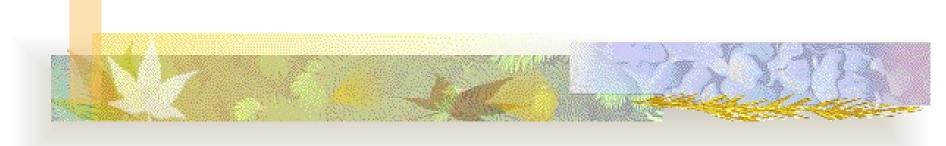
# What Does The Bible Say About Creation?



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#### The Bible and Creation

- Evidence of Creation in nature
- God as creator/maker/designer
- The works of Creation
- The Creation account
- Principles of Creation
- References to Creation in the OT
- References to Creation in the NT
- Challenges with Genesis account of Creation

# Evidence of Creation in Nature

#### The Bible Says God Is Evident In Nature

- Job 12:7 "But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
- 8 or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you.
- 9 Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this?
- 10 In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind."

#### Verification of Self Evidence

Rom. 1:20 "For since the creation of the world His invisible [attributes] are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,'

# A Consequence of Limited Reality

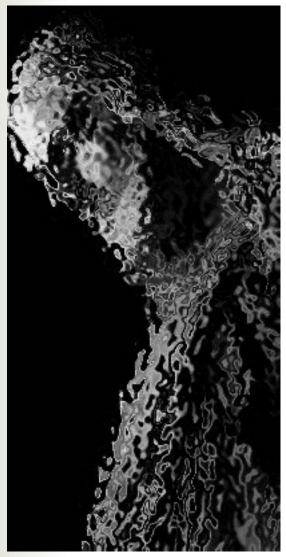
Rom. 1:21 "because, although they knew God, they did not glorify [Him] as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

- Professing to be wise, they became fools,
- and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things."



A Professor Professing

### Yet There Will Always Be Mysteries



1 Cor 13:12

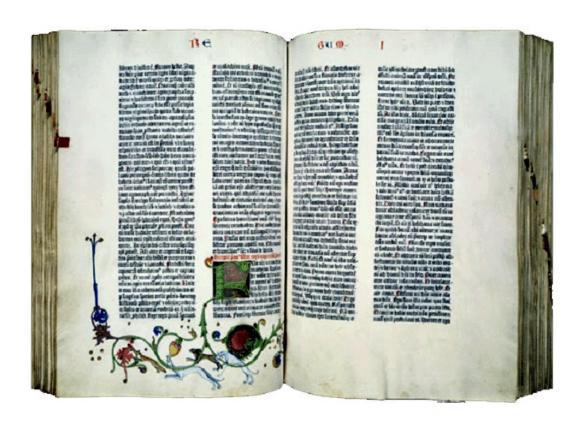
"For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known."



#### Faith & Evidence

Heb. 11:1

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."



# "All Things"

- John 1:1-3, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."
- "All things", says physics, includes (empty) space, time, matter, energy and all the rules they obey
- Before creation, there was nothing
- "... <u>all physical theories</u> ... break down at the beginning of the universe." <u>Stephen Hawking</u>

# "Nothing"

- Absence of matter (a vacuum)
- Absence of matter and energy
- Absence of matter and energy and the space-time dimension
- Nothing = Absence of everything

#### Time Was Created!

- 1 Cor. 2:7, "No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began."
- 2 Tim. 1:9, "This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,"
- **Titus 1:**2 a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised **before the beginning of time**,

#### God's Time

- If God existed before time, then God can exist outside the framework of time.
  - Movie Analogy
  - Writing Analogy
- Consequences
  - God can have personal relationships with all
  - From God's perspective, there is no conflict between <u>free will</u> and <u>predestination</u>. Both are temporal concepts.

#### Faith

- What do we know and when do we know it?
- Cosmologists think they know about the big bang from 10<sup>-43</sup> seconds. What about before? No one knows!
- "... all physical theories ... break down at the beginning of the universe." Stephen Hawking
- Heb. 11:3, "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."

# God as Creator, Maker, Designer

### What Does the Bible Say?

- Does God have a plan?
- Does the Bible say that God designed life?
- Does life look designed?
  - How do we decide if something is designed?
  - Can nature design the kind of things seen in living systems?

