

# Doctrines 101

## Lesson 2

### Creation

#### PART I EXPLANATION

**Introduction:** The Bible is written to give us an entire revelation of God's eternal plan and purpose. It begins by giving us a concise explanation of the origin of the universe. It gives an amazingly simple explanation including only the details necessary to explain the origin of human history. In a mere eleven chapters, the Bible gives a detailed account of the creation of the universe, the fall of man, the flood, the formation of different nations and languages, and even the generations of man allowing us to age the earth at approximately six thousand years. What is amazing is that even though the Bible gives such a compact and simple explanation, the vast majority of people, even Christians, are completely ignorant of the subject.

A drastic turning point in the understanding of Creation came during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the theory of evolution and modern science began dating the earth as millions of years old. Sadly, many conservative churches and pastors attempted to reinterpret the Bible in light of these "scientific discoveries" not realizing that these discoveries were not really science. In an attempt to reconcile the biblical account with "science," two main theories were developed. The "gap theory" suggested that there was a gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 of millions of years. The other was the "day age theory" which suggested that each of the six days of creation could have been long ages and not 24 hour days. However, the Scriptures explicitly state that "*the evening and the morning were the first day.*" Another good argument to support the 24 hour day is that God's institution of the Sabbath day of rest would only make sense if it were a literal day.

There is a great lesson to be learned from the history of this debate: be careful of reinterpreting the Bible according to modern science and their 'discovery' of contradictions in the Scriptures. The use of carbon dating and the fossil record have since been proven to be absolutely unreliable and unprovable according to the laws of science. The theory of evolution is the attempt of science to destroy confidence in the Bible. If man can somehow prove that creation is not the true origin of the universe, then the Bible's teaching concerning the fall of man and the judgment of God is explained away. The entire system of evolution is a religion, because it requires faith to believe, attempting to remove God and especially accountability to a Creator.

Obviously, the biblical account of creation and the theory of evolution are extremely antagonistic to each other. Evolutionists claim that man's problem is not innate depravity; rather that negative influences cause us to make bad choices. The Bible declares that man was created in a state of innocence, placed in a perfect environment with only one command, and yet he fell into sin; which results in the condemnation of a holy God. Instead evolutionists claim that man originated with a bang and is continually getting better through the process of 'natural selection.'

This battle is not only defending creation, it is a fight to maintain the truth of the origin of the universe, the fall of man, the judgment of God, and the gospel. Because of the weight of these issues, Christians must be firmly grounded in the Scriptural truths of Creation. This is a cornerstone of our faith that upholds the validity of God's Word and the plan of redemption. We must understand and explain these truths to a world that is educated by a humanistic system, without ever being exposed to the light of the Word of God.

**Definitions:** For English use the Webster's 1828 Dictionary and copy all appropriate definitions for each word. For the Greek and Hebrew use a Strong's Concordance and copy the definition. The Strong's number is in parenthesis.

English: **Creation** -

Greek: (2937) **ktisis** ktis'-is

Hebrew: (1254) **bara'** baw-raw'

### **Quotation:**

“The Darwinian theory of descent has not a single fact to confirm it in the realm of nature. It is not the result of scientific research, but purely the product of imagination.” Prof. Fleischmann

“(of evolution) It is one of the strangest phenomena of humanity; it is utterly destitute of proof.” Sir William Dawson geologist

“The pathetic thing is that we have scientists who are trying to prove evolution which no scientist can ever prove.” Dr. Robert Millikan physicist and Nobel prize winner who believed evolution

“Evolution is unproved and unprovable. We believe it because the only alternative is special creation, and that is unthinkable.” Sir Arthur Keith

“It is clear that the doctrine of evolution is directly antagonistic to that of Creation. Evolution, if consistently accepted, makes it impossible to believe the Bible.” Thomas Huxley

“The most fundamental objection to the theory of natural selection is that it cannot originate characters; it only selects among characters already existing.” Prof. Coulter

“Not one change of species into another is on record... We cannot prove that a single species has been changed.” Charles Darwin

“If all animals and man evolve....then there were no first parents, no Eden, no Fall. And if there had been no Fall, then the entire historic fabric of Christianity – the story of the first sin and the reason for an atonement – collapses like a house of cards.” H.G. Wells

**Confessions** (Look up and read these articles)

#### **London Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689**

Chapter 4 Of Creation - paragraphs 1-3

#### **Spurgeon's Catechism**

Questions: 7-13

### **PART II EXPLORATION**

**Key Questions** (*Answer in writing*)

1. What vital truths are explained in the first eleven chapters of the Bible?

2. Exactly what caused churches and pastors to reinterpret the Scriptural account of creation?



Genesis 1:27 God created man in his own \_\_\_\_\_, male and female.

Psalms 8:3-4 The heavens are the work of His \_\_\_\_\_. Reflecting upon God's creation caused David to realize the greatness of God and the insignificance of man. He asked the question, what is \_\_\_\_\_? Implied that in comparison he is nothing.

Psalms 19:1 The heavens declare the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and reveal His incredible \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalms 148:5 God \_\_\_\_\_ and the heavens were created.

Isaiah 40:25-26 When challenging people to compare Him to their false gods, He charged them to find His \_\_\_\_\_. He called them to \_\_\_\_\_ His creation.

Malachi 2:10 When reproving the people for their treatment of each other He reminded them that \_\_\_\_\_ God created them.

Mark 10:6 From the beginning God \_\_\_\_\_ both male and female in the institution of marriage.

Romans 1:20 God's eternal power and Godhead are clearly seen by the \_\_\_\_\_, which leaves man without excuse.

Colossians 1:16 \_\_\_\_\_ Christ were all things \_\_\_\_\_ both by Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

Revelation 4:11 God deserves the glory, honour, and power because He has created \_\_\_\_\_ things and for His \_\_\_\_\_ they are and were created.

**Key Chapter(s)** (*Read daily and summarize in your own words the meaning of the chapter*):

Genesis 1

### **PART III EXPECTATION**

**Memory verse:** Genesis 1:31

**Personal definition:** (*Write a definition in your own words*)

Creation -

**Personal confession:** (*Study the confessions and summarize them in your own words*)

Creation

**Meditation question:** *(be prepared for discussion)*

Why couldn't each day of creation stand for a thousand years?

**Extra Credit:**

Watch the entire creation series by Kent Hovind.