

August 29, 2010

The Days of Foundation

Text: Genesis 1:1-13



1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- Is this verse specifically Christian?
- Jesus is “the beginning and the completion” Rev. 21:6, 22:13 Gen 1:1 & Rev 22:20
John 1:1-3
- What does it mean that God “created” the heavens and the earth (בָּרָא – Bara’)
- How many creations? 1:1, 1:3, 1:1 // 2:1 book ends, 2:4

1:2 The earth was WITHOUT FORM and VOID, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

- without Form and Void- Hebrew “tohu” and “bohu” the Hebrew are difficult to translate
- The other places they are used together – Jeremiah 4:23-26(23), Isaiah 34:8-12(11),
- Just “tohu” - Is. 24:10; Deut 32:10, Ps 107:40
- The best understanding would be one of meaningless and unproductive like a desolate wasteland
From here on God gives meaning and purpose to the Universe, it is now *productive*
- Spirit of God was “hovering” word for a bird fluttering... Matt. 3:13-17
- Already we’ve seen Father, Son and Holy Spirit!
- Trinity in both Creation & New Creation (Baptism)
+ Nicene Creed- God the Father Almighty- Maker of all things visible and invisible ... and the son By whom all things were made... Holy Spirit the Lord and Giver of Life

1:3-5 And God said, "Let there be light," and light was. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, day one. (VMT)

- John 1:1-3- “And God Said”... the Word is Christ! And through the Word all things are made.
+If God says something IS... it IS--- This IS my body! This cup IS the new testament in my blood.
- John 1:4-5 indicates that Genesis 1:3-5 is as much THEOLOGICAL as it is biological/physical!

Evening and Morning- the Hebrew cycle of a Day is **theological, salvific, it's Christological!!**

Darkness and Light

- 2 Sam 22:29 (// Ps 18:28)
- Isaiah 9:1-2 + Matt 4:16
- John 1:5
- John 8:12
- John 12:46
- 2 Cor 4:6
- Eph 5:8
- 1 Peter 2:9

Sleep and Awake

Death and Life = Resurrection

- Is the “DAY” 24 hours if the Sun and Moon have not been made yet?

- + Evening and Morning put us in the perspective of man and not God.
- + No other “day” in the Bible is “age”
- + Verses about “to the Lord a day is like a thousand years” are talking about God in His transcendence, this text is most assuredly earthly and spoken in our perspective.
- + Is it a salvation issue? No, but it weakens our view of scripture and our understanding of God’s power

- COSMIC TEMPLE PARALLEL

+ More than making light is taking place. God is assigning functions to the light and the darkness, he is naming them for their functions! This is seen even more specifically when God creates the Sun and Moon. “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons (A more accurate translation is “festivals”- a temple word), and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth. (underlining mine)” How and when is not important. Why are they present? That is the question God chose to answer for the people.

1:6-8 And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

- God adopts the cosmological worldview of the ancient Israelites.
- The Firmament language is very similar to that of a tent or tabernacle
 - + Psalm 104:1-2 “tent” Hebrew- “curtain” used for the curtain of the tabernacle.

1:9-13 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

- God is preparing the world as a dwelling place for man even before man exists. Similarly all our concerns are taken care for... even eternally, before we realize we need them.
- Psalm 104:14-15

LSB 914- “Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten”

Light of Light, O Sole- begotten	God created all we see, When the empty spaces echoed	“Rise, awaken from your sleep; Christ the Lord will shine upon you And from death your soul shall keep.”	Of your image lost by sin; From Your fullness all receiving
Radiance of the Father’s face, Word made flesh, who lived among us	With the Father’s “let there be...”		Grace on grace, new life with in!
Full of truth and full of grace, Shine upon our human darkness;	Light and life burst from the glorious		
Pierce the night that shrouds our race.	Power of Your majesty! Still Your brooding Spirit hovers	Come, Lord Jesus, by Your Spirit In our hearts Your work begin,	
Word eternal, through Your being	Over chaos, dark and deep, Calling out with invitation:	Bring the healing restoration	