

CREATION, PART 1: In the beginning, God created all things out of nothing by his word for his own glory and for the eternal redemption of his people.

I. WHO CREATED THE UNIVERSE?

Hints of the Trinitarian Personality of God in Gen. 1-vs. 1, 2, 26

Clear Assertions of God the Son Having Created All Things

John 1:3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Heb. 1:2 *...but in these last days he has spoken to us by **his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, **through whom also he created the world.***

- The universe is not self-existent. Material reality is not eternal.
- All things visible and invisible (angels) derive existence from the one, true, triune God.

II. HOW DID GOD CREATE THE UNIVERSE?

1) By his word, 2) out of nothing; 3) in six days. Gen. 1:3-26; Heb. 11:1-3

1689:4:1 *In the beginning God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit¹ was pleased to create or make the world and all things in it, both visible and invisible, **in a six-day period**, and all very good.² He did this to manifest the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness.³ ¹ John 1:2, 3; Hebrews 1:2; Job 26:13. ² Colossians 1:16; Genesis 1:31. ³ Romans 1:20.*

III. WHEN DID GOD CREATE THE UNIVERSE?

Gen. 1:1 *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

John 1:1-3 *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 was not any thing made that was made.*

- The Bible does not give us a precise date for when the Lord created the universe.
- The Bible seems to point towards a relatively young earth, perhaps ~10,000 years old.
- The modern world tends to ASSUME that the universe is billions of years old. The belief that present life has evolved through a process of many random mutations REQUIRES the belief that billions of years have been necessary for such gradual evolution to occur.

- The reality of “apparent age” (Adam was created as a mature man, not an infant) and the overwhelming effect of the universal flood upon the geology of the earth may explain why the earth appears to be much older than it actually is.

IV. WHY DID GOD CREATE THE UNIVERSE?

1. For His Pleasure- Rev. 4:11; Ps. 115:3
2. For the Manifestation of His Glory- Ps. 19:1-4; Rom. 1:18-22
3. To Set the Stage for the More Primary Plan of Redemption

Eph. 3:7-10 *Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone **what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,** ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.*

FOUR INDICATIONS OF CREATION SERVING GOD'S REDEMPTIVE PLAN

(acknowledge Robert Reymond, A New ST of the Christian Faith, 1998)

- 1) *“The fact that God’s seventh-day creation rest is made the symbol of the (eternal) Sabbath rest which the redeemed people of God” enter upon the completion of their labors in this world. Gen. 2:2; Heb. 4:4-11; Rev. 14:3*
- 2) *“Later Sabbath observance, based upon God’s creation rest, commemorated the exodus redemption.” Deut. 5:15*
- 3) *“The fact that God intended the original marriage ordinance from the beginning as an earthly representation of the relationship between Christ and his redeemed church.” Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:4-6; Eph. 5:29-32*
- 4) *“The fact that God ‘subjected creation to frustration specifically because of human sin, determining that in empathy with the redeemed it would ‘groan as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time,’ and that, for ‘its own liberation from bondage to decay,’ it would have to ‘wait in eager expectation for the revelation of the sons of God’ at the time of their physical resurrection when their bodies will be redeemed, at which time creation too ‘will be brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God’.” Gen. 3:17-18; Rom. 8:19-23*