

# The Goodness of God in Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3 - NCBC, February 6, 2022

Main Point: **God created everything that exists to reveal His all-powerful goodness.**

- Behold the goodness of God's power in creation (1:1-2)
  - God is Eternal
  - God is Present
- Behold the goodness of God in forming creation (1:3-13)
  - Day 1 – Light
  - Day 2 – Sky
  - Day 3 – Sea, Land, & Plants
  
  - God makes distinctions
  - God provides for His creation
- Behold the goodness of God in filling creation (1:14-31)
  - Day 4 – Sun, Moon, & Stars
  - Day 5 – Sea & Sky Animals
  - Day 6 – Land Animals & Humans
  
  - God creates image-bearers
  - God grants dominion
- Behold the goodness of God in finishing creation (2:1-3)
  - God is satisfied

Application: **Worship God and trust His Word for life!**

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## Opening Announcements:

- **Our recommended resource of the month for February is *Habits of Grace* by David Mathis.** This is an excellent follow-up to our January preaching series through key spiritual disciplines. So please pick up your complimentary copy today in the Resource Center!
- **Today we are thrilled to take an exit offering for John and Missy Camiola** who serve on our behalf in Nigeria for the sake of God's praise among all nations.

<<How Great Thou Art>>

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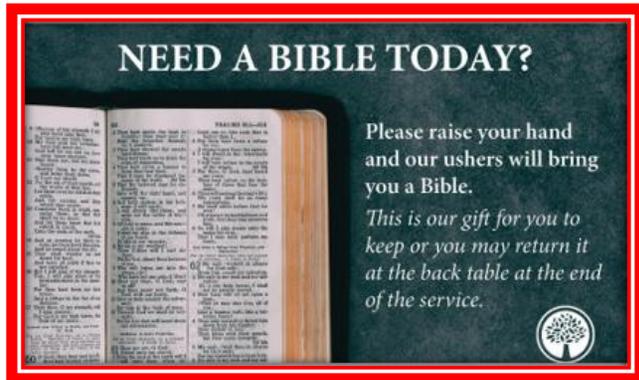


Nothing is greater, more powerful, more wise, more merciful, and more beautiful than our God. That's why we've gathered today... to celebrate and exalt His Name, and celebrate His worth in our worship together.

Today we begin a new preaching series called "More than a Children's Story." Since all of Scripture is God-breathed, and profitable for greater joy in Christ, we have hand-picked a few of the most common Sunday School

stories from the Old Testament for our consideration together over the next 12 weeks.

And since there's no better place to begin than at the beginning, please open your copy of God's Word to **Genesis chapter 1**, where we discover "The Goodness of God in Creation."



If you do not have a Bible with you, we'd love to give you a Bible. You are welcome to take this Bible home as our gift to you, or just simply return it after our service by placing it on the tables at the exits.

Now before we read from **Genesis 1**, I want to encourage us towards greater hospitality with one another.



Some of you may remember that in 2018, before we ever knew of COVID-19, we launched a 2-minute drill at the conclusion of all of our gatherings in order to help us grow in the practice of biblical hospitality.

Here's how it works: as soon as our service is dismissed, we all take the first 2 minutes to introduce ourselves to someone we don't yet know. It's as simple as saying, "Hi, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Kevin. What's your name?" And then of course after exchanging names, you might ask how long they've been part of New Castle Bible Church, or what community they live in, or where they work, or favorite things they like to do? Our goal is simple: we want to *seek to show hospitality* to strangers...we want to sincerely share our lives with people we don't yet know.

Because church, God's glory requires that we grow in hospitality. In my six years here, I've not seen us as weak in hospitality as we are currently. It used to be pretty rare that someone could visit one of our worship services and not be talked to by anyone during their visit. But now, I repeatedly hear testimonies from visitors that they had to

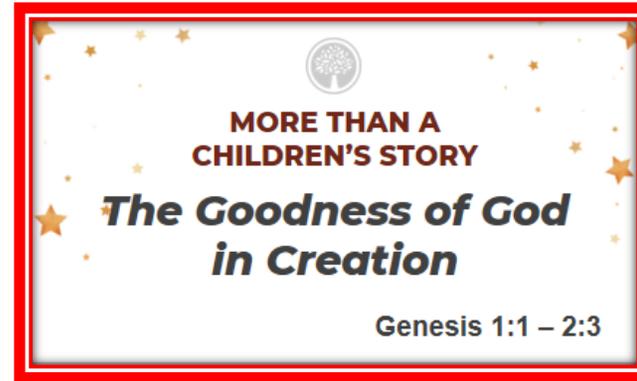
gather with us for several weeks before anyone made any effort to truly get to know them.

I know there's lots of reasons for this, and certainly I'm not blaming anyone. I just want to invite all of us – not just the elders and the deacons – I want to encourage every member of New Castle Bible Church to seek to show hospitality with your life, and certainly there's no easier place to practice hospitality than in our weekly worship gatherings.

It's no secret that visitors usually arrive last and leave first. Some visitors want to be invisible. So please don't be weird... but let's be proactively loving church.