# Creator, Maker, Designer

- Is there a difference between being Creator, Maker, or Designer?
- Perhaps To make something does not mean that you planned in advance
- An engineer may design a spectacular bridge but not be the craftsman that builds it
- A scriptwriter may create a character, but that character will be played by an actor and may be perpetuated by other scriptwriters

### Creator Is A Title of God's

- Eccl. 12:1 Remember now your <u>Creator</u> in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, "I have no pleasure in them"
- <u>Is. 40:28</u> Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The <u>Creator</u> of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.
- Rom. 1:25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the <u>Creator</u>, who is blessed forever. Amen.
- <u>1 Pet. 4:19</u> Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls [to Him] in doing good, as to a faithful <u>Creator</u>.

# Being Creator Makes God God

#### Is. 45:5-12

- 5 I [am] the LORD, and [there is] no other; [There is] no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me,
- 6 That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That [there is] none besides Me. I [am] the LORD, and [there is] no other;
- 7 I <u>form</u> the light and <u>create</u> darkness: I <u>make</u> peace and <u>create</u> calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things.
- 8 Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the LORD, have **created** it.
- 12 I have <u>made</u> the earth, and <u>created</u> man upon it. I--My hands--stretched out the heavens, and all their host I have commanded.

# To Be Owned By God

- The word translated "Creator" in the New Testament is always κτιζο (ktizo ktid'-zo) meaning to fabricate
- This word comes from the root κταομαι (ktaomai ktah'-om-ahee) a verb meaning to acquire or purchase
- God both fabricated us and purchased us
- We are owned by God

#### God The Maker

- Ps. 119:73 Your hands have <u>made</u> me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.
- Ps. 139:14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully [and] wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And [that] my soul knows very well.
- I Cor. 12:18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

# God's Claim To Be Designer

- **Gen. 1:26** "Then God said, 'Let Us <u>make</u> man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.'"
  - The Bible claims that God planned in advance to make beings using Himself as the model.

#### God Made A Plan First

- Gen. 2:7, "And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being."
  - This text clearly outlines the order of events in creation of man: First a model was made and then life was given to it
  - In the creation of man there was planning and forethought Design then fabrication

# Quoting From Psalms 8

- **Ps. 8:3-8**, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all [things] under his feet, All sheep and oxen-- Even the beasts of the field, The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas."
  - Identifies God as the <u>Creator</u>

# Quoting From Genesis Chapter 1

- Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, [each] according to its kind"; and it was so.
- And God <u>made</u> the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that [it was] good.

# The Works of Creation

# Creation According to the Bible

- Three major worldwide events have produced the world as we know it today:
  - Six days of special <u>creation</u> and formation of all things, the completion and permanence of which are now manifest in the Law of Conservation of Energy (the <u>First Law of Thermodynamics</u>)
  - The rebellion of man and resultant <u>curse</u> of God on all man's dominion, formalized in the Law of Increasing Entropy [disorder] (the <u>Second Law of Thermodynamics</u>)
  - 3. Worldwide **flood** in the days of Noah, leaving the world largely under the domain of natural uniformity

### God's Works of Creating and Making

- Gen. 2:3 "... He had rested from all His work which God created and made."
- Create (bara)
- Make (asah)
- Form (yatsar)
- To create is to call into existence out of nothing
- **Heb. 4:3** "... His works were finished from the foundation of the world."

#### Three Works of Creation

- 1. Basic elements of the physical universe (space, mass, time) in **Gen. 1:1**
- 2. Consciousness (soul, breath of life) in Gen. 1:21
- 3. Man in "the image of God" in Gen. 1:27
  - The basic elements of the universe were created out of nothing on the first day.
  - The "life/soul" principle was created on the fifth day for every living creature, not only of sea and air creatures.
  - The word life (nephesh) is used for the first time in verse 21. It refers to the soul of man and the life of animals.
  - Plants do not have any consciousness.
  - Man was both made and created in the image of God.

# The Creation Account

# Work of Six Days (Formation and Making)

- 1. Energizing of physical elements of the cosmos
- 2. Formation of atmosphere and hydrosphere
- 3. Formation of lithosphere and biosphere
- 4. Formation of astrosphere
- 5. Formation of life in atmosphere and hydrosphere
- 6. Formation of life in lithosphere and biosphere
- 7. Rest from completed work of creating and making
  - Many acts of formation in between acts of creation
  - Man's body was also formed out of the dust of the ground

## Created in Six Days

- **Gen. 2:1**, "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done."
- **Ex. 20:11**, "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, all that is in them, and rested the seventh day."
- **Ex. 31:17**, "... for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day ..."

