

GENESIS 1:14-25

LESSON: CREATIONS IN THE SKY, SEA, AND LAND — September 9, 2018

SYNOPSIS:

1:1-13 God had created the heaven and the earth. Darkness and water was all around, so God spoke let there be light. The light was divided from the darkness where He called the light, day and the darkness, night. The evening and morning established the first day (**1:1-5**). God then created the firmament in the midst of the waters dividing the waters under the firmament from the waters above the firmament. He called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day (**1:6-8**). God spoke that the water under the heaven be gathered together into one place, calling it Seas, and spoke that the dry land appear, calling it Earth. The earth was to bring forth grass, herb yielding seed, and fruit bearing trees after its kind. This completed the evening and morning of the third day. God said it was good (**1:9-13**).

LESSON:

I. LIGHTS IN THE SKY GENESIS 1:14-19

1:14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:— AT GOD'S SPOKEN WORD He commanded, "*Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven.*" We know God had already spoke light into existence divided light from darkness and day from night the first day. God knew what He was doing. Just think about it, we now know...

- Light can be seen, can generate speed, and can be heard.
- Light gives heat and warmth.
- Light gives color and beauty to the universe for man.
- Light causes things to grow so that man will have food to eat.
- Light enables man to see the beauty of the earth and the universe.

But, the lights in this verse have many facets and entities. The word "**lights**" mean light bearers or luminaries. The lights in the firmament of the heaven, refers to the heavenly bodies or light bearers. Light cannot be contained, just as God's presence cannot be contained. Light becomes a marker and has a service. In verse 8 God called the firmament, Heaven. So the lights; light bearers would now give more distribution and dispersing of God's spoken light from the beginning in the heaven or sky to divide the day from the night, and allow signs, seasons, days and years to manifest. Five major works or functions for the sun, moon, and stars.

1. The sun divides the day from the night. Both are essential. Psalm 74:16 says "*The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun.*" The earth is round and it revolves on an axis at 1000 m.p.h. Each rotation takes 23hrs., 56mins., and 4.1secs— just 24hrs. The sun's rising and setting determines day and night. Therefore, about one half of the earth faces the sun all the time. When a part of the earth rotates and faces the sun, the light from the sun gives man a time for work. When a part of the earth rotates and faces away from the sun, the darkness give man a time for rest. Its movement toward the

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axis of the earth determines summer and winter, the seasons of the earth. God created a purpose for every movement of the sun and of the earth.

2. The light bearers serve as signs for the earth. Signs give direction; indicate weather conditions; control the oceans and their tides day by day and month by month. There are warning signs when the sea water warms up, it expands and polar ice melts. When there are changes in ocean temperatures and wind patterns, the result is climate change of the ocean affecting and altering oceanic currents. Rapid fall in sea level as the ocean recedes may be preceded by a Tsunami. There are other kinds of signs. Signs declare the glory of God; give testimony to God; give divine judgment, and point a person to God. The star pointed to the birth of the Savior. Lk.21:25 *"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring."* These signs refer to the Lord's return—His Second Coming!
3. The light bearers provide seasons for the earth. The axis of the earth tilts about 23½ degrees. It is this tilt and the earth's revolving around the sun that creates the seasons of the year. Because of the tilt, different parts of the earth face the sun more directly at different times during the year. Of course, the more directly a place faces the sun, the warmer it is, and the more indirectly, the cooler it is. It is this, the warmth and coolness of the earth's surface that gives seasons to the earth. Seasons provide agriculture for farming—migration for animals—religious celebrations—variety and beauty.
4. The light bearers provide days and years for the earth. One day is one revolution of the earth around its own axis, about 24hrs. One year is one revolution of the earth around the sun about 365days. The earth would not have days and nights nor years if it were not for the heavenly bodies or light bearers, in particular the sun.

The days give light upon the earth so that man can see to walk and work. 7days make a week. 30 or 31 days (except for leap year) make a month. 365 days make a year Eph.5:16 *"And there are 4 seasons in a year for the northern hemisphere. The years give man a way to measure time. This enables him to keep a better record of time and to better know and measure the seasons and events of life. "Make good use of every opportunity you have, because these are evil days."*

- **GOD'S WORD COMMANDED THE LIGHTS IN THE FIRMAMENT OF THE HEAVEN TO SERVE AS SIGNS, SEASONS, DAYS AND YEARS.**

1:15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. Now, there is an unveiling of the lights of the heaven.

