



- There are other ancient creation myths. And it comes from humanity's desire to understand, to seek origins, and to know where we have come from and why we exist. It's one reason that scientists today continue to seek to understand the origin of the universe. It's why theories such as the universe being a hologram, or the age of the universe and earth continue to be debated and discussed. Every culture has its creation story, even modern society has their own creation story. And the creation story that you believe will affect what you believe about yourself and purpose in the world.
- There are different creation myths and they will all have some similarities — the creation of the natural world, the creation of humanity, the creation of the things they observe around them.
 - modern society has their creation stories, and people continue to create new ones actually.
 - even in science there are creation stories — because we aren't sure what happened in the beginning, and the nature of the universe today.



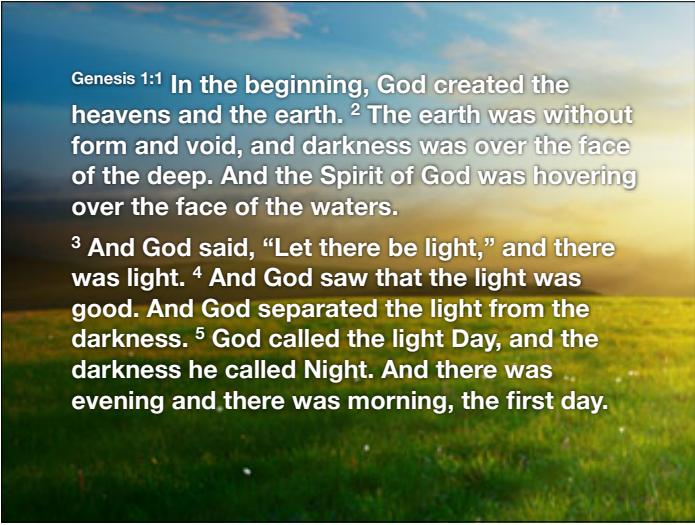
And in Genesis 1 we have this origin story. This creation story.

It's in the beginning, **that our faith also begins**. The belief in a Creator God. And for those who don't believe in God, this is the biggest first jump – that God created the universe. **If we believe that God created the Universe, the rest of faith can follow**. But this, the origin of the Universe, for us begins with God - supreme being. A Creator. An Almighty. One who has a plan, who has a purpose for creation. **If there is no creator, no God, no originator — then humanity exists for self**. And everything we've seen from the natural world, survival of the fittest implies that humanity should just live to satisfy their own desires and wants. But the existence of a Creator God — instantly makes us accountable.

And so let's look at some of the **unique aspects of the Creation**, and as we do that we will begin to understand why each of these differences are so special to us.

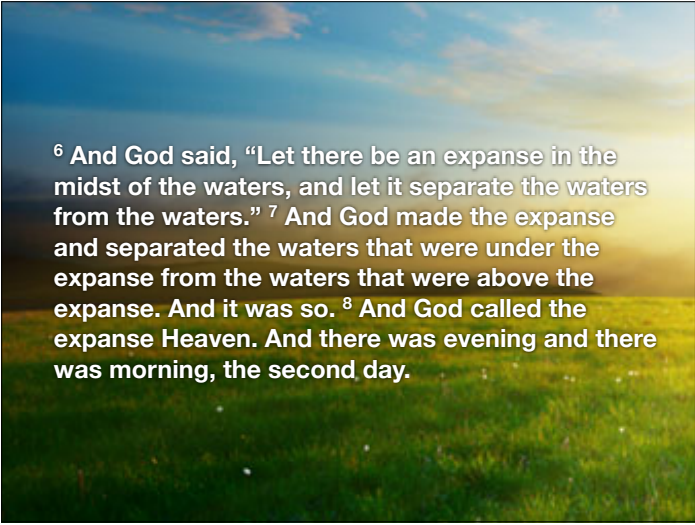
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- 1. One God**
 - 2. Deliberate Creation**
 - 3. Supreme God**
 - 4. Mankind - Imago Dei**

1. Monotheism - one God "We also see that the Biblical myth is different because it contains the only creation myths encompassing monotheism. All other creation accounts are based on polytheism"
2. Non-violent or non-sexual creation. In the Enuma Elish, as almost all other near eastern creation myths, creation is accomplished through conflict and warfare with lots of noise. In the Genesis account, however, we find a profound sense of peace and quiet. The opposite of warfare and conflict can be seen in the instant obedience of God's divine fiat, "And God said..." "And it was so..."
3. God is distinct from creation - not a form of magic, or some heavenly spirit, or a created object — he is above and beyond the power of nature.
4. Mankind made in the image of God — mankind not made as servants to God