#### Two Creation Accounts

- Gen. 1:1 -> Gen. 2:3. Written entirely by God
- **Gen. 2:4** -> **Gen. 5:1**. Written by Adam
- These two accounts appear to contradict each other in the order of certain creation events
  - Gen. 2:19 "And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them ..."
  - This seems to conflict with Gen. **1:24-27** where God clearly created animals before He created man
  - However, the proper translation of **Gen. 2:19** states that "God had formed" since there is no distinction in Hebrew between the past tense and the past perfect, since the context provides the real meaning

#### Creation of Distinct Kinds

- Gen. 1: 11(1), 12(2), 21(2), 24(2), 25(3)
- Ten major categories of organic life created "after its kind"
  - Plant kingdom grass, herbs, fruit trees
  - Animal kingdom sea monsters, other marine animals, birds, beasts, cattle, crawling animals
  - Man "kind"
- One kind cannot transform itself into another kind
  - Definite and distinct categories
  - There is variation within a kind
  - These "kinds" are still recognized today

## What The NT Says About Kinds

- 1 Cor. 15:38-39, "But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish."
- 1 Cor. 15:40, celestial and terrestrial bodies:
  - Celestial: Gen. 1:14-19
  - Terrestrial: Gen. 1:1-5

#### More on Kinds in the NT

- 1 Cor. 15:41 different glories of sun, moon, stars, ...
- 1 Cor. 15:42-44, "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body."

# Principles of Creation

- Purposive progress in creation
  - No "trial and error" ala evolution
  - Each created entity had a specific purpose
  - Ultimate purpose suitable home for man
    - Ps. 8:3-8, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, ... "
    - **Is. 45:18**, "For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I [am] the LORD, and [there is] no other."

#### Appearance of age/history

- Mature from its birth, including Adam and Eve
- Full grown, no development necessary from simple beginnings
- Gen 2:1, "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them, were finished."
- Gen 1:16, "Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. [He made] the stars also."
- **Gen. 1:17**, "God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth,"
- No fossils, no death

- The "very good" creation
  - God pronounced his work to be "good", Gen. 1:4, 10, 18, 21, 25
  - God pronounced His work to be "very good" at end of 6<sup>th</sup> day, **Gen. 1:31**
  - All conscious animals were plant eaters, v. 30
  - Adam and Eve were planter eaters, v. 29
  - Fossils appeared after the curse,
    - Gen. 7:21-22, "And all flesh died that moved on the earth; ..."

- The world that then was (2 Pet. 3:6)
  - Different from now
  - Waters above the firmaments (**Gen. 1:7**)
  - Firmament, stretched-out thinness, heaven (Gen. 1:8)
  - Vast blanket of invisible water vapor
  - Translucent to light from the stars

#### Principle #4 (cont'd)

- The world that then was (2 Pet. 3:6)
  - Greenhouse effect, mild temperature, north pole to south pole
    - Prevents air mass circulation
    - Prevents resultant rain (**Gen. 2:5**)
  - Filter out harmful radiations from space
  - Reduce rate of somatic mutations in living cells
  - Decrease rate of aging and death

#### Principle #4 (cont'd)

- The world that then was (2 Pet. 3:6)
  - Edenic river system (**Gen. 2:10-14**)
    - Does not exist now
    - Artesian nature of source of the four rivers
    - Reference to breaking up of the fountains of the deep (Gen. 7:11)
    - Great reservoirs of water under pressure below the earth's crust

#### Principle #4 (cont'd)

- The world that then was (2 Pet. 3:6)
  - Death came with sin
    - Rom. 5:12, "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—"
    - Rom. 8:22, "For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now."
  - Eating of fruits and herbs was not "death"
  - Decay and death came with the curse
    - **Gen. 3:17-19**; Rom. 8:20-22

#### "Fall and Curse" and ...

- The Laws of Thermodynamics
  - Universal scientific laws
  - Formally recognized ~ 100 years ago
  - Scientists are unable to explain why they work
  - First Law of Thermodynamics
    - Conservation of mass and energy
  - Second Law of Thermodynamics
    - Increasing entropy (disorder)
  - These two laws are implicitly explained/revealed in the Bible

#### First Law of Thermodynamics

- Neh. 9:6, "... You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, ... And You preserve them all. ..."
- Col. 1:16,17, "For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on the earth ... All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."
- Heb. 1:2,3 "... by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself ..."

