

## EXPOSITION OF GENESIS

Message #6

Genesis 1:9-13

There is absolutely no doubt that when we come to the issue of creation- we come to an issue of faith. Even the writer of Hebrews said: “By **faith** we understand that the words were prepared by the word of God ...” Human beings are forced to explain creation by believing something – it is a matter of faith!

The real question then regarding creation is a question of which explanation for creation is most logical to believe? Which explanation is most rational? Which is accurate and true? Can we believe the Bible or is it just some “flimsy substitute for reality?”

No man can deny the existence of the world, of the heavens, of light and of life. These things factually exist and these factual existence force every thinking man to come up with some answers as to how these things go here. Is it more logical to believe that a Great Glorious God carefully created all of these existences, which the Bible reveals, or is it more logical to believe the various theories of men- these things occurred by some random massive explosion to they just evolved?

When it comes to the existence of the material universe (this earth), philosophers and metaphysicians have offered at least five theories for its origin:

- 1) The world just evolved itself out of nothing.
- 2) The material universe always existed.
- 3) The material universe always existed, but its present state evolved over a long period of time.
- 4) The material universe always existed, but order in it was a work of God (Plato, Aristotle).
- 5) The material universe was a powerful creative work of God.

In attempting to give a philosophical answer for which is most logical to believe, this scientific syllogism may be used:

- 1) Every effect must have an adequate cause.
- 2) Every effect is dependent upon its cause for its existence.
- 3) No effect can produce itself.

**THE MAJESTIC GOD IS THE CREATOR OF ALL EXISTENCES INCLUDING THE EARTH AND THE SEAS AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM AND ON THEM.**

Everything has a factual existence because of God’s factual work. The great cause of all creative effects is the great God of the Bible.

### **DAY #3 CREATIVE WORK #1 – The gathering of the waters . 1:9a**

The first thing God did on Creative Day #3 was to command that waters to be gathered into one place. According to Psalm 104:5-7 (v. 7\*) and Isaiah 50:2, this command was in the form of a verbal rebuke , which means God verbally reprovved the Seas and commanded some negative restraint on them. This particular command occurs in the Hebrew Niphal stem, which means that God commanded the waters to be gathered together and the waters were involved themselves in the action . This is an amazing demonstration of power to be able to command the water to do something and then have the water actually obey the command. **This is power only found in God. This very power was demonstrated by Jesus Christ, which clearly proves He is God (Luke 8:24-25).**

Notice that the waters God is working with are waters “below or under the heavens.” What this means is that God is working with the below waters rather than the above waters. This water is the water of our planet, the under the expanse water.

When the text says God gathered the waters “into one place” it means the particular place or habitation where God deems they are to exist. The Bible does reveal that God has established certain boundaries for the waters (Job 38:8; Proverbs 8:29\*; Jeremiah 5:22\*).

### **DAY #3 CREATIVE WORK #2 – The appearance of the dry land . 1:9b**

The words “dry land” refer to earth that is free of enough moisture that it may be classified as dry to the extent of dry footing (Gesenius, *Hebrew Lexicon*, p. 328). When God commanded the waters, He did not want to leave a marshy swamp land behind, but dry land that is capable of dry footing .

When God says “let the dry land appear”, the Niphal stem indicates that the earth was involved in the action . As the water were actively going to their place of habitation, the dry land was actively appearing. These were two distinct actions of creation. Drs. Keil and Delitzsch call this process depression of waters and elevation of land (p.54).

God designed specific places for water and land and there were things He wanted to appear such as mountains and hills and fields (Proverbs 8:25-26). As the Psalmist said – “The sea is His, for it was He who made it; And His hands formed the dry land.” (Psalm 95:5).

At this point in creation, God has sovereignly performed three major separations :

- 1) He has separated darkness by light. **1:4**
- 2) He has separated waters above from waters below. **1:6**
- 3) He has separated waters below from dry land. **1:9**

The fact that God names the waters “seas” plural teaches us that He is not just referring to one location , but to all the watery basins located all over the world.

### DAY #3 CREATIVE WORK #3 – The creation of vegetation . 1:11-12

Notice carefully that the earth “brought forth” (v. 12) vegetation when God commanded it.

There are three types of life which the earth produced: vegetation , plants , trees .  
“Vegetation” – fresh, green vegetation which is young; “herb” (plant) – refers to full grown green herb. The difference between the vegetation and the herb or plant is age . The “plant” or “herb” is more mature vegetation and the “vegetation” is more infant. The fact that God designed the plants to yield a seed means that it possesses a means of self -propagation. The tree term “fruit trees bearing fruit” – a mature tree obviously is capable of producing fruit.

In this creation account, there is a very critical prepositional phrase that shows up ten times in **Genesis 1 (1:11, 12, 12, 21, 24, 24, 25, 25, 25)** and three times in versus 11-12 – “after their kind”. The phrase “after their kind” is not after some other kind. This is a crucial issues pertaining to the subject of reproduction . The word “kind” in Hebrew refers to species , family or race (Gesenius, p. 470). God established certain species boundaries in which reproduction is possible and in which life may propagate. This is a unique structure of DNA restriction. **This prepositional phrase makes it clear that there is no possibility of reproduction beyond the boundaries of one’s own family or species.**

In other words a corn seed will never reproduce an apple seed. The origin of species dogma that one species may evolve up a scale into another species falls by the Biblical wayside right here with this prepositional phrase.

Dr. Gregor J. Mendel, who has done extensive experiments in an attempt to prove variations has concluded: “.The range of variation possible within a species was strictly limited and afforded no progress whatsoever toward the development of a new species. Thus the individuals of a race of pure-bred tall peas might vary slightly in height, but the progeny of the tall ones was not on the average taller than the progeny of the short ones. It is true that by selective breeding, certain characteristics possible within a single species may be emphasized to form a special strain (as in the case of many different types of dog), but there is a strictly limited circle of possibilities beyond which no breeder can go. He is powerless, in other words, to develop a new species” (Gleason Archer, *A Survey of the Old Testament*, p. 196). This is exactly what Paul said in I Corinthians 15:38-39. At the beginning of God’s creation, He established an “after its kind” reproduction system.

What is being produced in our life- “after His kind” of look or an “after our kind” of look?

Dr. Henry Morris observed that the Hebrew combination “evening” (ereb) and “morning” (boqer) occurs in the O.T. over 100 times and **always** with a literal meaning (*The Genesis Record*, p. 64).

Several thousand years after this account was written, the ground produced another life the likes of which it will never produce again. It is ironic, for that too occurred on Day #3. Three days after His crucifixion, the earth shook, the stone was rolled away and the God-man Jesus Christ came out of His grave. He sprung forth to give spiritual life to all who will believe. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will have an eternal personal relationship with the God who created the heavens and the earth.