview that nothing existed before God created it. This first sentence starts us on a journey into discovering God’s truth and plan of salvation for mankind revealed throughout His Word. When we break down scripture in context, we can learn from study of associated chapters and verses that support prophecy and biblical events.

Isaiah 28:9-10- “Whom shall He teach knowledge? And whom shall He make to understand doctrine? *Those* who are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts, **For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little;**”

Reading, studying, and learning God’s Word provides this knowledge and understanding. Old and New Testaments support each other and are critically important to any spiritual growth.

When reading the Bible, it is also vital to pay attention to each and every word and how it is written and used. Looking at “God created,” everything that was made

was created by Him. The One Who became Jesus Christ in the Book of John is confirmed as the God of the Old Testament.

John 1:1-4- “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and not even one thing that was created came into being without Him. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”

Revelation 19:11-13- “And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war. And His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns; *and* He had a name written that no one knows except Him. And *He was* clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is The Word of God.”

God created the heavens and the earth through the **power** of His Holy Spirit. Jesus acknowledged God the Father’s Spirit in His earthly ministry.

Luke 4:18- “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me; for this reason, He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal those who are brokenhearted, to proclaim pardon to the captives and recovery of sight to the

blind, to send forth in deliverance those who have been crushed,” (*Jesus was reading scripture from Isaiah 61:1*)

John 3:34-35- “For He Whom God has sent speaks the words of God; and God gives not the Spirit by measure unto Him. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand.”

John 5:30- “I have no power to do anything of Myself; but as I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father, Who sent Me.”

John 8:28-29- “Then Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you yourselves shall know that I AM, and that I do nothing of Myself. But as the Father taught Me, these things I speak. And He Who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone because I always do the things that please Him.”

“The heavens and the earth” displays the earth and the “heavens (plural) were created and the earth was initially without form. “Heavens” means there are more

than one. Many become confused and this is where modern “Churchianity” twists meanings to support false doctrines.

Heaven seems to be intertwined with “The Promised Land” and the “Kingdom of God.” All three are quite different but they sure sound good on Sunday mornings and all we have to do to get to “heaven” is to be good. We can eliminate the “good” qualification quickly. Going to “heaven” is another lesson in itself and a lie that can be dismissed through scripture.

Matthew 19:17- “And He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good except one—God. But if you desire to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

Mark 10:18- “But Jesus answered him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good except one; that is God.”

Luke 18:19- “Then Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good except One—God.”

Case closed. So where are the three “heavens?”

What is sometimes called the “first heaven” is the area where the atmosphere and clouds are, the sky between the land and outer space.

Psalm 78:23-24- “Though He had commanded the clouds from above and had opened the doors of heaven; And He had rained down manna upon them to eat and gave them of the grain of heaven.”

Outer space is sometimes called the “second heaven.”

Genesis 15:5- “And He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward the heavens and number the stars—if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “So shall your seed be.”

Deuteronomy 10:22- “Your fathers went down into Egypt with seventy persons. And now the LORD your God has made you as the stars of the heavens for multitude.”

Isaiah 13:10- “For the stars of the heavens and their constellations shall not give light; the sun shall be darkened in its going forth, and the moon shall not reflect its light.”

The “Third Heaven” is where God has His throne.

1 Kings 8:27- “But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, **the heavens and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You**. How much less this house which I have built?”

Nehemiah 9:6- “You, even You, *are* LORD alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of the heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things upon it, the seas and all in them, and You preserve them all. And the host of heaven worships You.”

Revelation 11:19- “**And the temple of God in heaven** was opened, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple; and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunders, and an earthquake and great hail.”

Looking at the “Promised Land” it is not Heaven. It is **the promise God made to Abraham**.

Genesis 13:14-17- “And after Lot was separated from him, the LORD said to Abram, “Lift up your eyes now and from the place where you look northward and southward, and eastward and westward; For all the land which you see, I will give

to you and to your seed forever. And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth, so that if a man can count the dust of the earth, then shall your seed also be counted. Rise up and walk through the land, in the length of it and in the breadth of it, for I will give it to you.”

God established His promise and covenant with Abraham. It did not include a trip to Heaven.

Genesis 1:2-5- “And the earth was without form and void, and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep, **and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters** And God said, “**Let there be light.**” **And there was light.** And God saw the light that *it was* good; and God divided between the light and the darkness. And God called the light day, and He called the darkness night. And the evening and the morning were day one.”

The earth was without form, empty waters without definite shape. There was darkness, the absence of light. God’s Spirit, His power, and essence moved over the face (defined according to Merriam-Webster: *surface*) of the waters. God spoke and said, “let there be light.” This maybe the only correct inference to the Big Bang because when God spoke those words, “BANG! There was light!” God then

divided the light from the darkness and called them day and night. God then set the correct way to measure what we call a day as beginning at sundown to morning and then sundown as one day.

It didn't take Satan long to scheme to alter God's clock as we read in Daniel.

Daniel 7:25-26- “And he shall speak words against the Most High and shall wear out the saints of the Most High **and think to change the set times and the laws.** And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time. But the judgment shall sit, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and to be destroyed unto the end.”

We now begin and end our days at midnight, and the seasons no longer coincide with God's calendar. Deception began in the Garden of Eden and has gotten easier for the enemy as watered down religions have conceded God's truth to lies for itching ears.

We as faithful believers, we accept God's Word as truth, however, creation itself has been under constant attack of doubt, ridicule, and a myriad of other “possibilities” on how the universe came into being. As our society has

“outgrown” the need for God and His truth, mankind is free to re-write whatever Satan cares to author, usually with the support of *science*.

1 Timothy 6:20- “O Timothy, guard the *doctrine* which has been entrusted *to you*, avoiding profane, empty babblings, and **contradictions of false knowledge that is called science:**”

It is by far easier to look and see the Hand of God in His Creation around us.

Learning how to read and study the Bible will enable us to fill in the blanks and grow in understanding meanings and scriptural applications. Just looking into Day One we can find Old and New Testament references to each verse.

“For the invisible **things of Him from the creation of the world** are clearly seen, **being understood by the things that are made**, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:”-**Romans 1:20**.

“I am Alpha and Omega, **the beginning** and the end, the first and the last.”-

Revelation 22:13

Psalm 119:160- “Your word is true from the beginning, and every one of Your righteous ordinances endures forever.”

If you sincerely want to grow in wisdom and understanding, get into God’s Word line by line, here a little and there a little, Old and New Testaments, every Word.

You will amaze yourself at how much more you learn. Amen.

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