

The Creation

Quote:

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

Genesis 1:26

The Days of Creation Are Literal

Some claim the days of creation are each long periods of time (thousands or millions of years). The Bible is clear that they are 24 hour days:

- The word for “day” (Hebrew ‘yôm’) occurs many times in the Old Testament with a numeral (ie ‘day one’, ‘fourth day’, ‘six days’). Every time except one (**Zechariah 14:7**) it refers to a literal 24 hour day.
- The duration of a day, a month and a year are all based on the natural movements of the earth, moon, or sun. This is not so for the seven day week, which has no other basis than the literal Genesis creation account. This is the point brought out in **Exodus 20:8-11** and the fourth commandment, where Israel were commanded to “remember the sabbath day” (ie remember a literal 24 hour day).
- Plants were created on the third day (**Genesis 1:11-13**), the sun was set in the heavens to give light on the earth on the fourth day (**vv14-19**) and the insects to pollinate them were created on the 6th day (**vv24-25**). If each ‘day’ was thousands or millions of years - the plant would not have survived even to the fourth day, let alone the sixth day.
- Whenever the words “day”, “evening” and “morning” occur in the same verse together it refers to a literal 24 hour day. The occurrences are:

Genesis 1:5,8,13,19,23,31; Leviticus 6:20;

Numbers 9:15; Deuteronomy 16:4; Daniel 8:26.

Additionally, when ‘morning’ and ‘evening’ occur together without the word “day” (Heb ‘yôm’) - (38 times outside of **Genesis 1**, including 25 in historical narrative), it always, without exception, designates a 24-hour day. e.g.: **Genesis 49:27; Exodus 18:14; 1 Kings 17:6; 2 Chronicles 31:3; Ezekiel 24:18.**

Order Out of Chaos - Genesis 1:1-2:3

vv1-5 - First Day - Light Appears

vv6-8 - Second Day - The Firmament Formed.

vv9-13 - Third Day - Growth Upon the Earth.

vv14-19 - Fourth Day - Sun, Moon and Stars

vv20-23 - Fifth Day - Aquatic and Aerial Animals

vv24-25 - Sixth Day - Terrestrial Animals

vv26-28 - The Creation of Man

vv29-31 - Summary of Creation - All “very good”.

ch 2:1-3 - The Seventh Day Rest

Key Words to Colour:

- “And God said” - **Genesis 1:3,6,9,11,14,20,24,26,29.** - colour **blue**.
- “the evening and the morning” - **Genesis 1:5,8,13,19,23,31** - colour **green**.
- “it was good” - **Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21,25,31** (“it was very good”) - colour **yellow**. Which day is missed out and why?
- “after his/their kind” - **Genesis 1:11,12(2x), 21(2x), 24(2x),25(3x)** - circle in **purple**. (teaching the lesson that the fruit we produce will show if we are the seed of Abraham, or the servant of sin - see **John 8:34-44; Matthew 12:33**).
- “divided/divide” - **Genesis 1:4,6,7,14,18** - circle in **orange**. (We must put a difference between light and darkness, and between heavenly things and earthly things.)

Useful References:

- Story of the Bible (HP Mansfield) Volume 1 pp34-44
- Christadelphian Expositor - Genesis (HP Mansfield) pp30-58
- The First Principles of the One True Faith (J Ullman) pp17-18
- Preparing for Baptism (CSSS) - p8-9