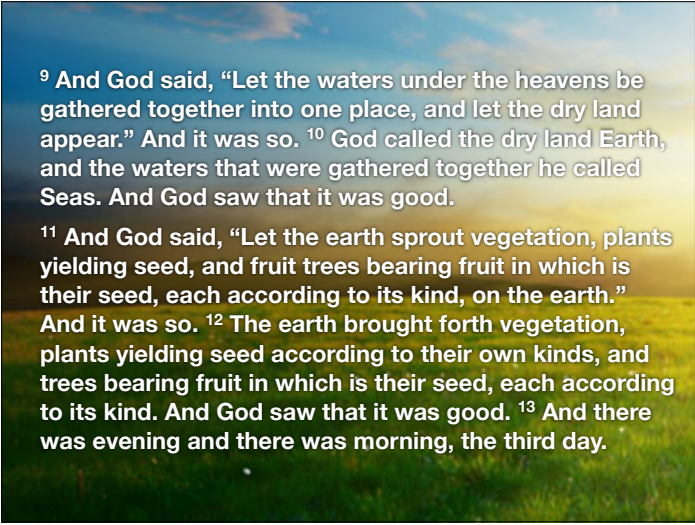


Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

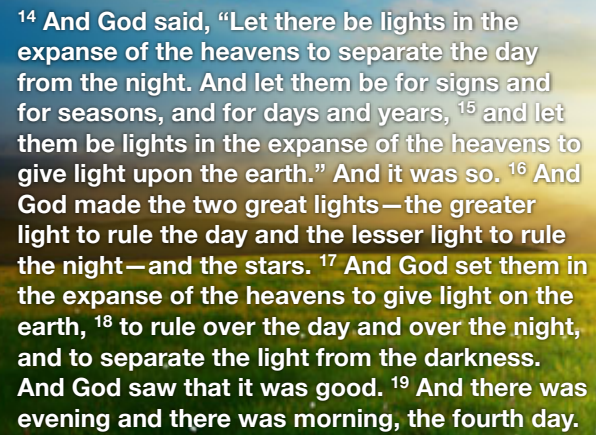


⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

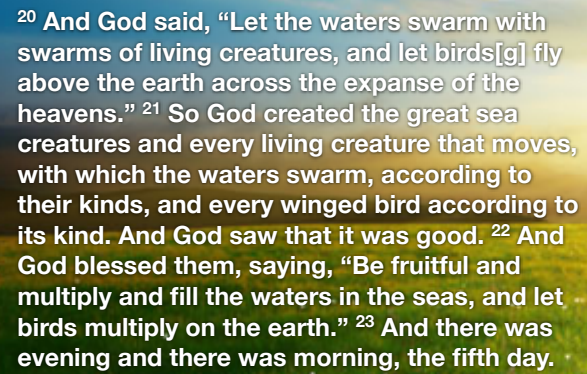


⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

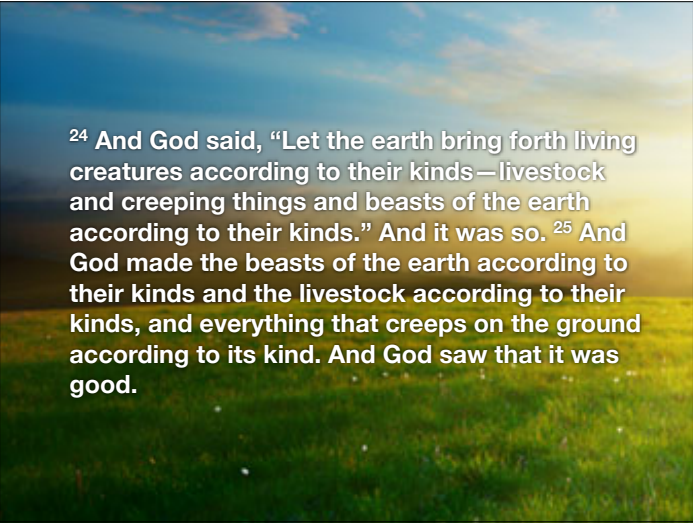
¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.




¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.



²⁰ And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds[g] fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

