



faith 1.0

GOD CREATES.

exodus 20.11

For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day.

what the BIBLE says

- Genesis (beginning) 1 and 2
- Written in ~1400BC by Moses
- Not an exhaustive treatment of early history...
- ...but a theological selective telling focusing on God and man
- Creation starts with God, as everything is dependent on him

where creation comes from

- It comes from God
- More specifically it comes from the sheer power of his Word
- Hebrews 1.3 - creation was “*ex nihilo*” - out of nothing
- God speaks, and it happens
 - Announcement - “And God said...”
- Commandment - “Let there be...”
- Report - “And it was so.”
- Evaluation - “And God saw that it was good.”
- Isaiah 55.11
- Jeremiah 10.16

what creation reveals about GOD

- God is *the only God*
- God is *triune*
- God is *eternally uncaused*
- God is *living*
- God is *independent*
- God is *transcendent*
- God is *immanent*
- God is *personal*
- God is *powerful*
- God is *beautiful*
- God is *holy*
- God is *a prophet*
- God is *gracious*
- God is *sovereign*

the six views of creation

- *Historic Creationism*

- Genesis 1.1-2 takes place an indeterminate amount of time before the rest of the Bible - it could be 4 seconds, or 4 billion years. The rest of the creation is made in 6 literal days. Thus, the earth *could be* very old, with 6 24 days of creation, and a young humanity on an old earth.

- *Young-earth Creationism*

- God created the entire universe in 6 24-hour days. The entire universe is less than 10,000 years old, and scientific theories and data to the contrary are not to be believed, or must fit within the timeframe of created order.

the six views of creation

- *The Gap Theory*

- Genesis 1.1 describes a first creation that happened perhaps billions of years ago, then some catastrophic event left the earth “formless and void” and God *recreated* earth in 6 literal days. We are God’s second creation.

- *The Literary Framework View*

- Genesis 1 and 2 are metaphorical and poetic, and not to be taken literally. Genesis 1 in particular is a topical, not sequential telling of the creation account.

the six views of creation

- *The Day-Age View*

- God created the universe in 6 sequential periods of time that are geologic ages, not literal 24-hour days.

- *Theistic Evolution*

- God began to create the world, then pulled back from working directly to work through the natural process - evolution. The only exception is man, where God was directly involved in making the human spirit. This view accepts the theory of evolution, and attempts to marry it to Biblical truth.

how old is the earth?

- The Bible is not a scientific textbook
- What the Bible teaches is inerrant truth, and must be believed
- It doesn't teach us everything we want to know
- There are 5 main theories on the age of the earth:
 - Though the earth appears old, it isn't, and scientists are badly mistaken
- The earth appears old because it was made mature, like Adam and Eve
- The flood of Genesis 9 rearranged and compacted topography so dramatically that the earth appears old
- The earth is old
- The earth may or may not be old, since we can't know how much time passed between Genesis 1.2 and 1.3

the impact of creation on your life

- Creation was made by God, belongs to God, exists for God, is restless apart from God, and will return to God.
- Without this belief, your worldview can best be summarized by Bertrand Russell:
 - *“Man is the product of causes which had no prevision in the end they were achieving; that his origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and beliefs, are but the outcomes of accidental collocations of atoms; that no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought or feeling, can preserve an individual life beyond the grave; that the labours of the ages, all the devotion, all the inspiration, all the noonday brightness of human genius, are destined to extinction in the vast death of the solar system and the whole temple of Man’s achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruins — all these things, if not quite beyond dispute, are yet so nearly certain, that no philosophy which rejects them can hope to stand. Only within the scaffolding of these truths, only on the firm foundation of unyielding despair, can the soul’s habitation... be safely built.”*

the doctrine of creation sets the stage for Jesus.