The reality is, over the last two years we've seen significant changes to the people "in the room" with us on a Sunday morning. So now, most of us don't even know well the other regular attenders who sit near us every week. So let's make the first 2 minutes count, by seeking to show hospitality to one another for the sake of Jesus.

We plan to highlight this 2-minute drill throughout this preaching series to help strengthen this relational aspect of our worship together in these isolating times. I'm eager to see how God might use our greater intentionality in hospitality for His glory here this year at New Castle Bible Church.



Now, let's turn our attention to **Genesis chapter 1**.

Here God reveals through the inspired and inerrant Scriptures how our universe was brought into existence. And in this account we find glorious revelation of God's goodness which should motivate us to trust and obey His all-powerful word.

Most often when people study **Genesis chapter 1**, the theological significance of God's Creation can be overshadowed by questions from the so-called science of macroevolution. And while such an apologetic approach to **Genesis 1** certainly has its place, that's not the primary thrust of our approach to this text today.

Today I desire for us to reflect more on the character of the Creator – the goodness of God that is revealed by His creation, exactly how He created it.

There's far more to this sermon than we have time today, and so I'm only going to read Day 1 and Day 7 of the creation account now to get us started.

So if you're able, please stand in honor of the reading of God's Word, as I read from the ESV translation, starting in **Genesis 1, verse 1:**

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ...*

Now, skip down to **chapter 2** with me,

*2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. 3 So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.*

**This is the reading of God's Word. Let's Pray.**

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<sup>1</sup> Both the OT and the NT credit Moses with the authorship of Genesis: Exodus 17:14; Numbers 33:2; Joshua 8:31; 1 Kings 2:3; 2 Kings 14:6; Ezra 6:18; Nehemiah 13:1; Daniel 9:11, 13; Malachi 4:4; Matthew 8:4; Mark 12:26; Luke 16:29, 24:27, 44; John 5:46, 7:22; Acts 15:1; Romans 10:19; 1 Corinthians 9:9; 2 Corinthians 3:15

<sup>2</sup> Meaning, "five scrolls," consisting of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus,

**Genesis** was breathed out by God to Moses,<sup>1</sup> along with the other books of the Pentateuch,<sup>2</sup> sometime after the Exodus and before Moses' death in 1405 B.C.

So make no mistake, everything about this chapter is miraculous and supernatural. God is revealing to Moses exactly what happened in history – the language is emphatic on this point<sup>3</sup> – even though no one but God was originally there!

This chapter is not a myth or a legend, but it is the very words of God the eternal historian that accurately reveal the origin of our universe in the literary genre of a historical narrative.

Therefore, put yourself in the shoes of the original audience of **Genesis**, for a moment.

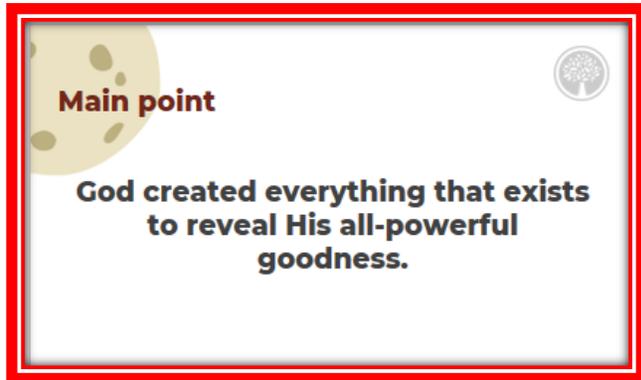
You're now one of the Israelites, after the Exodus, and you're preparing to enter the promised Land, right?

God wants you to know how He created the world from the very beginning ... so that even as He was then creating a special nation for His own glory out of Israel's descendants, His people would have a theological framework to understand their own Creator and their created purpose in the world.

Numbers, and Deuteronomy which form a complete literary unit, unbroken in content and historical sequence

<sup>3</sup> I.e. Six times in Genesis 1 the text explicitly states, "And it was so" to emphatically stress that the God-breathed account of what happened was indeed historically accurate.

God knew that His redeemed were entering a land filled with all kinds of false worship and false gods...and so part of the Law or the Torah, that God carefully reveals to His people is the account of His creation of the universe, so that His people would always know that,



God created everything that exists to reveal His all-powerful goodness. Creation reveals God's eternal power,<sup>4</sup> and His glory!<sup>5</sup>

Contrary to the false gods of the Egyptians and the Canaanites, the Creator God of Israel is inherently good. Our Creator God is majestic and supreme in His power, and yet His character is good and careful. Creation shows Him to be a God of order and provision, a God of blessing and satisfaction.

And so, right here, in the very first chapter of God's written revelation to His people, God reveals His goodness through His creation.

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<sup>4</sup> Romans 1:20

But please notice the repeating pattern that God uses throughout the 6 days of creation here.

This account follows such a defined pattern, that we could almost say this is the first Christian rap. All you need is a little beat boxing in the background, and you have all the elements of rapping to the glory of God!

Notice this pattern: each day of creation begins with the spoken command of God, "And God said." Then the result is declared to happen just as God said, then God assesses it as good, and then the evening and the morning conclude the day.

