

Lesson 3 Genesis 1:14-19
Genesis for Families

Genesis 1:14 ¶ And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

The earth has now been created and set into space. The earth has been divided into dry land and oceans, lakes, rivers. God has created all the plant life on earth. According to man's understanding of things this cannot be since there is no way for one planet (earth) to just sit in space without the gravitational pull of other planets and the sun. We can see just a beginning of this awesome power of God in creation today as we look at the ocean. Those mighty waves no power on earth can harness but God has said this far you may come and it is so. We can see signs like this all around us in nature as God created it. Another example would be how regular the tides are and how they follow monthly schedules. It is not mentioned here, but we have no reason to doubt that before God creates all the other planets, these things from nature were already in place.

We need to notice as God creates the rest of the planets, the sun and the moon of earth and puts them into their place that it is by God's word that nature has this regular ebb and flow or is ordered into set patterns. The Bible here says God created the sun and moon along with all the other stars just for this purpose of setting time and seasons for mankind. God doesn't need time and exists apart from time. As human beings we have a hard time understanding how God exists without time but it is so and the Bible says one day is like a thousand years to God and a thousand years is like one day. God sees everything at once; there is no future or past with God. God has spoken and it is. God could say then that he is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob the God of the living even when these men by our understanding had been dead for a very long time. God creates time for man not for God. God's time then is not the same as our time and this makes it hard to understand some things because God speaks but the events God speaks of do not happen for several generations. Men who do not take care to learn what God has said will not understand things when they happen later. Knowing what God has said will help us know what to expect not only from God but in the world we live in.

Day four also begins to reveal to us one of the most fantastic things in the Bible. God always provides everything we will need to live in this life and the way for us to know everything about God we need to know. The apostle Paul says that from creation or nature man can know everything about God even god's power and about the Trinity. This can be worded this way so it is easy to remember. Whatever God requires from us, God first gives that very thing to us.

15 and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. 16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. 17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness:

and God saw that it was good. 19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Creation of the earth with land and seas along with plant life is now complete. God now puts the awesome force we know as nature that hold the planets in place and give the light necessary for life on earth into its proper place. This will never change and science is only partially right when it says the solar system came together on its own or was born and is winding down. The whole of nature was created and ordered by God not some cosmic accident. It may be winding down but only because God has said the day is coming when we do not need the sun to light the earth because God will once more be the light as He was in the beginning. In other words it may be true that one day the sun will burn out, but the planets will not fall out of orbit and the earth will not die. God makes nature work and God will hold it all together forever by the power of His word, not nature that was created by God and is subject to the control of God.

God is so careful in this creation that the smallest detail is not overlooked. Mankind needs oxygen to live. Mankind puts off carbon dioxide when he breathes. God so created the earth before man was created that the green plants that will need carbon dioxide are in place and that these plants will take in this poison man puts out and make from it the oxygen man will need. More evidence of God's providing all we need, before we need it. Evolutionists simply will not answer these questions in their assumption of billions of years. Life as we know it would have died off before such a balance of nature could have taken place except God created it all in an instant by the power of His word alone. Evolution is not needed because God looked at what He created and said it is good, or it is completed. There are no accidents, God orders everything carefully that all things will glorify God, and work for the good of those whom God has called to Himself in Christ.

Application:

We do not have to worry about every detail in life. God has promised He will provide our needs. When we read how God created everything and that God created things in a very definite sequence we can see that from the very beginning God has made a way for us as mere human beings to see His work and know this is true. As you look at the world around you, let the things of nature remind you that the God who created this is the God whom you serve in love. The oceans remind us how faithful God is in their regular tides. They remind us how powerful God is who can control this mighty force. The beauty and grace of the animal world reminds us of how loving and kind our God is that he can care enough to make a flower so pretty and to smell so sweet. Creation is a continuous reminder of the power and the love of our God and His care for us.

Questions:

- Besides the Bible how can we know about God?
- What can we know about God from nature?
- What held the earth in place before God created the rest of the solar system?
- What does it mean that God's time is not the same as our time?