

Creation: Day 4
Genesis 1:14-19
July 10, 2016

Introduction

I remember when I was a child, when it was dark, I would lie on my back on the ground and stared up at the stars. I have always been fascinated with the stars and their beauty. I learned at a young age that God made them, and even today with more knowledge of what stars are, I am still in awe of how God did it. I share with David in the Bible the sense of wonder of what God has done and how He relates to me personally.

Psalms 8:3-4 *When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, 4 what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?*

Evolutionary theory, on the other hand, says that the universe was formed by chance, and that it was exactly the right conditions for the galaxies, stars, and planets to form. What evolutionists fail to explain is the myriad of differences of planets and sun in the universe. If the theory is true, then there should be much uniformity in formation of planets and stars, but as we see, this is not the case. Each planet and stars are as different from each other as fingerprints are for each person.

I. The Orderly Creation

Day 1	Light and time	Day 4	Heavenly bodies and signs of seasons
Day 2	Expanse above, water below	Day 5	Birds of the air and animals of the water
Day 3	Land Plants	Day 6	Animals and man Vegetation for food

- Day 1 and day 4
 - God created light on the first day
 - On the fourth day, He attaches light to the heavenly bodies
 - God created day and night cycle (24 hour day)
 - God created the seasons (days, months, and years)
- Day 2 and day 5
 - God separated the waters below and above and created the sky and the universe
 - God created the fish and other animals for the waters
 - God created the birds for the skies
- Day 3 and day 6
 - God created the land and on land created the plants
 - God made the animals and man to live on land
 - God has the animals and man to eat the plants
- Creation is orderly and structured

II. Day 4

Genesis 1:14-19 *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.

- Then God said
 - He spoke and creation happened

Psalms 33:6, 9 *By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. 9 For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.*

- Let there be lights in the firmament
 - God created the sun, moon, stars, and planets to fill the universe
 - Immense diversity of planets, sun, moons
 - On day 1, light was spread out
 - However, on day 4, God placed the lights with the heavenly bodies
- The function of these lights
 - Let them be = the function of creation
 - To separate day from night
 - Sun = primary light source during the day
 - Moon and stars appear at night
 - Signs to mark seasons
 - Division of time
 - Days, months, seasons, and years
 - Earth's rotation around the sun = 1 year
 - Moon's rotation around the earth = 28 days
 - Mark time by the waxing and waning of the moon
 - Natural signs
 - Even plants and animals follow these signs
 - Animals grow thicker hair during fall for the winter and shed hair during spring for summer
 - Plants lose their leaves or become dormant during the winter and bloom in the spring
 - Earth's tilted rotation
 - Perfect for mild seasons
 - Earth tilted at 23 degrees; highly stable!
 - Moon revolves around the earth to help stabilize the tilt
 - To give light to earth
- Two great lights
 - Moses does not give them names
 - In pagan society, many people worship the sun as a god and moon as a goddess
 - Egypt = Ra; Greeks = Helios, Apollo; Romans = Sol
 - Israel was involved with sun worship

Ezekiel 8:16 *So He brought me into the inner court of the Lord's house; and there, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the Lord and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.*

- He made the stars also!
 - It seems like a throwaway line!

- Possible interpretation: disdain for astrology
- Greater light and lesser light
 - Sun by day and moon (and stars) by night

III. The Wonders of His Creation

Psalms 8:3 *When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place,*

Psalms 136:4-9 *to Him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever. 5 who by His understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever. 6 who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever. 7 who made the great lights—His love endures forever. 8 the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever. 9 the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever.*

- The stars
 - Some of the stars we see at night are actually planets
 - Many of them are galaxies
 - Within each galaxy are billions of stars
- Milky Way
 - 100 billion stars
 - 100,000 light years in diameter
 - How can we imagine this distance?
 - Distance from Earth to Sun = 1 AU (93 million miles); 1 Light year = ~ 62,500 AU (Astronomical Unit)
 - 1 mile = ~ 62,500 inches (63,360 actual)
 - Distance from Earth to Sun is 1 inch
 - Distance of diameter of Milky Way is 100,000 miles!
- Solar System
 - Mercury
 - Smallest planet, ~40 % of the size of earth
 - closest to sun: 0.39 AU from sun
 - very slow rotation rate: 3 rotations for every 2 orbits around the sun
 - one side very hot and another side very cold
 - Venus
 - The morning star (3rd brightest object in sky)
 - Very close to earth size (94 % of earth size) and has atmosphere
 - 0.72 AU from sun
 - Hottest planet (thick, thick CO₂ clouds)—runaway greenhouse effect
 - Mars
 - Red planet—because of iron
 - 1.52 Au from Sun
 - Jupiter
 - Largest planet in solar system (~1,300 earths can fit in Jupiter)
 - Gas giant
 - Red dot is actually a storm system!
 - Saturn
 - Ringed planet (size of 750 earths)
 - 1000s of rings
 - Has 60 moons! (that we have seen)
 - 9.5 AU from earth

- Uranus
 - Gas planet similar to Neptune (similar size and composition)
 - It does not radiate heat like Neptune does
 - Unusual rotation—it rolls along orbit instead of a top like earth
 - 19 AU from sun
- Neptune
 - Large gas giant (58 earths)
 - 30 AU from the sun
 - Radiates a lot of heat!
- Pluto—not labeled a planet anymore (labeled as a dwarf planet in 2006)
 - Small—1,460 miles in diameter
 - Has 5 moons
 - Elliptical orbit (49 AU at most and 30 AU at closest to sun)
- Every planet is considered unique and have their own characteristics
- They are all are created to bring glory to God

Psalms 19:1 *The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.*