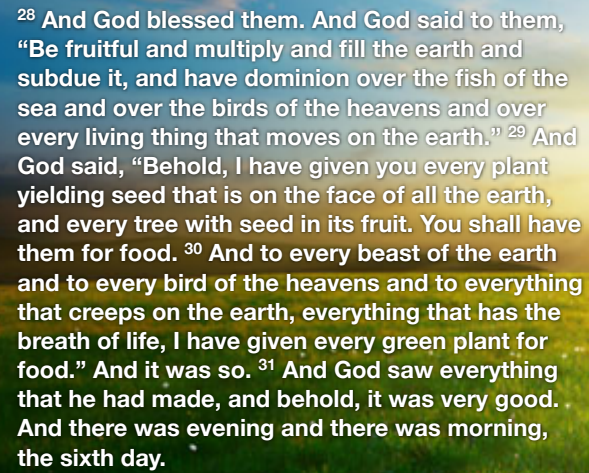


²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

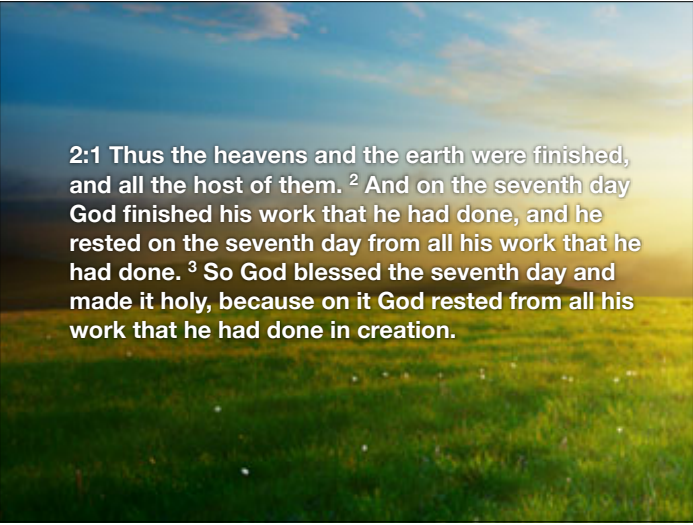


²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man[h] in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.



²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.



2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

And from this starting point, let's have a look at the beauty of Genesis 1. To start off with, there's an amazing beauty, harmony, and balance in what's happening. Much of it is lost in the English translation, but Genesis 1 is poetic, in stanza, form, and content.

1 Light, separate light from darkness — time, space, matter

2 Separate sky from water (heaven from water)

3 Land, plant and fruit

4 sun and the stars

5 fish and birds

6 animals, mankind — Authority

7 rest

1 & 4 — light then sun

2 & 5 – sky water then fish, birds

3 & 6 - land then animals

7 rest



1. One God

1. Monotheistic God — and yet covenantal. We are introduced to the Trinity - not tritheistic, not three God's, but 1 God, complete, whole, and in complete harmony with one another.
 1. There is one all powerful God - which is making himself known, creator of the world, creating not out of debt, or need, or violence, but because he can.
 2. In Hebrew, he is Elohim - The Covenant God. The God of promise, the God's who's Word is powerful, eternal, true. The God who's Word is Promise. Elohim is a plural noun, meaning that it implies plurality although it is one.



1. God creates out of his own power - in peace and perfection
 - 1.A sense of order and of harmony
 - 2.The order of creation
 - 1.Logic and Process
 - 2.Ordered Universe
 - 3.Demonstrates building blocks of life - light, water,
 - 1.god's creation is not designed to be at war with each other, but in each thing, it is right, it is good.
 - 4.God simply speaks these things into existence. It is the reflection of Christ, speaking healing, speaking life. It's echoed in our response — our confession of faith. Our declaration of love and commitment to Him is reflected in His proclamation of creation.
 - 1.it's why we have in John - in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.
 - 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life,[a] and the life was the light of men.
 - 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
 - 2.The power of Words — echoed in our own humanity



3. Supreme God

1. God is distinct from creation
 1. He is the originator, not the secondary part of it
 2. It accentuates the difference between us and Him
 1. He is Creator, not created
 2. He is Sovereign and Eternal, not human and temporal
3. The goodness of his creation - He takes pleasure in creation
 1. It's important to see that God sees that it is good. He delights in it.
 2. a unique aspect of God, and helps us to see that he can delight in us.



4. Imago Dei

1. We were made in the image of God
 1. It accentuates his love for us his creation
 1. We were made not like the rest of creation
 2. We were made in the image of God
 3. Purpose above all other creation
- 2.



1. There's a trend in the west that's moving to equate our humanity distinctly with the natural world. And although we are here in the natural world, and are very much part of it, we are more than animals.
 1. The endpoint of the logic of the survival of the fittest is that humanity subjects itself to its worst qualities - selfishness, self-preservation, lust, violence, desires
 2. But if we are created by God - distinct, reflections of God, we begin to see why we are called to hope, dream, care, help, delight, amaze — love.
2. If we are just animals, then love, hope, compassion, are not necessities. It's that introduction that we are not just natural beings, but spiritual. Created for a spiritual destiny.
3. The proclamation of a Creator God gives us assurance that there is more to this life - and a divine relationship with God himself is possible.

It is a doorway into understanding that we were designed for a greater purpose. And that a divine relationship with God our Heavenly Father, Author of our Lives, is worth desiring.

COME TO KNOW THE CREATOR