



# GENESIS

The Story of the Bible in 15 Books

**We will be a congregation who knows,  
honors, and reads the Bible.**

***“I grasp the story of the Bible, respect it as  
authoritative, know how to read it, and actually  
read it.”***

## Advice for Freshmen

1. Take notes
2. Read the textbook
3. Bring positivity

Genesis is the book of beginnings.

It answers for the Israelites the common  
human question:

*"Where did we come from?"*



**Genesis 2:3-4**

So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of [toledot] the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens ...

# 1 (1:1 - 2:4) - Cosmos  
# 2 (2:5 - 3) - Humans

Toledot

COSMO  
LOGY

## Genesis 1:6-7

Then God said, “Let there be a space [raqia] between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.” And that is what happened.

- Did God use evolution?
- How old is the earth?
- What about cosmic expansion and radiocarbon dating?
- How did Noah get the dinosaurs on the ark?
- We need to stop asking a theology book for scientific answers it doesn't aim to give.

## Three Sources of Divine Revelation:

1. "The Way" – Jesus (*Special Revelation – Heb 1:1-3*)
2. "The Word" – Scripture (*Biblical Revelation – 2Tim 3:16-17*)
3. "The World" – Science (*General Revelation – Rom 1:20*)

God did it!

The Argument from First Cause

*Who banged the bang?*

*“For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; his is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.”*

**-Dr. Robert Jastrow**



1. God did it!

- ETERNAILITY
- KNOWLEDGE
- CREATIVITY

**Genesis 1:1 – In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth...**

2. Israel's God is superior than the gods of their neighbors.

MOST HIGH GOD

- He creates goodness and order. (14:19)
- He elevates the status of human beings.

M  
O  
O  
D  
O  
R  
N

1. Universalism

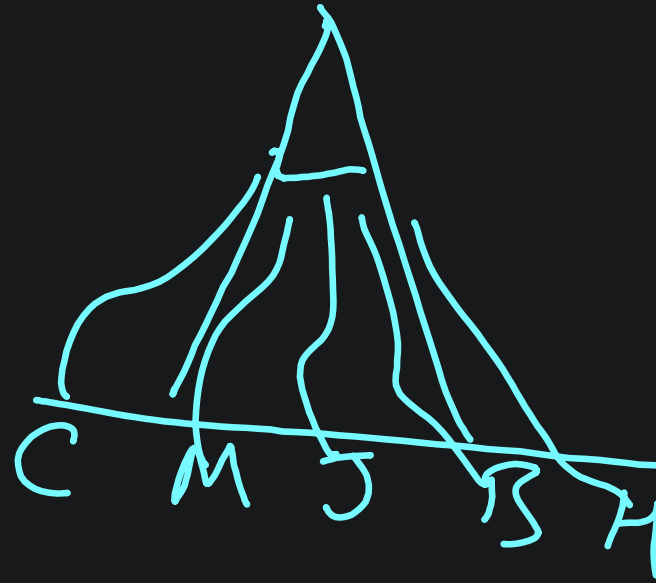
2. Agnosticism

3. Atheism

---

4. Polytheism

5. Monotheism



## *Enuma Elish*

He split her open like a mussel into two parts; half of her he set in place and formed the sky therewith as a roof. He fixed the crossbar and posted the guards; he commanded them not to let her waters escape. Putting her head into position he thereupon formed the mountains. Opening the deep which was in flood, he caused to flow from her eyes the Euphrates and Tigris.

2. Israel's God is superior than the gods of their neighbors.

- He creates goodness and order.

- He elevates the status of human beings.

## Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty [tohubohu], and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.



## THE GOD OF CREATION

Figure 1.1

Days 1–3	Days 4–6
<b>Day 1:</b> Creation of light & limitation of darkness (1:4–5)	<b>Day 4:</b> Lights created: sun, moon, stars (1:14–19)
<b>Day 2:</b> Creation of sky (heavens) by separation of the waters (1:6–9)	<b>Day 5:</b> Birds and sea creatures created (1:20–23)
<b>Day 3:</b> Creation of dry land by limiting sea; creation of vegetation (1:10–13)	<b>Day 6:</b> Domesticated animals, insects, wild animals created; man created in image of God (1:24–31)
<b>Day 7</b>	
God rests from his creative work (2:1–3)	

days, seasons, and years. Day 5 answers to Day 2 by providing inhabitants for sea and sky. Day 6 provides land creatures to inhabit the provisioned earth of Day 3. By the end of Day 3, the earth is no longer “formless.” By the end of Day 6 it is no longer “empty.” Day 7 is an unparalleled day—a day to commemorate the completion of creation.

When some scholars see this beautiful arrangement, they often jump to an unwarranted conclusion. To them the parallels prove that the account is

## **Genesis 1:31**

God saw everything that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2. Israel's God is superior than the gods of their neighbors.

- He creates goodness and order.

- He elevates the status of human beings.

## *Babylonian Genesis*

Blood will I form and cause bone to be;  
Then I will set up, "Man" shall be his name!  
Yes, I will create, Man!  
Upon him shall the services of the gods be  
imposed that they may be at rest.

## Genesis 1:27

So God created human beings in His own image. In the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.

Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it.

Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

## All About YOU! (Gen 1:26-31)

- a. Imago Dei - You are created in God's image.
- b. Cultural Mandate - We have a job to steward the earth.
- c. Creation Mandate - We were created to create.
- d. We made God's creation "very good."



## Colossians 1:15-17

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.

TRUTH

JESUS

+

LOVE

WHY? WHO?



SCIENCE

HOW? WHEN? WHAT?

## Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people!

He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” And then He said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”

And He also said, “It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be My children.

## **Revelation 22:20-21**

He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon!” Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s holy people.