



The 2nd London Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689

Chapter 4 – Of Creation



ST 535 Baptist Symbolics Chapter Outlines applied to the 2LBC.1689.4.1-3

- **Chapter 3 – Of God’s Decree over the last two weeks.**
- **Chapter 4 – Of Creation**
- **Why ought this next chapter be about Creation?**
- **The Baptist Catechism questions 11, 12, and 13 ask questions with regard to Creation.**
- **Q. 11: How doth God execute His decrees?**
 - A. God executed His decrees in the works of creation and providence.**



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- His work **of Creation** is **the first part** of God working out of His decree by creating time, space, and matter.

It is the first means by which God brings His eternal plan to realization in time and space. Creation is mentioned in every part (section) of Scripture. According to Hebrews 11.3, it is an article of our faith. The Apostles' Creed summarizes it for us: "I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth." – James Renihan, Baptist Symbolics II, P. 127

- His work **of Providence** is **the second part** of God working out His decree by preservation and governance of His created order.



ST 535 Baptist Symbolics Chapter Outlines applied to the 2LBC.1689.4.1-3

Ch. 3 – God alone in eternity past (Decree)

Ch. 4 – The Creation Week + 1 Day of Rest

- **Time**
- **Space**
- **Matter**

Ch. 5 – His works of Providence

- **Preservation**
- **Governance**



1. The Doctrine of Creation (Genesis 1)

A. The Persons Acting

Paragraph 1. In the beginning it pleased God the Father, (a) Son, and Holy Spirit,

a. John 1:2, 3 – *He was in the beginning with **God**. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*

Hebrews 1:2 – *in these last days has spoken to us in **His Son**, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.*

Job 26:13 – *By **His breath** (“Spirit”, 1901 ASV) the heavens are cleared; His hand has pierced the fleeing serpent.*



1. The Doctrine of Creation (Genesis 1)

B. The Purpose

for the manifestation of the glory of (b) his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness,

b. Romans 1:20 – *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, **have been clearly seen**, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.*



1. The Doctrine of Creation (Genesis 1)

C. The Act

to Create or make (out of nothing)

c. Colossians 1:16 – *For by Him all things **were created**, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things **have been created** by Him and for Him.*

Genesis 2:1, 2 – *Thus the heavens and the earth **were completed**, and all their hosts. And by the seventh day God **completed** His work which He **had done**; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He **had done**.*



1. The Doctrine of Creation (Genesis 1)

C. The Act

1. The extent

the world, and all things therein, (c) whether visible or invisible,



1. The Doctrine of Creation (Genesis 1)

C. The Act

1. The extent

the world, and all things therein, (c) whether visible or invisible,

2. The time frame

in the space of six days,



1. The Doctrine of Creation (Genesis 1)

C. The Act

1. The extent

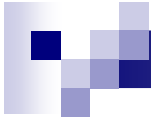
the world, and all things therein, (c) whether visible or invisible,

2. The time frame

in the space of six days,

3. The result

and all very good.



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

A. The Time Frame

Paragraph 2. After God had made all other Creatures,



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

B. The Act

he Created (d) man, male and female,

d Genesis 1:27 – And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

B. The Act

he Created (d) man, male and female,

d Genesis 1:27 – And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

with (e) reasonable and immortal souls,

e Genesis 2:7 – Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

C. The Purpose

rendering them fit unto that life to God, for which they were Created;



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

D. The Image to God

being (f) made after the image of God,

f Ecclesiastes 7:29 – Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, For anger resides in the bosom of fools.

*Genesis 1:26 – Then God said, “Let Us make man in **Our image, according to Our likeness**; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”*



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in knowledge, righteousness, and true holyness;



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

E. The Law of God (Natural Law)

having the Law of God (g) written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it;

g Romans 2:14, 15 – *For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that **they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,***



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

E. The Law of God (Natural Law)

1. Identified

and yet under a possibility of transgressing,



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

E. The Law of God (Natural Law)

1. Identified

and yet under a possibility of transgressing,

2. Natural Ability

being left to the liberty of their own will,



2. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2)

F. Mutability

which was (h) subject to change.

h Genesis 3:6 – When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.



3. Positive Law

This paragraph in the 2LBC is almost identical in the Savoy and Westminster, but is separated into a 3rd paragraph. The Framers of the 2LBC probably wanted to make a greater distinction between Moral Law (the law written on the heart of Adam which required no special revelation) and Positive Law (which requires special revelation).



3. Positive Law

A. An External Commandment

*Paragraph 3. Besides **the** Law written in their hearts, they received (i) a command not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil;*

*i Genesis 6:17 – “And behold, I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to **destroy all flesh** in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; **everything that is on the earth shall perish.**”*

*Genesis 3:8-10 – And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of Thee in the garden, and **I was afraid** because I was naked; so I hid myself.”*



3. Positive Law

B. The Present Result

which whilst they kept,



3. Positive Law

B. The Present Result

1. Communion with God

they were happy in their Communion with God,



3. Positive Law

B. The Present Result

1. Communion with God

they were happy in their Communion with God,

2. Maintenance of Dominion

and had dominion (k) over the Creatures.

*k Genesis 1:26, 28 – The God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them **rule over** the fish of the sea and **over** the birds of the sky and **over** the cattle and **over all the earth**, and **over every creeping thing** that creeps on the earth... And God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and **subdue it**; and **rule over** the fish of the sea and **over** the birds of the sky, and **over every living thing that moves on the earth.**”*