

Welcome To

Malvern Bible Chapel



Christ The Creative Word

Part of the Christ in Genesis Series

Gen. 1:3 – 2:5; John 1:1-5;
Psa. 33:6-9; Col. 1:15-19

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV)

- ³ Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw the light, that *it was* good; and God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.
- ⁶ Then God said, “Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” ⁷ Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament; and it was so. ⁸ And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

- ⁹ Then God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry *land* appear”; and it was so. ¹⁰ And God called the dry *land* Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that *it was good*.
- ¹¹ Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb *that yields seed*, *and* the fruit tree *that yields fruit* according to its kind, whose seed *is* in itself, on the earth”; and it was so. ¹² And the earth brought forth grass, the herb *that yields seed* according to its kind, and the tree *that yields fruit*, whose seed *is* in itself according to its kind. And God saw that *it was good*. ¹³ So the evening and the morning were the third day.

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

¹⁴ Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; ¹⁵ and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. 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. ¹⁷ God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that *it was good*. ¹⁹ So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

²⁰ Then God said, “Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” ²¹ So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that *it* was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

²⁴ 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. ²⁵ And God made 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.

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

²⁶ Then God said, “Let Us make 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.” ²⁷ So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

²⁹ And God said, “See, I have given you every herb *that* yields seed which *is* on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. ³⁰ Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which *there is* life, *I have given* every green herb for food”; and it was so. ³¹ Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed *it was* very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

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Gen. 1:3 – 2:5 (NKJV) (cont.)

2 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. ² 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. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

⁴ This *is* the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and *there was* no man to till the ground;

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Introduction:

- In this series we are looking at various pictures of Christ found in Genesis.
- Last week we saw how Christ was hidden as the “A-Z God” who created out of nothing the heavens and earth.
- The Trinity was hinted at, but as we will see from our text today and from other Scriptures that it was Christ who was there at creation (see Job 38), and by His Word everything was created.
- Also the things that were created continue to be held together (see Col. 1:15-19, as well as “Laminin” from the video message by Louie Giglio, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zocnmbd07a4>).

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Col. 1:15-19 (NKJV)

- ¹⁵ He [Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist [hold together]. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.
- ¹⁹ For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell,

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- Today we will look at the general creation of the world and everything in it by the creative Word of Christ in six literal days. There is no need to try to explain away this literal creation by any other means such as the “big bang theory”. Mankind was created (not evolved!) on the sixth day of creation, and then God (the Trinity, including Christ) rested on the seventh day.
- Next week we will see the details of that creation of humanity as we study the first man (Adam) and his wife (Eve) and their fall by sin. This will lead us to our next picture of Christ in Genesis as the Second Adam. But today, let’s look at the creation of the ideal environment for mankind to exist and for the Creator God to make His home with His creation to enjoy eternal fellowship.

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Body of Lesson:

Since we are studying Christ in Genesis, I will divide this lesson on creation into three parts: what Christ did at creation, how Christ did it, and why Christ did it.

1. What did Christ do at the creation of the world and everything in it?

- First let me preface what follows by saying I believe in a literal 6-day creation of the earth and everything in it (including mankind).
- Creation was a super-natural event that does not require eons of time to bring about, nor does it contradict science.
- It only requires our belief in God and faith to accept the biblical account in Genesis. It actually takes a lot more faith to believe the theories that have to be concocted when you don't believe in God! (Norman Geisler, "I don't have enough faith to be an atheist")

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The following chart summarizes the 6 days of creation followed by the 7th day of rest:

Before the first day (1:1-2)	
Form	Use
Day 1: Light (day and night)	Day 4: Lights in heaven
Day 2: Water and Sky	Day 5: Fish and birds
Day 3: Land and vegetation	Day 6: Animals and humans
Day 7: God rests	

I like this presentation of the days of creation since it shows that first of all the ideal conditions for life were created on days 1-3 (this explains what happened after the earth was without form, v.2a—it was formed). Then on days 4-6 the inhabitants were created (this explains what happened after the earth was void, v.2b—it was filled). Another simple chart helps here:

