

Genesis: God and the Originals

CREATION'S FIRST STORY

The Beginning (1:1-2)

V. 1

1. Make a list of “truths” we can derive from verse 1.

2. Compare verse 1 with John 1:1-5. What else can we add to our list of “truths.”

V. 2

3. What’s already around at the beginning of the creation story?
4. Many translations have the “Spirit... hovering.” The Hebrew idea is actually one of a bird flapping its wings or something “brooding.” How does this change your impression of what the Spirit is doing at creation?

BONUS: How might we pull too much meaning out of verses 1 and 2?



The Creation (1:3-31)

5. Read through the days of creation and list what happened on each day:

DAY 1	DAY 4
DAY 2	DAY 5
DAY 3	DAY 6

Repetition in the Creation Story

The basic outline of each day is:

- I. God _____ of command.
- II. Something _____.
- III. God _____ it to be good.
- IV. God _____ what came to be.
- V. The day _____.

Days 1 & 2

6. What is God's first command in the Bible? What "light" are we talking about? What can we infer about God's activity from this and how does it align with Jesus' words in John 8:12?
7. Why might evening come first before morning in v. 5?
8. In Day 2, what is the "vault" and what are the two "waters?"
9. How is water both destructive and healing in the Old Testament?

Days 3 & 4

10. What does God create on Day 3 that is essential for human flourishing and how has God created a way for creation to continue to provide for humans?
11. According to v. 14 what is the purpose of the “lights in the vault of the sky?”
12. From a scientific point of view, it doesn’t make sense that the sun, moon and stars would be created so “late in the game.” So why might Genesis record them on day 4 (notice the sun and moon are just called “lesser” and “greater” lights)?

Days 5 & 6

13. In day 5 and 6 God creates all animals. What is God’s command to them (see v. 22)?

BONUS: Is God still involved in creation today, or has God put creative powers into creation so it might continue without God?

14. Write down the ways God’s creation of humans in vv. 26-31 is different than how God created everything else.

15. “Let us” in v. 26 - wo, what’s that all about?

BONUS: What does “rule over” in v. 28 imply for environmentalism today?

Concluding Question:

There’s a lot of “separation” going on in creation! How might this have spoken to God’s people back then about their role in the world and how does it speak to us today about ours?

Quote of the day: “There is nothing more beautiful in Holy Scripture than Genesis as a whole.” - Louis Brighton