5. The light bearers provide light upon earth. Their purpose is to give light from the atmosphere of heaven to show forth upon the earth. Upon completion of this fantastic and spectacular view, God says **and it was so**. The point I conclude is that whatever is giving the light cannot be inhabited, but the light of Jesus can inhabit us, for later believers can say that we are the light of the world (Matt.5:14). That light of Jesus can inhabit a whole world to give the light of the Gospel to infuse the life of Jesus Christ into a dying world— earth's habitation. **And it was so!**

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1:16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. God "made" means He caused to exist, created, and formed it. These two great lights or light bearers speak of one is greater than the other. So God made the greater one to rule the day. And the lesser light to rule the night. The greater light was not to rule continuously, and is not to be worshiped. Ps.104:19 says *"He appointed the moon for the seasons; The sun knows his going down."* And we can't forget about the stars which are included in God's light bearers to give light. ¹All stars, like our Sun, sends out a huge amount of electromagnetic radiation, including light. However, that light spreads out with distance, making it so that only a tiny fraction reaches us.

- **GOD MADE THE TWO GREAT LIGHTS—SUN AND THE MOON. AND GOD ALSO MADE THE STARS.**

1:17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,— This verse was already spoken In verse 15, but for *purpose*— God said *"let them be for lights...to give light upon the earth."* Now God places them in their *positions* in the firmament of the heaven. Each time it was to give light upon the earth.

- **GOD SET THE SUN AND THE MOON AND THE STARS IN THE FIRMAMENT OF HEAVEN FOR LIGHT. HE CAUSED THEM TO EXIST.**

1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good. The lights were to rule over the day and the night and to divide the light from the darkness. Some points:

²Sunlight comes straight from the sun and onto earth. Moon light comes from the sun, but instead of hitting earth right away it hits the moon and then reflects off of it onto earth.

³The moon shines because its surface reflects light from the sun. And despite the fact that it sometimes seems to shine very brightly, the moon reflects only between 3 and 12 percent of the sunlight that hits it. The perceived brightness of the moon from Earth depends on where the moon is in its orbit around the planet

God said that it was good as He said on the third day!

1:19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day. This, therefore, would be the evening and the morning of God completing His **fourth day**.

II. LIFE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD GENESIS 1:20-25

1:20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. AT GOD'S SPOKEN WORD He commanded, *"Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven."* Now, we're going into the fifth day of creation and God is preparing earth to sustain life of moving creatures in the water, meaning

¹ <https://www.livescience.com/45979-why-does-the-moon-shine.html>

² <https://www.livescience.com/45979-why-does-the-moon-shine.html>

³ <http://www.qrg.northwestern.edu/projects/vss/docs/space-environment/3-why-dont-we-receive-light-from-all.html>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>

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they are living souls. The soul is the breath, life, consciousness, and energy, thereby, they live by breathing. The waters did not produce the living creatures of the sea and air. God Himself created the animals of the sea and air, but He spoke to the waters to bring forth. He commanded the waters to be filled with moving water creatures, and the sky to be filled with flying air creatures. There was nothing within the waters, air, or land that could create or bring forth sea and air creatures. There was no energy, force, gas, chemical, matter, substance, element or particle. It was God Himself—His Word, the power of His command produced the water creatures. The power of God's Word is unlimited.

- God's Word can set the hardest heart afire or else pound it like a hammer until it breaks and surrenders to Christ.
- God's message—the Gospel of Christ can save everyone who believes.
- God's Word can pierce like a sword; divide asunder spirit and soul, thoughts and motives.
- God's Word can cleanse a person's way.

⁴He saw the world was ready for some living creatures, the seas were ready for fish, and the trees and grass was ready to be homes for the birds. God made all kinds of fish and water animals and every kind of bird and fowl

- GOD'S WORD COMMANDED MOVING WATER CREATURES TO FILL AND HAVE LIFE IN THE WATERS, AND AIR FLYING CREATURES TO FILL AND FLY ABOVE THE EARTH.