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CREATION GENESIS 1-2

DAYS 1-3 **DAYS 4-6**

GOD FORMS THE CREATION **GOD FILLS THE CREATION**

1 God separates the light from the darkness
1:5-8

2 God separates the water from the sky
1:9-10

3 God separates the dry land from the sea
and creates vegetation
1:11-13

4 God creates the sun, moon, and stars
1:14-19

5 God creates the birds, fish, and other
creatures
1:20-25

6 God creates the land animals and humans
1:26-31

7 God rests from His work of creation
2:1-3

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Day	Reference	Creation Event
1	Gen. 1:3-5	Light
2	Gen. 1:6-8	Heavens above; water below
3	Gen. 1:9-13	Earth and sea; vegetation
4	Gen. 1:14-19	Sun, moon and stars
5	Gen. 1:20-23	Living creatures of the water & sky
6	Gen. 1:24-31	Living creatures on land; humans
7	Gen. 2:1-3	God rested (also see Ex. 20:8-11)

It is not necessary to believe in a “day-age” view of the creation days, or since one day with God is like a thousand (Psa. 90:4; 2 Pet. 3:8), thus we don’t have to consider these as literal 24-hour days of creation.

God’s literal “work days” are just fine and that is what the text says (“the evening and morning were the nth day”)!

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- 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. (2 Cor. 4:6)
- But for those who do not want to believe in a super-natural creator God, or even accept the “intelligent design” of creation, they have to come up with a naturalistic theory that tries to explain what we can all see and know.
- Natural philosophers and “scientists” came up with “the big bang theory” (not the TV sitcom of the same name) in 1964.
- Since then it has continually evolved to attempt to answer the new questions stemming from its acceptance.
- However it fails to explain where matter came from at the beginning of time, and it completely contradicts the biblical teaching of creation, which demonstrates the power of God that is far greater than any “big bang” could ever do!

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The big bang theory of the evolution of everything

13.8 billion years ago



Big bang

~13 billion years ago



Stars

4.8 billion years ago



Sun

4.5 billion years ago



Early earth

3.8 billion years ago



Early life

Not known when

God's account in Genesis 1 of Creation in 6 days

Day 1



Earth covered by water, light

Day 2



Atmosphere and sky

Day 3



Dry land, plants and fruit trees

Day 4



Sun, moon, and stars

Day 5



Birds, and sea creatures

Day 6



Land animals, Adam and Eve

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Big Bang vs. Creation

The order of events in the creation is inconsistent with the evolutionary model.

Order of Appearance (Evolution)	Order of Appearance (Bible)
1. Sun/stars existed before the Earth	1. Earth created before sun/stars
2. Sun is Earth's first light	2. Light on Earth before sun
3. First life = marine organisms	3. First life = land plants
4. Reptiles predate birds	4. Birds predate land reptiles
5. Land mammals predate whales	5. Whales predate land animals
6. Disease/death precede man's sin	6. Disease/death results from man's sin

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Body of Lesson:

- 1. What did Christ do at the creation of the world and everything in it?**
- 2. How did Christ create the world and everything in it?**
 - The short answer is that Christ is the Creative Word—He spoke and everything was created, demonstrating His wisdom and knowledge. This is not something that a mortal can comprehend except by faith!
 - “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!...For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be the glory forever. Amen.” (Rom. 11:33-36)
 - We made reference last time to Christ speaking at creation (Christ is the Alpha and the Omega; Isa. 48:12-13, Rev. 1:8).
 - Also, Psalm 33:6-9 succinctly states:

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Psalm 33:6-9 (NKJV)

⁶ By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;
He lays up the deep in storehouses.

⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD;
Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

⁹ For He spoke, and it was *done*;
He commanded, and it stood fast.

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- At this point we cannot help but think of our text John 1:1-5.
- Jesus Christ was the Word (Gr. *Logos*), and the Word was with God (the Trinity at creation), and the Word was God!

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John 1:1-5 (NKJV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

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- At this point we cannot help but think of our text John 1:1-5.
- Jesus Christ was the Word (Gr. *Logos*), and the Word was with God (the Trinity at creation), and the Word was God!
- As David said, by this word of the LORD (Yahweh, Jehovah, the covenant-keeping God), everything was made by the breath of His mouth!
- We might not understand how this is possible scientifically, but the consequences of not believing in God and taking Him at His word are far more difficult and require far more faith than I could ever have!

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Body of Lesson:

1. What did Christ do at the creation of the world and everything in it?
2. How did Christ create the world and everything in it?
3. Why did Christ create the world and everything in it (including us)?
 - Again the short answer is that this is a demonstration of God's love.
 - Christ wanted to create an ideal place where he could have intimate fellowship with His creation. He was at home in heaven in intimate fellowship with the Godhead (Trinity).
 - But He said, "Let Us make man in Our own image, according to Our likeness...so God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."(Gen. 1:26-27)

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3. Why did Christ create the world and everything in it (including us)? (cont.)

