

# Creation

## GENESIS 1–2

### **FIRST DAY:** Introduction

Have you ever asked yourself, *How did I get here?* Usually someone asks this question to bring order and purpose to confusing circumstances. Life itself can seem confusing and meaningless unless we ask the ultimate question, *How did I get here?* The answer to this question is found through studying the book of Genesis. The word *Genesis* means *origin, source, or beginning*. This first book of the Bible was given this name because it supplies us with the facts concerning the origin of time, earth, light, plants, animals, mankind, sin, and God's plan for redemption.

Genesis does not endeavor to prove the existence of God, because His existence, power, and genius are evident in His creation. Instead, Genesis presents mankind with the necessary facts to understand:

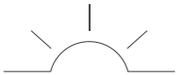
- How God's good creation was spoiled by the introduction and seduction of sin
- The reason creation and mankind needed redemption through a perfect Savior

As you read Genesis chapters 1 and 2, pay special attention to the purpose, plan, and purity of God's good creation.

*Ask God to open your understanding to the purpose of  
His creation and His plan for your life.*

**SECOND DAY:** Read Genesis 1:1–25

1. Print the first four words of Genesis 1:1.
  - a. Link this with John 1:1 and share your thoughts.
  
2. Genesis 1 tells us the origin of the world. According to Genesis 1:1, what happened *in the beginning*?
  - a. Link this with John 1:2. What do you note about creation?
  
  - b. The Hebrew word for *created* is *bara*, which means *to create out of nothing*. The use of this word is exclusively applied to God's work. How does this speak to you?
  
3. Use Genesis 1:2a to describe the condition of the earth.
  - a. In Genesis 1:2b the term *hover* in Hebrew speaks of *cherishing or brooding over one's young*. What does this convey to you about the Holy Spirit's activity?



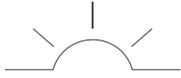
**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

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Note that in Genesis 1:1–3 the triune nature of God is displayed. God created, the Spirit prepared the world for God's Word, and God's Word (Jesus) brought God's will to pass.

4. In Genesis 1:3–25 God continued His work of creation. Complete the chart below to cite and remark on what God created each *day*:

<b>DAYS</b>	<b>WHAT GOD MADE</b>	<b>RELATED VERSES</b>	<b>OBSERVATIONS</b>
<i>First day</i> (vv. 3–5)		2 Corinthians 4:6	
<i>Second day</i> (vv. 6–8)		Psalm 19:1	
<i>Third day</i> (vv. 9–13)		Psalm 95:5	
<i>Fourth day</i> (vv. 14–19)		Psalm 8:3	
<i>Fifth day</i> (vv. 20–23)		Psalm 104:24–26	
<i>Sixth day</i> (vv. 24–25, 27)		Job 12:7–10; 33:4	



**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

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Notice that all plant and animal life was created *according to its kind*.

Pastor David Guzik says, *It means God allows variation within a kind, but something of one kind will never develop into something of another kind.*<sup>1</sup>

- a. Observe that God spoke everything into existence. Link this with John 1:3. What do you see?

5. Six times in this passage we read that God's creation was *good*. How does this minister to you? See also James 1:17.

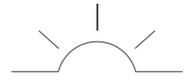
**THIRD DAY:** Read Genesis 1:26–31

1. The climax of God's creative work was the creation of mankind on the *sixth day*. According to Genesis 1:26a, what was unique about God's creation of *man*?

- a. Record a few characteristics that are distinct to mankind.

- (1) How does this affect your estimation of other people?

- b. Note that God says, *Let **Us** make man in **Our** image.* What does this convey to you about the triune nature of God? See also John 17:5.
2. Use Genesis 1:26b to list the things that man was to have *dominion* over.
- a. Link this with Psalm 8:4–8. What does this communicate to you about man’s original role in God’s creation?
3. Consider the following aspects of the creation of man from Genesis 1:27 and share why you think each of these is significant:
- a. *In the image of God He created him*
- b. *Male and female He created them*




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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**


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In Genesis 1 God is called *Elohim* thirty-two times. This Hebrew word is the plural form of God and denotes His power, majesty, and triunity.

4. After God created mankind, He blessed and instructed them. Use God's words in Genesis 1:28–30 to note and comment on:
  - a. Man's role (verse 28)
  
  
  - b. God's provision (verses 29–30)
  
5. According to Genesis 1:31, at the end of the *sixth day*, God saw all *He had made, and indeed it was very good*. Take a moment to write a sentence of appreciation for the goodness of God's creation.

**FOURTH DAY:** Read Genesis 2:1–14

1. In Hebrew literature it is common to provide an overview of an event, followed by a more detailed account. Genesis 1 surveyed all creation, while Genesis 2 focused particularly on the creation of man. After the sixth day of creation, *the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished*. So on the *seventh day* God *rested* (Genesis 2:1–2). From Genesis 2:3 remark on the uniqueness of the *seventh day*.

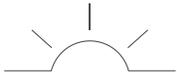
- a. Link this with the following Scriptures and comment on the:
  - (1) Physical purpose—Exodus 20:8–11
  
  - (2) Spiritual significance—Hebrews 4:9–11
  
2. Genesis 2:4–6 describes the atmosphere of the earth before the creation of living things. Read these verses and record what stands out to you.
  
3. Use Genesis 2:7 to recount how *man became a living being*.
  - a. The word *formed* in Hebrew denotes the work of a potter creating something from clay. What do you find remarkable about this? See also Psalm 139:13–15 and Isaiah 64:8.

4. Genesis 2:8–14 describes the *garden* of Eden, where God put *man*. Read these verses and note what you find interesting about:

a. Who planted it (verse 8)

b. The trees of Eden (verse 9)

c. The river of Eden (verses 10–14)



**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

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The *Tree of Life* is mentioned prominently in the book of Revelation. Read Revelation 2:7 and 22:2 to discover more.

(1) Use the meaning of the names of the *four riverheads* to enhance your answer: *Pishon (full flowing)*, *Gihon (bursting forth)*, *Hiddekel (swift)*, *Euphrates (fruitful)*.

5. What do you think of God's creation thus far?



3. The creation of Eve is given more attention than that of any other creation. Use Genesis 2:21–22 to highlight some of the details of her creation.

a. How does this enhance your understanding of God's estimation of *woman*? See also 1 Corinthians 11:11–12.

4. Some commentators believe that Genesis 2:23 was the first recorded song. What do you think Adam was communicating through this song?

a. According to Genesis 2:24, what principle did God establish?

(1) Link this with Matthew 19:4–6 and Ephesians 5:28–31 and share your thoughts.

5. Genesis 2:25 notes that the man and woman were *naked* and *not ashamed*. Pastor David Guzik explains, *To be naked and unashamed means you have no sin, nothing to be rightly ashamed of, nothing to hide.*<sup>2</sup> What does this reveal about man's original condition?
  
6. How has your study today spoken to you about:
  - a. God's concern for humanity
  
  - b. The glory of woman
  
  - c. Marriage

**SIXTH DAY:** Review

1. Genesis has rightly been called the *book of beginnings*. From your study this week, share a takeaway concerning the beginning of:
  - a. The heavens and earth
  
  - b. Time (day and night)
  
  - c. Plants and animals

- d. Mankind
  - e. Work
  - f. Rest
  - g. Marriage
2. Use the following Scriptures to express your appreciation for *Our Great Creator*:
- a. Psalm 33:6–9
  - b. Isaiah 45:18
  - c. Romans 1:20
  - d. Colossians 1:16–17
  - e. Hebrews 11:3
3. What is your greatest takeaway from your study this week?