

# Science, Christianity, and Creation

## Part 1: The Unique Content of Genesis 1

Series Webpage: [www.richknopp.com/lcc-creation/](http://www.richknopp.com/lcc-creation/)

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### Introduction

- A. Science, Christianity, and Creation: Issues and questions?
- B. The impact of science and faith on youth with a Christian background.
- C. Some resources
  1. Animation: "Why Do You Still Believe?" (<https://vimeo.com/327406232>)
  2. "Science and Christianity Video Collection" (<https://roomfordoubt.com/science-christianity>)
  3. *Truth About God: What Can We Know and How Can We Know It?* with six short videos. (<https://roomfordoubt.com/truth-about-god>)

### I. Key Biblical Passages on Creation (also see Ps. 33:6; Isa. 40:25-26; 45:12; Jer. 51:15-16; Matt. 19:3-4) [ESV]

- A. **Gen. 1:1** "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."
- B. **Gen. 1:26-27** "Then God said, "Let us make man 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."
- C. **Gen. 2:4** (ESV) "These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens." [JKV and NASB also say "in the *day* that the Lord God made ...." NIV says "*when* they were created ...."]
- D. **Ex. 20:11** "For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."
- E. **John 1:1-3** "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made."
- F. **Col. 1:15-17** "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him."
- G. **Heb. 1:2** "... in these last days he [God] has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world."
- H. **Heb. 11:3** "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

### II. The Days of Creation in Genesis 1 (day = Hebrew *yom*)

- A. A description

<b>Day 1:</b> Light created (day); separated from darkness (night). [3-]	<b>Day 4:</b> Two great lights (sun and moon) and stars—signs for days and years. [14-]
<b>Day 2:</b> A "vault" or "expanse" (heaven/sky) in the midst of the waters; waters separated. [6-]	<b>Day 5:</b> Living creatures in waters; birds; sea creatures; every living creature ... with which the waters swarmed. [20-]
<b>Day 3:</b> Dry land appears (and seas); "let the land produce vegetation"; plants; trees. [9-]	<b>Day 6:</b> Living creatures on the ground; man "in our image" (male and female). [24-]

- B. An assessment

1. It was "**GOOD**": light (1:4); dry land and seas (1:10); vegetation (1:12); sun, moon, stars (1:18); land, sea, and flying creatures (1:21); creeping things and beasts of the earth (1:25).
2. 1:31 "Everything" was "**VERY** **GOOD**"

### III. The Uniqueness of Biblical Creation

### A. Other creation accounts

1. Egyptian: After defeating the god of the underworld, the sun-god, Ra, creates man from his tears.
2. *Atrahasis Epic* (Babylonian): Humans created when Nintu mixes clay with the blood of another god. In another account, humans created from blood and clay on which the gods spit.
3. *Enuma Elish*: Marduk splits Tiamat in half to create heavens and earth, and humans were created to do daily tasks of the gods.

## B. Contrasts to Genesis

Other Creation Accounts	Genesis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple gods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ONE God</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Struggle among gods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No struggle</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deceitful gods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No deceit</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotes a local god (or place)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Universal God</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature &amp; purpose of humanity: To take care of menial tasks for the gods.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul> <p>Humanity: Image of God (1:27); blessed and encouraged to multiply (1:28) given dominion over creation (1:29; 2:19-20); given ample provisions (1:29-30) and pleasure (2:9; 3:6); originally pure (2:25).</p>

C. Poem: “God I Am”

D. Genesis emphasizes the WHO and the WHY.

## IV. Reflections

A. God is GREAT.

B. God is GOOD

C. God is full of GRACE (Compare Gen. 1:1 and John 1:1,14).