- Again the short answer is love.
- Christ wanted to create an ideal place where he could have intimate fellowship with His creation. He was at home in heaven in intimate fellowship with the Godhead (Trinity).
- But He said, “Let Us make man in Our own image, according to Our likeness...so God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”(Gen. 1:26-27)
- We have a mandate to make Christ visible to the world He created.
- Christ came to dwell (lit. “pitch His tent) with His creation (John 1:14; 1 Cor. 3:16). This included creating the ideal conditions for man to flourish and procreate.

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3. Why did Christ create the world and everything in it (including us)? (cont.)

- Part of creating man in God's own image was to make man unique from all other creatures with a tripartite being: body, soul, and spirit.
- All of the animals created have bodies. It seems that many have souls (seat of affections, emotions, and will—just ask a pet owner!).
- But unique to God's creation is that man has a spirit—the capacity to communicate with and relate to God. As we'll see next time, sin broke that intimate relationship to relate to God.

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3. Why did Christ create the world and everything in it (including us)? (cont.)

- For those of us living in NT times in the age of God's grace, when a sinner repents of his sin and by faith accepts God's plan of salvation and is born again into God's family, as part of his salvation God's Holy Spirit (third part of the Trinity) comes to dwell within the believer.
- The intimate fellowship that we were created to have is restored, and as long as we allow the Spirit to control us and empower us, He does just that!
- When (not if) we sin as a child of God, we must confess that sin and have the broken relationship restored (1 John 1:9).

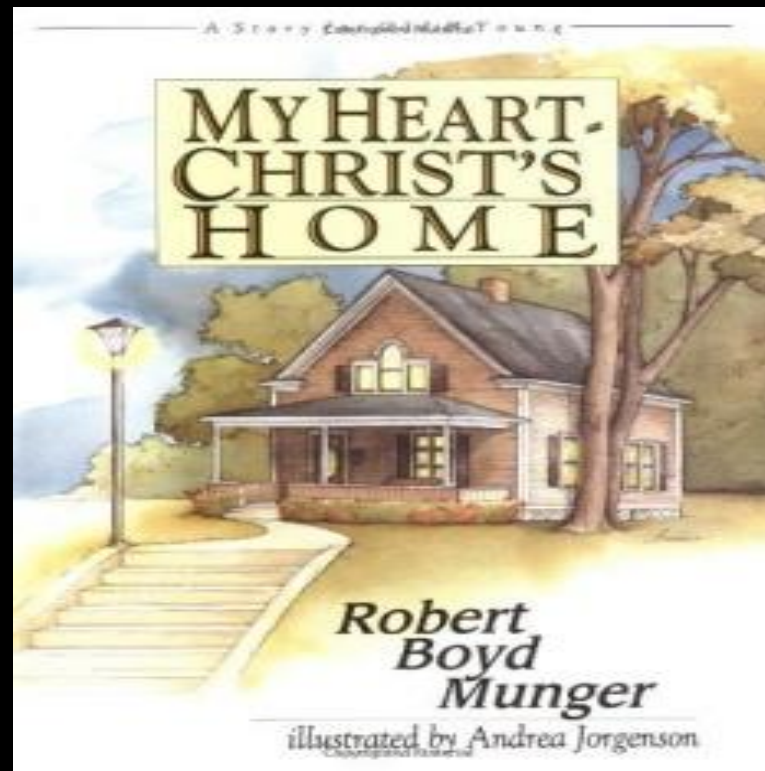
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3. Why did Christ create the world and everything in it (including us)? (cont.)

- One of the most critical lessons for a new believer to learn is that we are the new home of God.
- He is no longer unapproachable and we are no longer forbidden to see His face lest we be killed.
- He no longer makes His heavenly *Shekinah* (“dwelling”) glory known to man in temples made by man.
- Today Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again and is now in heaven where He has sent the Holy Spirit to dwell at home with us (2 Cor. 6:19-20).
- Our Emmanuel (“God with us”) is not just a reality at Christmas but every day of our lives.

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If you have never discovered or read the booklet *My Heart God's Home* by Robert Boyd Munger, I would certainly recommend that you do this.



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Application:

1. What did Christ demonstrate as He formed and filled creation? The Power of God!
2. How did Christ declare the Word as He spoke and commanded creation? By the Wisdom of God!
3. Why did Christ descend as He prepared a home and fellowship for creation? The Love of God!