



501-915-0595 cmcbill@cox-internet.com fax 501-915-0299
146 LaVista Lane Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

A Learning and Worship Center

Lesson 4: In Genesis 2:3-4 God declares the sanctification of the seventh day following the six days of God's work of creation and finishing of the heavens and earth. Notice that God declares that the work is FINISHED AND ENDED THE WORK WHICH HE HAD MADE. This negates any notion of continual recreation that some propose. Verse four begins with the formula that separates sections within the entire book of Genesis in which the start of the new section begins with "and these are the generations of". All the other sections begin with the death of the previous recorder eyewitness. Here, however, we see that the only one who could have witnessed the events of the first chapter is God Himself. The second chapter beginning with verse four begins what would be an eye witness of the recorder which would be Adam. This would explain why the two chapters are written from a different view of the creation. If you read this naturally you will see these distinctions as different perspectives and not different recorders. Adam could have easily recorded what happened directly from God and he then wrote about what he himself saw.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ELEVEN NATURAL DIVISIONS MARKED OFF IN GENESIS. (note that they all begin with the same worded formulae and you can read before and after to see that the perspective is changed so that the previous recorder has died and the new recorder is recording that death and then going on with the recorded history. Each of these recorders would have been contemporary to the previous recorder.)

1. "These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth" (Genesis 2:4)
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2. "This is the book of the generations of Adam (Genesis 5:1)
3. "These are the generations of Noah" (Genesis 6:9)
4. "Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth" (Genesis 10:1)
5. "These are the generations of Shem" (Genesis 11:10)
6. "Now these are the generations of Terah" (Genesis 11:27)
7. "Now these are the generations of Ishmael" (Genesis 25:12)
8. "And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son" (Genesis 25:19)
9. "Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom" (Genesis 36:1)
10. "And these are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in Mount Seir" (Genesis 36:9)
11. "These are the generations of Jacob" (Genesis 37:2)

THE GAP THEORY:

The so called Gap Theory was invented and taught, not by scientists by pastors and theologians that were pressed to explain the current proposed and then accepted scientific theory of Geological Ages and Evolutionary thought. Instead of doing the hard work of standing on the natural reading of the Scriptures, the Church educational communities inserted the possibility of millions of years between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. They could go on and teach the Scriptures and declare they didn't care if God may have created over millions of years. This, however, was a huge error because they unwittingly opened the door for skeptics to show how the Bible is now contradicting itself and questioning whether or not the Bible is of any value in the modern world at all. IF THE BIBLE TEACHERS HAD DONE THE HARD WORK OF PREPARING A SCIENTIFIC OPTION THAT THE SCRIPTURES SUPPORTED, THEY WOULD NOT NOW BE STUCK WITH ACCEPTING THEORIES OF THE WORLD THAT ARE NOW PROVED TO BE FALSE.

The systems of Geological Ages, on which the Gap Theory was invented to answer, is based completely on the assumption of uniformitarianism. (That is, the belief that physical processes have always functioned in the past essentially as they do at the present) This negates a cataclysmic event as is required by the GAP. Consequently the GAP Theory is self-defeating scientifically. Genesis 1:2 record of the earth covered with water and darkness covering the deep would need a cataclysmic event if there was a pre-Adamic existence. To have a cataclysmic event would wipe out any evidence of geological ages. Therefore a GAP Theory cannot be supported by Scriptures. You cannot have it both ways. The GAP Theory is not only impossible scientifically but also is destructive theologically. Why? Because the testimony of the following scriptures declare that DEATH ENTERED THE WORLD THROUGH ONE MAN'S SIN. The Bible declares that before the first man sinned, there was no death. Since Fossils are dead things and Geological Ages and Evolution depend on the progression of death upon death upon death in order to get to man, then this theory would have to be

contradictory to the Biblical record. Because of this, no serious Bible student can accept the theory of Geological Ages or the Theory of Evolution. Science itself has proved that the Theory has huge problems and most of the scientific world has moved on and don't consider Evolution a viable answer at all. As you will discover in our studies together, that a natural reading of Genesis 1:1-2 suggests no such idea at all.

