

Fundamentals, Study 4. Creation (Gen. 1:26-2:3)

by BS Poh

o God created all things out of nothing in six literal days.

1. God alone existed from eternity. Everything else was created by Him. Certain things were created instantaneously and, from them, other things were created. His creation included both visible and invisible things, and all of them were very good. His creation was complete in six literal days.¹ Since God's creation was *complete*, we may say that He created *everything* out of nothing. After His creation, the things might multiply or change forms, but no completely new thing ever came into existence from nothing. For example, two colliding asteroids may become three or more, plants grow out of seeds, and children are born to parents. The ultimate reason why God created all things out of nothing was to show forth His glory. (1. Col 1:16; Gen 1:31; 2:2)

2. Many people today believe in the so-called *theory* of evolution. Strictly speaking, it is only a *hypothesis* (i.e. an unproven opinion) or, at best, a *model*, of how things came into existence. Conclusions have been made by relying on assumptions that are questionable. It is claimed that everything began from a "primeval soup", consisting of elementary particles and gases mixed together. But where did the original "primeval soup" come from? No answer is given. It is claimed that man evolved gradually from apes, and apes from other animals. But, strangely, no creature that lies between the existing animals have been found. Some evolutionists have had to change their "theory" and claimed that "big jumps" occurred. Then, there is the claim that radiometric dating has shown that the earth is millions of years old, when the Bible shows that it is relatively young. But the assumption has been made that the radiometric rate of decay is always constant when, in fact, it has been shown that it varies with pressure. Furthermore, assumptions have been made concerning the amount of the parent and daughter elements present in the rock when it first formed. The theory of evolution cannot be true!² (2. Rom 1:18-21)

3. The Bible teaches that God created all creatures, each according to its kind. Variations may occur within the same kind, but there has never been any "big jump" from one kind to another. Human beings belong to the same kind, since they descended from Adam and Eve, who were created by God. Unlike animals, they were made *in the image of God*, in the sense that they had immortal (never-dying) souls that were capable of reasoning and worship.³ They were given knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness. They had the law of God written on their hearts. In other words, they had a true sense of right and wrong built into

their soul. They had the ability to do what was right, at the same time that there was the possibility of them breaking God's law.⁴ (3. Gen 1:24-31; 4. Rom 2:14-15)

4. Apart from the law of God written on their hearts, they received a command not to eat of *the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*. It was a literal tree, although we do not know now what kind it was. As long as Adam and Eve kept this command they were happy in their relationship with God, and had control over all other creatures.⁵ (5. Gen 2:16-17; 3:6)

= We will never have inner peace until we come to know the God who created us.

Review Questions

1. From Genesis 1:2, 3, 15 name some of the things God created instantaneously from nothing.
2. From Genesis 1:8, 10; 2:7, 19, 21, 22 name some things that were created from those that had been created earlier.
3. What is the ultimate reason why God created all things?
4. Does the Bible teach that the earth is millions of years old?
5. State the three questionable assumptions made by evolutionists.
6. Into what categories did God create the creatures?
7. Who were the first pair of human beings created by God?
8. What is meant by God creating man "in His own image"?
9. State in what ways man differ from animals.
10. Apart from God's law written on the heart, what other command did God give to man?

Assignment/Discussion

How does biblical creationism affect our view of man in relation to racism, gender equality, and the sacredness of human life?

Memory Passage (Heb 11:3)

3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

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