

The Physical & Biblical Evidence for Creation

III. Interpreting Genesis

Introduction At the heart of the storm we call the creation – evolution controversy stands the first and second chapters of Genesis. These critically important words not only describe the origin of the universe and of humanity, they are also the beginning of God’s revelation that culminates in the salvation of Jesus. They deserve our utmost care and concern. “Princes may persecute me without cause, But my heart stands in awe of Your word” (Psalm 119.161).

1. Read Genesis 1-2. What strikes you as awesome about these words?
2. Are these words to be taken literally or metaphorically?

Literal: Something is _____ . Saul of Tarsus

Metaphorical: Something _____ something else.
Psalm 23

3. The grammatical structure has many _____ characteristics.

Lack of _____ .

Use of the direct _____ marker.

Use of the _____ consecutive.



And God Said, by Maggie Moore

4. Reasons to interpret Genesis 1-2 literally:

Narrative style

There is no distinct _____ line between Genesis 1-2 and the rest of the book.

Metaphorical poetry is usually a _____ package.

5. Didn't St. Augustine interpret Genesis 1-2 metaphorically? _____ But his concern was not about evolution but about why God spent six days doing what He surely must have done (Augustine's assumption) in _____ day.

6. What about the word “day”?

The references to _____ and morning suggest ordinary days.

Whenever the word “day” is associated with _____ it is referring to ordinary days (7.11; 8.14; 17.12).

Moses associates the days of creation with the days of the _____ (Exodus 20.6).

7. Why are there “two” creation stories? (Genesis 1.1-2.3 and Genesis 2.4-2.25)

Genesis 2.4 is a _____ passage. There are _____ of these “chapter divisions” in the book of Genesis (Gn 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1; 37:2)

Genesis 1.1-2.3 provides a _____ account of creation. Genesis 2.4-4.26 is the first chapter of human _____.

8. How does Jesus interpret Genesis 1.1 – 2.25?

In Matthew 19.4 and Mark 10.6 Jesus refers to Adam and Eve as real people created by God at the _____.

9. How do the rest of the Scriptures interpret Genesis 1.1-2.25?

Every other reference to the creation gives us a picture of a miraculous creation _____ by God through His word of the universe and of Adam and Eve.

To say that God used evolution to create is to stand Genesis 1.1-2.25 and many other passages “on their _____.”

Genesis 1:1ff.	Hebrews 11:3 Creation “ex nihilo” by God’s word.
1:1–2:3	Exodus 20:8-11 Creation in 6 days; rest on 7th day.
1:1	Psalms 8:3 The heavens made by God.
1:3	II Corinthians 4:6 God commanded light to shine.
1:6,7	Psalms 19:1b God made the sky.
1:6,9	II Peter 3:5 Earth formed out of water, by water.
1:14-18	Psalms 104:19 Purpose of the moon God made. Psalm 136:7-9 Purpose of sun, moon, stars God made. Isaiah 40:26 Stars created by God. Jeremiah 31:35 Purpose of sun, moon, stars.
1:20-22	Psalms 104:24,25 Seas filled with life by God.
1:26,27	Psalms 8:6-8 Man given rulership over creation. Matthew 19:4 God created them male and female. I Corinthians 11:7 Man is the image and glory of God. James 3:9 Man was made in the likeness of God.
1:31	I Timothy 4:4 Everything created by God is good.
2:2	Hebrews 4:4,10 God’s rest on the 7th day.
2:7	I Corinthians 15:45,47 Man made of earth, a “living soul.” I Timothy 2:13 Man was created before woman.
2:17	Romans 5:12 Death came through sin.
2:18	I Corinthians 11:9 Woman was created for man’s sake.
2:21-23	I Corinthians 11:8 Woman originated from man. 2:24 Matthew 19:5 Verse spoken by “the Creator.”

10. In _____ other passage of Scripture (except in the metaphorical reading of Genesis 1.1-2.25) do we find creation described as a long, random process.