

How to Interpret Scripture

Lesson - 9 — Creation: Genesis as Foundation—Part 2

TEXT “ONLINE” to 40544

Memory Verse

Psalm 19:1 (NKJV) *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.”*

Great Christian Scientists

Gregor Mendel, Arthur Compton, Isaac Newton, George Washington Carver, Blaise Pascal, Samuel Morse, Wright Brothers, Michael Faraday.

A Flat Earth?

Ecclesiastes 1:5 (NKJV) *The sun also rises, and the sun goes down, And hastens to the place where it arose.*

Matthew 24:31 (NKJV) *And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

Revelation 7:1 (NKJV) *After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.*

Revelation 20:7–8 (NKJV) *Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.*

Isaiah 40:22 (NKJV) *It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.*

Job 26:10 (NKJV) *He drew a circular horizon on the face of the waters, At the boundary of light and darkness.*

Job 26:7 (NKJV) *He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.*

Job 28:25 (NKJV) *To establish a weight for the wind, And apportion the waters by measure.*

Throughout the Bible God uses metaphors

Matthew 15:19 (NKJV) *For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.*

2 Samuel 24:17 (NKJV) *Then David spoke to the Lord ...and said, “Surely I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done?”*

Creation in Ancient Literature

Pandora’s box, the first woman made from clay. The gods gave her a box/jar and told her not to open it. (A tree you should not eat from) Pandora was trying to tame her curiosity, but at the end she could not hold herself anymore; she opened the box and all the illnesses and hardships that gods had hidden in the box started coming out.

Greek Flood story – When Zeus, the king of the gods, resolved to destroy all humanity by a flood, Deucalion constructed an ark in which, according to one version, he and his wife rode out the flood and landed on Mount Parnassus. According to a story found first in the Roman poet Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*, Book I, they then offered a sacrifice.

Plato writes about the legend of Atlantis is a story about a moral, spiritual people super humans, tall and long-lived, who lived in a highly advanced, utopian civilization. But they became greedy, petty, and "morally bankrupt," and the gods "became angry because the people had lost their way and turned to immoral pursuits," As punishment, he says, the gods sent "one terrible night of fire and earthquakes" that caused Atlantis to sink into the sea.

In Hawaiian mythology, Nu'u was a man who built an ark with which he escaped a Great Flood. He landed his vessel on top of Mauna Kea on the Big Island. Nu'u mistakenly attributed his safety to the moon, and made sacrifices to it. Kāne, the creator god, descended to earth on a rainbow and explained Nu'u's mistake

Genesis Versus Paganism

Genesis 1:14–19 (NKJV) *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.*

Genesis 2:7 (NKJV) *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.*

Psalm 103:14 (NKJV) *For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.*

Genesis 3:19 (NKJV) *In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.*”

Genesis 2:18–25 (NKJV) *And the Lord God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”¹⁹ Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.²⁰ So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.²¹ And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.²² Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.²³ And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.”²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

Creation and Time

Thousands of years ago, the biblical Creation story was at odds with the prevailing culture. Today, the biblical Creation story is at odds with the prevailing culture. Why shouldn't we be surprised?

Genesis 5:1–5 (NKJV) *This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.² He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created.³ And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.⁴ After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years; and he had sons and daughters.⁵ So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.*

Genesis 11:10–14 (NKJV) *This is the genealogy of Shem: Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. After he begot Arphaxad, Shem lived five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters. Arphaxad lived thirty-five years, and begot Salah. After he begot Salah, Arphaxad lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters. Salah lived thirty years, and begot Eber.*

1 Chronicles 1:34 *And Abraham begot Isaac. The sons of Isaac were Esau and Israel.*

1 Chronicles 2:1–2 (NKJV) *These were the sons of Israel: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun,² Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.*

Matthew 1:1 (NKJV) *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:*

Luke 3:23–26 *Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli,²⁴ the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Janna, the son of Joseph,²⁵ the son of Mattathiah, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai,²⁶ the son of Maath, the son of Mattathiah, the son of Semei, the son of Joseph, the son of Judah,...*

³⁸ *the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.*

In the chronologies we have a chain that links man all the way to God.

There is something in astronomy that gives all the nations a month with 30 days, a year and a day. But only the Bible gives a week 7 days.

Creation in Scripture

Matthew 19:4–5 (NKJV) *And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’⁵ 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’?*

Luke 11:51 (NKJV) *from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah who perished between the altar and the temple. Yes, I say to you, it shall be required of this generation.*

Acts 14:15 (NKJV) *and saying, “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them,*

Jude 11 (NKJV) *Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.*

Jude 14 (NKJV) *Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,*

Revelation 22:2 (NKJV) *In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*