

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 1

Law/Gospel

God requires that I believe that He is the only true God, the Creator and Sustainer of the world.

God gives me faith to believe that He created the earth and heavens, and He continues to provide me with all that I need to sustain this body and life, including forgiveness for my sins, through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Bible Words

By [Christ] all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

Colossians 1:16

Dig Deeper

To read more about creation and science, consider these resources:

- *In the Beginning, God: Creation from God's Perspective* by Joel Heck, © 2011 Concordia Publishing House
- *What Your Atheist Professor Doesn't Know (But Should)* by Stephen Joseph Williams, © 2009–14 RFH
- *The Cell's Design: How Chemistry Reveals the Creator's Artistry*, Fazale Rana, © 2008 Reasons to Believe; published by Baker Books

God Creates the World

Genesis 1:1–2:3

Observations about Genesis 1:1–2:3

In the beginning, God created the universe out of nothing (Latin: *ex nihilo*). Consider these observations about the Genesis account.

- The oldest copies of Genesis are written in Hebrew. The Hebrew verb for “create” is used in the Bible only to describe God’s work, never human’s, affirming that only God truly creates out of nothing.
- The plural noun translated as “us” in Genesis 1:26 (“Let Us make man in Our image”) points to our triune God’s involvement in creation, as affirmed in other Bible verses (John 1:1–3; Colossians 1:16; Genesis 1:2).
- God first created light on the first day and separated light from darkness.
- The order that God created creatures closely matches scientific suggestions: water creatures, birds; livestock, creeping things, beasts, humans.
- Genesis shows God’s organized, orderly work, not chaos, as some theorize. Nature maintains rhythms and patterns. Our cells use elaborate systems, intricate sequences, and complex combinations of proteins, bacteria, and other substances. Our world, its creatures and its systems, are too complex and interrelated to erupt or evolve by accident.
- Roger Penrose, British mathematician and co-worker of Stephen Hawking, calculated the probability of an orderly universe coming out of the big bang as 1 in 10^{123} . However, probability theorists say anything less than 1 in 10^{50} is impossible. (Source: Williams, p. 126. See Dig Deeper.)
- The Holy Spirit leads us to believe God’s creation account in Genesis 1 as true. Christians believe it by faith (Hebrews 11:3) because God said it in His true Holy Word, the Bible, which is without errors.

Genesis 1 is a historical account, not a science textbook, myth, or poetry (as in creation imagery in Psalm 104:5–9). God’s creation shows a complex, finely tuned world, intricate physical bodies, and a vast universe (natural revelation). Based on God’s Word, we believe (conclude/trust) that God created the universe (special revelation).

Prayer

Creator God, thank You for creating a place of wonder and beauty for us to live in and for sustaining and caring for us every day.

Amen.

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