GENESIS 1:2 WORD BY WORD

1. "and the earth was" Every verse in the creation account begin with AND except Verse 1. This form is applied to all the following verses and must be applied here also to depict the natural reading of a continuation of an event that closely follows the other. No Gap is evident in this tight sequence form. If the writer would want to convey any other type of happening but a close continuous event, he could have done so in a variety of other ways and most likely would not have chosen this form.
2. "without form and void" The creation is not yet complete, not yet ready for inhabitants thus the word "void". The time, space, matter continuum is now complete but is shown to have no shape.
3. "Darkness was upon the face of the deep" (see Isaiah 45:7) Darkness here is not implied as evil but simply incompleteness. Deep as in other places in Scripture refer to the waters of the ocean and thus here to are a representation of water. The reading depicts that the elements (earth) are suspended in the waters and exist throughout the darkness of space. Because of this we are likely to have evidence of water throughout the universe. But instead of a scientific reading of previous life is could simply mean what is found here in the Word of God as it is relayed by the only one who was there and could have known what He did.....GOD HIMSELF...why can't we believe the Creator instead of trying to come up with our own ideas?
4. "the face of the waters" Face is a synonym for presence
5. "The Spirit of God moved" The Hebrew word for moved is "Ruach" is means wind or breath. this word is used only 3 times in the Old Testament and in each time is a reflection of the Holy Spirit delivering the Word or shaking the bones instilling knowledge. (see Jeremiah 23:9 and Deut. 32:11) The omnipresent breath of God moved over the waters, thus putting them in motion so that they could be ready to receive the next step of the creation of the first day....to be energized. Significantly the transmission of energy in the universe comes in the form of waves. Much like would happen as described by the rapid back and forth motion of God's breath upon the waters. There are light waves, heat waves, sound waves etc. Energy cannot create itself for it depends on an outside influence. Look at the words of II Peter 1:21 that describe another moving. It is the same word in the Greek that is used here in Genesis 1:2. "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. If we are to believe in the Scriptures as truly inspired by the Holy Spirit of God, then we must allow the Scripture to interpret itself and read the Word of God naturally without any injection on our part. If God is the author, wouldn't He inspire it so that it could be easily understood by a reasonable person?

GENESIS CHAPTER 1:1 ANOTHER LOOK WORD BY WORD

1. "God" the word in Hebrew is Elohim, which is the fullness and the majesty and omnipotence of a Creator God. This name is plural in form meaning that God is none yet more than one.
2. "created" "bara" is the Hebrew word used always in the Old Testament in reference to the work of God.(see Romans 4:17 and Hebrews 11:3) Only God can create from nothing...as it is different from "to
3. make or to form". God can also make and form as we will see in our study of Genesis but can do so more quickly and better than man. We only have two choices with this verse. Either we believe that in the beginning God created and we have an Eternal God, or we must believe in eternal matter. Which is easier for you to believe? Eternal matter is impossible under the scientific law of cause and effect....since random particles by themselves could not generate a complex, orderly, and intelligible universe.
4. "heaven" is also a plural noun but does not suggest stars or moon or sun because they are not formed until later (see Genesis 1:16; 2:1) Here we have a Hebrew word "*shamayim*" "*sham*" meaning "there" and *mayim* meaning "waters" or "there waters" literally. Can you visualize the description of the waters and the elements all in suspension without any shape and without any other creation? We now have 2 elements of the continuum with space and time components.
5. "earth" Now adds the component of matter. Not planets as that happens in day 4.
6. "in the beginning" depicts God marking the start of time itself. (see John 1:1) "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. the same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*" And who is this light that was sent by God to energize the waters as recorded in Genesis 1:3 "*and God said, Let there be light: and there was light.*"

One definitive statement followed by another in verse 2 followed by a summary in Genesis 2:4 record the action of the 1st Day of God's marvelous creation. A recording that to this day that no scientific proof can discount as untrue. Glory be to God the Father the Creator, God the Holy Spirit, the Mover over the waters and elements, and God the Son, the Light and energizer, the life giver to the formless void. AMEN

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