#### Second Law of Thermodynamics

- Ps. 102:25-27, "Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed."
- **Is. 51:6,** "Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look on the earth beneath. For the heavens will vanish away like smoke, the earth will grow old like a garment, ..."
- 1 Pet. 1:24-25 "'All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, but the word of the Lord endures forever."

#### The Biblical Flood

- The destruction of the earth:
  - Gen. 2:5, no rain before the flood
  - Gen. 6:13, "... I am about to destroy them with the earth."
  - Gen. 7:11, fountains of the deep
  - Gen. 7:12, forty day downpour
  - Job 12:15, waters overturned the earth
- 30 references to "global" nature of flood in **Gen. 6-9**

### References to Creation in the OT

#### OT References to Creation

- **Ex. 31:17** (Moses) "It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever, for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth ..." six-day literal creation
- Josh. 24:2-4 (Joshua) "... your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, ..." accepts Gen. 11 account of Abraham's ancestors
- II Kings 19:15 (Hezekiah) "You have made heaven and earth." speaks of creation
- 1 Chron. 1:1-28 "Adam, Seth, Enoch, ..." repeats genealogies of Gen. 5, 10, 11
- Neh. 9:6 (Nehemiah) "You have made heaven, ... the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, ..." refers to creation

#### More OT References to Creation

- **Job 9:5-9**; **12:15**; **26:7-13**; **31:33**; **38:4-7** (Job) refers to Creation & Flood
- **Ps. 8:3-8** God giving dominion over the earth to man
- Ps. 33:6-9 instant creative acts of God in the beginning
- Ps. 90:2-3 creation and fall of man
- Ps. 148:1-5 refers to creative acts of God
- Ps. 29 & 104 describe events during and following the great Flood
- **Prov. 8:22-31** refers to the creation
- Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Micah, Zechariah

## References to Creation in the NT

#### Christ Refers to Gen. 1-11

- Matt. 19:4-5, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said 'for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh."
  - Doctrine of marriage refers to first two chapters of Genesis, Gen.
     1:27 and Gen. 2:24
- Matt. 24:37-42, "But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, ..."
  - Compared days of Noah (prior to Flood) to days before His own return (just before the judgment)
- Matt. 23:35 refers to Abel as first martyr and first prophet
- Mark 13:19 refers to beginning of creation which God created

#### What Else Did Jesus Say?

- Believed Moses: John 5:46-47
- Confirmed Abel: Matt 23:35
- Confirmed the Flood & Noah: Matt24:37-39
- Confirmed creation of male and female in the beginning: Mark 10:6
- Called Satan the father of lies: John 8:44

#### Jesus Is The Creator

- **John 1:3** "All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."
- Col. 1:16,17 "... All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."
- **Eph. 3:9** "... hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ."
- **Heb. 1:1-3** "... through whom also He made the worlds."

#### NT References to Gen. 1-11

- **Rom. 5:12-19,** "... through one man sin entered into the world, and death ..."
- Rom. 8:18-25 effects of great curse on the earth
- 1 Cor. 11:7-12 relationship between man, woman, creation and God
- 1 Cor. 15:21-22 "as in Adam all die"
- 1 Cor. 15:45-46 "the first man Adam became a living being" reference to Gen. 2:7
- 2 Cor. 11:3 "as the serpent deceived Eve"

#### More References in the NT

- 1 Tim. 2:13-15 "For Adam was formed first, then Eve."
- **Heb. 11** Abel, Enoch, Noah listed as the first three great heroes of the faith
- 1 John 3:12 refers to Cain and Abel
- Jude 11 refers to Cain
- Jude 14 refers to Enoch (7th generation after Adam)

#### NT References to the Flood

- Testimony of Christ and the NT writers
  - Matt. 24:37, the days of Noah like those when Christ comes
  - Matt. 24:39, the Flood took them all away
  - Luke 17:26-27, the flood came and destroyed them all
  - 1 Pet. 3:20; 2 Pet. 2:4-5; 3:5-6, the world at that time was destroyed, i.e. global Flood
  - **Heb. 11:7**, he condemned the world

#### References in the Book of Revelation

- Rev. 3:14 "... the beginning of the <u>creation</u> of God"
- **Rev. 4:11; 10:6; 14:7** God as the **creator** of all things
- Rev. 17&18 compared to first Babylon in Gen. 10&11
- Rev. 21&22 describe <u>creation</u> of the new heavens and new earth, just as **Gen. 1&2** describe the <u>creation</u> of the first heaven and earth
  - References to the curse, end of death, removal of the curse, end of darkness, restoration of the tree of life

#### Creation in the NT - Beginning

- **Gen. 1:1**, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
- John 1:1-3, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."
- **Heb. 1:10**, "And: 'You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands."
- 1 John 2:13, "I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him [who is] from the beginning."