1:21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

- Great whales or great creatures were created by God along. This would include the whales, crocodiles, sharks, and other large creatures.
- Every living creature that moves in the water would include all the small fish and the creeping creatures of the waters such as crabs, lobster, and shrimp.
- Every winged fowl after their kind would include all living creatures that have wings such as birds, chicken, ostriches, and insects.

God created every creature after its kind. This means that all water creatures and air creatures have the power to reproduce themselves. And God made sure that there was an abundance and variety of water and air creatures

- to populate and give life,
- to help carry on the reproduction of the food chain,
- to give variety and beauty to the waters and the air; showing forth His glorious handiwork,
- and lastly to provide companionship for man.

What God accomplished, He saw that **it was good!**

- GOD CREATED GREAT WHALES, EVERY LIVING CREATURE, AND EVERY WINGED FOWL AFTER HIS KIND.

1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

1. First, there is a blessing and privilege of life.
2. Second, there is the blessing and privilege of reproducing, of being fruitful and multiplying,

⁴ <http://www.family-times.net/commentary/creation-fish-and-birds-genesis-1/>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>

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of populating the waters and the air, of carrying on their particular species. Note the power to reproduce is infused into the very nature of the creature, for God placed the power of reproduction into them.

- GOD BLESSED HIS CREATION AND COMMANDED THEM TO BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY IN THE SEAS AND IN THE EARTH.

1:23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. This completes the evening and the morning of the **fifth day**.

1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. AT GOD'S SPOKEN WORD He commanded, *"Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind..."* Now, the fifth day has ended, so, this begins the first half of the sixth day, and God creates land animals; living creatures (creatures that live by breathing) after their kind. One point is that they are living souls, but they are not made in the image of God, as we will find out about man. The animals were created in three classes.

1. Cattle —the domestic animals; animals that can be tamed and used in the service of man such as cattle, oxen, camels, horses, dogs, sheep, and donkeys.
2. Creeping things —the smaller animals that glide along on their bellies or else creep along with small feet. The creepers would include such animals as snakes, worms, ants, and insects.
3. Beast of the earth —the wild animals, the daring and untamed animals such as lions, bears, wolves, and elephants.

"Bring forth" in verse 20 is a little different than in Verse 24. In verse 20 there was nothing in the water used to bring forth the moving creatures except God spoke to the water and it was filled; crowded with moving creatures. But in verse 24 He formed the living creatures from the dust of the earth. **Gen.2:19** says *"And out of the ground the Lord God formed (molded) every beast of the field and every fowl of the air."* **KJV. Eccl. 3:19-20** *"For people and animals share the same fate--both breathe and both must die... Both go to the same place--they came from dust and they return to dust"* **NLT**. This substantiates that the animals came from the earth. God intentionally formed the living creatures by using the earth. God is still the Creator and His Word was spoken both to the water and the earth, but He had a very special task for earth to serve Him. *"Let the earth bring forth..."*, "in a special way. And it was so.

1:25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good. God caused the beast after his kind, cattle after his kind, and every creeping thing after his kind to exist, and saw that **it was good**; they have value and a purpose.

- GOD MADE THE BEAST, CATTLE, AND CREEPING THINGS AFTER THEIR KIND.

SUMMARY:

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God had already spoken light into existence in verse 3. He divided the light from darkness in verse 4. Now, God commands the lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night to manifest and serve as signs, seasons, days and years. The lights refer to heavenly bodies or light bearers that became markers. They give light in the atmosphere of heaven to show forth upon the earth, but the earth will have order by depending upon these signs, seasons, days and years. And it was so (14-15). God made two great lights and the stars. So He made the greater one to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. God set them in their positions in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth (16-17). The lights ruled over the day and the night, dividing the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good; evening and morning completed the **fourth day** (18-19). **(1:14-19)**.

God commanded the waters to bring forth moving creature and fowl that will fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. The water was filled with moving creatures and the sky was open to the flying creatures. Great whales and every living creature that moves in the water after their kind filled the water. And every winged fowl after their kind filled the sky? God saw that it was good, and He Blessed His creation and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply in the seas and on earth. This was the evening and morning of the **fifth day** (20-23). God also created the land animals; living creatures from the earth having living souls after their kind. From the earth they were formed and from the earth they will return. And it was so. He caused the beast, cattle and every creeping thing to exist, and saw that it was good (24-25). **(1:20-25)**.