

Genesis 1:20-31 - Lesson 06

The Origin of Life

1. 1:20-25 - Living Creatures

- a. Living things move (animals), plants are not alive like animals – 1:20-21
- b. Plants do not have breathe of life – Gen 2:7,7:22; Job 27:3,33:4, Ecc 3:21,Acts 17:25-28
- c. Origin of life is a question unanswered by science – Eze 37:5, Hab 2:19, Psa 135:17
- d. Water cannot create life without God. There is not life on Mars even w/ water.
- e. Order of creation for the animals is very different than evolution theory suggests.
- f. Animal kinds - There is a clear separation of living creatures into their kinds.
- g. These animals do not follow modern classification and taxonomy.
 - i. Jesus calls it a whale, Jonah a 'great fish' – Jon 1:17, Mat 12:40
 - ii. There are dragons, unicorns, behemoths, seraphim, cherubs, angels.
- h. Everything that was made was made in these six days – Exo 20:11

2. 1:26-27 - Man in God's Image

- a. Animals reproduce after their kind; mankind was made in the image of God.
- b. Man is separate from the animals by the likeness of God.
- c. God is not a man, he is a Spirit – Num 23:19, John 4:24, John 1:18, 1 Tim 1:17
- d. “*God said, let us*” – Who is God speaking to? There are three in one God.
- e. “*our likeness*” – Man is a spirit, soul, body – 1 Thess 5:23, Heb 4:12
 - i. We have a heart and mind to learn, know, choose, judge, create, love.
 - ii. We desire holiness, immortality, freedom, fruit, honor, virtue, glory.
 - iii. We cook, invent, laugh, make art, think abstractly, and show gratitude.
 - iv. We have a moral conscience, emotions, ability to worship and appreciate.
 - v. Language above all separates us above the animals: we speak, write, sing.
- f. 1:27 – Both male and female were in God's image: the *image* is only a likeness.

3. 1:28 - Dominion over the Earth

- a. God made man in his likeness to have dominion – 1:26, 28
- b. The earth is to be under subjection to man - Psa 8:3-9, Heb 1:2-3, 2:5-18
- c. Dominion: use, control, power, rule, authority over a thing or place.
- d. Dominion over every living thing, over all earth, but not wind, sea, or heaven.
- e. The earth is the Lord's delegated to man – Psa 24:1, 50:10-11, 1Co 10:26
- f. The dominion of the earth continues through Noah, Moses, Israel – Deu 10:12-15
- g. The mandate is to be fruitful, multiply, replenish (to fill), and subdue.

4. 1:29-31 - Instructions and Blessing

- a. The environmental question: what right do we have to subdue? Dominion.
- b. God made the plants for the living things to eat - 1 Tim 6:17; Psa 104:14-24
- c. Man nor the animals ate each other, they ate herbs, seeds, and fruits.
- d. This explains why we are all accountable to God, for our use of his things.
- e. God blesses the living things teaching us about his glorious purpose for creation.

Comparing Creation in the Bible to Evolution

“How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD be God, follow him” – 1 Kings 18:21

The Biblical order of creation does not align with the current teaching of the order of evolution. Reconciliation requires fundamentally changing the Bible or the theory. Since God’s words are true from the beginning (Rom 3:4, Psa 119:89 & 119:160), evolutionary theory about origins must be wrong.

Order of Creation in the Bible	Order of Evolution
God created matter in the beginning	Matter existed in the beginning
Earth created before the sun and stars	Sun and stars existed before the earth
Light shone on earth before the sun	Sun is the first light on the earth
Oceans made before the land	Land existed before the oceans
Land plants are created before marine life	Marine life existed before land plants
Fowl (birds) made before land animals	Land reptiles evolved into birds
Whales made before land mammals	Whales come after land mammals
God created man	Man created God
Man created from the dust of the earth	Man evolved from stardust
Man created before woman	Woman needed before man
Man made before it rained	It rained before man existed
God made all things in six days	Nothing made all things over billions of years
Creation complete	‘Creative’ process still occurring
Man the cause of sin and death in the world	Death before man, not a result of sin