#### Creation in the NT – Light

- God commanded light to exist by His Word
  - Gen. 1:3-5, "Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ... "
  - **2 Cor. 4:6**, "For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."
- God upholds all Creation by the power of His Word
  - **Heb. 1:3**, "and upholding all things by the word of His power,
  - **Heb. 11:3**, "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

#### Summary - NT References to Gen. 1-11

- Every NT writer refers to the early chapters of Genesis
- Jesus Christ referred to each of the first seven chapters of Genesis
- Almost all NT books have references to Genesis 1-11, especially Gen. 1-2
- Every chapter of **Genesis 1-11** except chapter 8 is referred to somewhere in NT
- Every NT writer accepted these early chapters as historically accurate

#### Removing Genesis 1-11

- Removes true history
- Removes the foundation from all future history
- Rejects the teachings of Peter, Paul, other Biblical writers, Christ Himself
  - e.g. in the Gospels, Acts, Romans, Corinthian letters, Hebrews, Revelation
- Eventually leads to apostasy

#### Conclusion

#### Creation is an essential truth spoken of in the Bible

Col. 2:8 "See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ."

# Challenges With Genesis Account of Creation

#### Challenges with Genesis

#### Positions:

- 1. Genesis is an allegorical story containing spiritual truths
- 2. Genesis is true; our knowledge of science is limited
- 3. Genesis is true; science is true & they can be reconciled upon review
- 4. Genesis is a little bit of allegory and truth

#### Creation in Seven Days

- "Yom" only word for day and long epochs in Hebrew
- Many other places in Bible refer to Yom as long period of time
- Biblical Hebrew 3k words Disputed by many Young Earth Creationists.
- Contradictions with order of creation between Gen. 1 & 2?
  - **Gen. 1** is What and When
  - **Gen. 2** is How and Why

#### More Challenges

- Seeming contradiction with known science: Universe and Earth created before Light?
  - In the beginning God (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth. (Heavens contains Universe including sun, stars)
  - Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. (note context shift)
  - And God said, "Let there be light", and there was light
- Scientific evidence shows that when planets first form they are surrounded by extensive shell of gas & debris
- Light was created in **v.1** but became visible in **v.3** from context of earth's surface
- Many other such ways to resolve apparent contradictions

#### Continuing Challenges

- Creation of Life My bible says in **Gen. 1:11** "Let the land produce vegetation : seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds"
- In English words such as "seed", "trees", and "fruit" have specific meaning than Hebrew words "zera", "es" and "peri" which mean the "embryos of any plant species", "any large plant containing woody fiber", "the food and/or embryos produced by any living thing". "Zera" and "peri" could refer to any plant species that has ever lived

#### The Origin of Life Question

- Evolution: chance accident
- <u>Bible</u>: consistent message God created life

Gen 2:7

Isa 45:12

Eph 3:9

Gen 5:2

Isa 57:16

Col 1:16-

17

Deut 4:32

Matt 19:4

2 Pet 1:3

Ps 89:47

1Cor 12:18

Rev 4:11

Neh 9:6

Mark 10:6

John 1:1-3

Acts 4:24

1 Cor 8:6

Heb 11:3

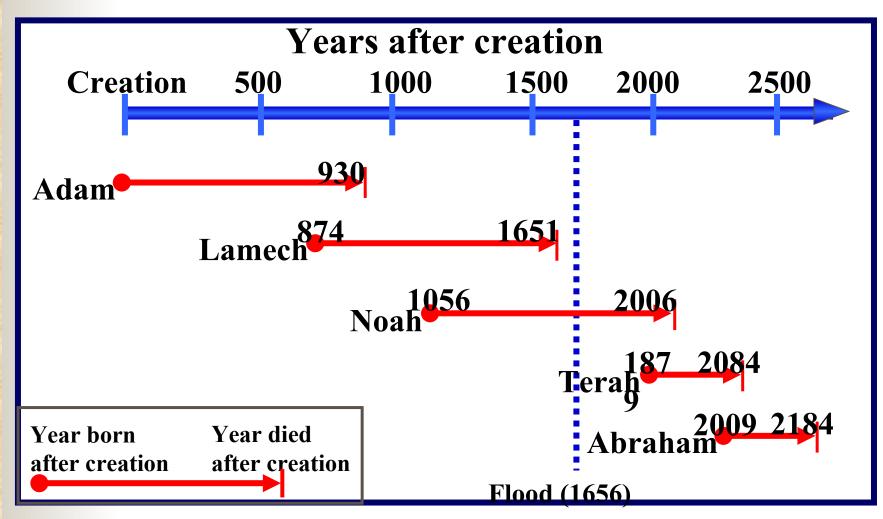
#### The Flood – Worldwide or Local?

