

Doctrine of Biblical Creation

The Bible begins with the account of creation in Genesis chapter one, verse one (In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth) and concludes it at chapter two and verse three. Like all scripture, this account must be accepted by faith.

In these thirty four verses we are told that God spent six, “morning and evening,” days creating the heaven and the earth and all manner of life and rested on the seventh day. When God said “let us make man in our image” it is clear that He did not act alone. Scripture gives the answer to that. God was certainly involved. The second verse of chapter one says “the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and in the New Testament there are numerous claims such as John 1:1-14, Colossians 1:16 and Hebrews 1:2 that The Son had a major role in creation. Thus, we see that the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit each took part in creation.

There are many different schools of thought about what is meant by a “day” in the Genesis account. There is the “long day” theory that they were not 24 hour days as we know days, but could be very long periods of time. There is the “gap” theory that accepts an ancient age of the universe, but states that the earth was remade after being corrupted by Satan and his angels. Those are just two and there are many more out there. We would generally agree with Wm. MacDonald and his thoughts on the days of creation. He writes “Were the six days of creation literal days, or were they geological ages? Or were they days of “dramatic vision” during which the creation account was revealed to Moses? No scientific evidence has ever refuted the concept that they were literal solar days. The expression “the evening and the morning” points to 24-hour days. Everywhere else in the Old Testament these words mean normal days. Adam lived through the seventh day of creation and died in his 930th year, so the seventh day could not have been a geological age. Wherever the “day” is used with a number in the Old Testament (“first day,” etc.) it means a literal day. When God commanded Israel to rest on the seventh day, He based the command on the fact that He rested on the seventh day after six days of labor. Consistent interpretation here requires the same meaning of the word “day.”

John chapter one makes it very clear that “all things” were created by Him (Christ) and “without Him” was not anything made that was made.

Colossians chapter one goes further and says “For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities or powers - all things were created by Him and for Him; and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.”

We accept what the scriptures say and don't feel we have any responsibility to know more than what is revealed there. When Satan challenged God's Word by saying to Eve “Yea, hath God said” he set the stage for man to doubt God's Word, and man has been doing that ever since. Endless hours can be wasted trying to figure out something that we have no need to know.