- Worldwide: created fossil record, coal beds, and geological structures such as Grand Canyon
- Local: From perspective of people it was 'global'
  - Meant to destroy people and people only lived around Mesopotamia
- All the land dwelling animals? Or just the ones necessary for survival and sacrifice?
- Flood Myths: Over 300 myth stories. Many had people in a boat being saved from flood, a bird flying from boat to check for land and the boat landing in Mountain Range
- Mount Ararat Ark landed on Range of Mountains; not Mountain in particular. Olive Tree does not grow in high elevations (Dove)

#### Long Life Spans & Genealogies

- People lived to be hundreds of years old then God shortened life spans to 120 years old
- Apoptosis biochemical "programmed" cell death
- Vela Supernova (20-30k BC) could be cause of harmful rays that increase mutations that cause things like cancer
- People were originally vegetarians
- Genealogies dating to creation of man to 4004 BC. Hard to pin down because flexible use of Hebrew words 'ab and 'ben
  - 'ab can refer to grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great grandfather and so on
  - Likewise 'ben can refer to grandson, great-grandson, etc.
  - (Accounts for discrepancies between parallel genealogies in Mark and Luke)

#### Genealogical Timeline



#### The Creation Days

- Evolution demands long ages
- Bible: literal days
  - Meaning of 'Yom'
  - Yom with a number
  - Evening and morning
  - **Gen. 1:14**, "Let there be lights in the firmament ... "
  - **Ex. 20:11**, "For in six days the LORD made ..."
  - Words used to indicate time
- Narrative versus poetry (VSO v. SVO)
  - In the beginning <u>created</u> <u>God</u> the <u>heavens</u>... = VSO
- Genealogies (Gen. 5, 1 Chron. 1, Luke 3)

"Probably so far as I know, there is no professor of Hebrew or Old Testament at any world-class university who dares not believe that the writer(s) of Gen. 1-11 intended to convey to their readers the ideas that creation took place in a series of six days which are the same as the days of 24 hours we now experience..."

Professor James Barr, Professor of Hebrew at the University of Oxford.

"There is nothing in the Bible to obviate the idea that the days in Genesis were 24 hour type days."

> Dr. Robert Cole (Ph.D. Semitic Languages), "A PhD looks at the Genesis Days"

"In the hundreds of other cases in the Old Testament where *yom* stands in conjunction with an ordinal number (first, second, third, etc.), e.g. **Exodus 12:15; 24:16; Leviticus 12:3**, it never means anything other than a normal, literal day."

Robert L. Reymond, Ph.D., A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith, 1998, p. 393.

"To summarize, liberal scholars of both 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries admit that the text of Genesis is clearly meant to be taken in a literal, historical sense, although they deny its claims to speak accurately to our space/time cosmos."

Douglas F. Kelly (Professor of Systematic Theology), Creation and Change, 1997, p. 51.

#### It's a Matter of the Heart

- Einstein once said "Science without religion is lame; religion without science is blind."
- Rom. 1:20, "For since the creation of the world His invisible [attributes] are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,"
- Ps. 139:13-14, "For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully [and] wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And [that] my soul knows very well."
- John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

#### What We Know So Far

- Science confirms scientific statements made in Holy Scriptures
- Writing occurred long before the time of Moses (even before Abraham)
- Archaeology confirms the geography, peoples, culture, etymology, history of Genesis
- The writers of the OT and the NT (and Jesus Himself) accepted the historical accuracy of the early chapters of Genesis

#### What We Also Know

- The divisions of Genesis are clearly marked, confirming that Moses compiled and edited the book of Genesis
- No quotes of the book of Genesis in the NT are attributed to Moses
- Quotations from the other four books of the Pentateuch are often ascribed to Moses
- The Jews regarded all five books as the books of Moses

## Thank you for your attention!

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