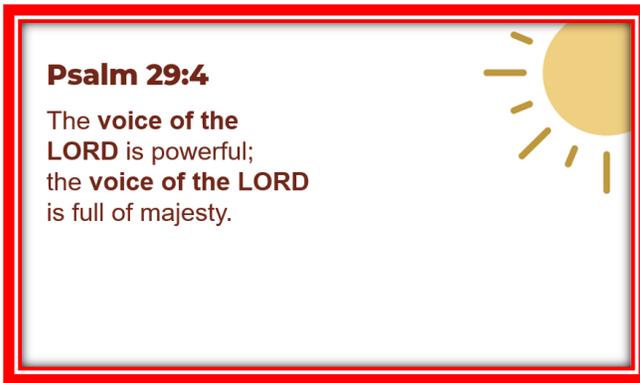
So (snapping fingers) God Speaks, It Happens, It's Good, and Day ends. God Speaks. It happens. It's Good. Day ends.

The only "record scratch" happens on Day 6, as recorded in **Genesis 2:18**, when God says it is "*not good* that man should be alone." But after God creates Eve, He evaluates all of His creation as "very good."

So once you see this pattern in God's creation account, you can't miss the priority on God's Word in His creation. God creates by the power of His voice. He simply speaks creation into existence using His all-powerful word!

O certainly, when we behold the glories of God's creation in **Genesis 1**, we must join the psalmist in declaring,

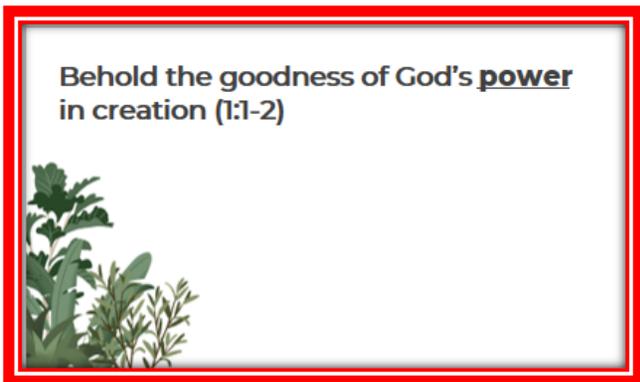
<sup>5</sup> Psalm 19:1



The voice of the LORD is powerful. The voice of the LORD is full of majesty!<sup>6</sup>

For God's good character is revealed through His good creation, and His creation comes into existence simply through the power His Word.

Therefore, look more carefully with me now at **verses 1-2** where we,



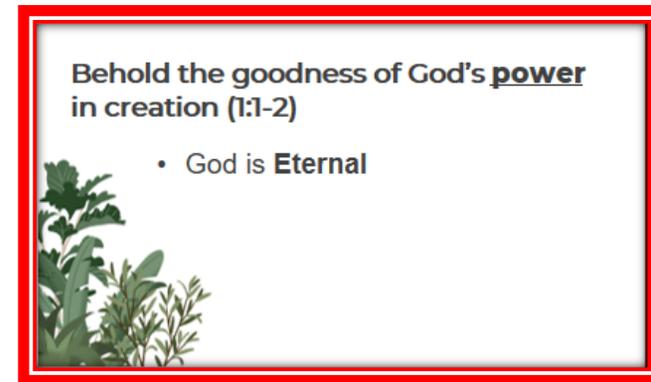
Behold the goodness of God's power in creation.

<sup>6</sup> Psalm 29:4

**Verse 1** opens with these magnificent words,

*In the beginning God...*

Just think about that for a moment, and notice,



God is eternal.

God has no beginning and no ending.<sup>7</sup> There's never a time when God was not, nor will there ever be a time when God is no longer. The supremacy of God's eternity short-circuits our computers...

The text goes on,

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

This phrase, "the heavens and the earth" is a phrase that refers to the entire universe. It's repeated as a bookend in **chapter 2 verse 1**.

<sup>7</sup> Psalm 90:2; Exodus 3:14; John 1:1, 8:58

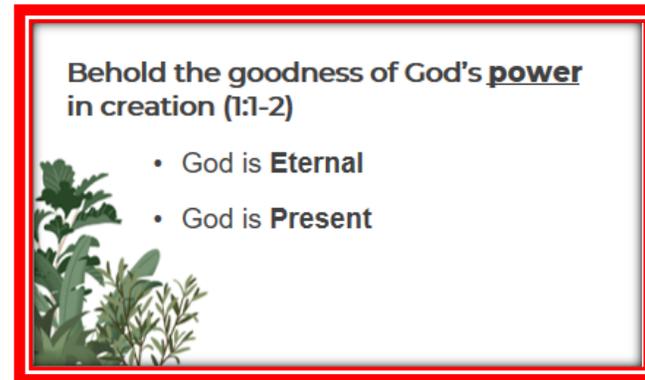
This helps us understand that **chapter 1** reveals the details of how God powerfully created everything that exists today.

**Verse 2** further explains the qualities of the earth as it was first created. In its initial creation,

*The earth was without form and void, or empty, and darkness was over the face of the deep.*

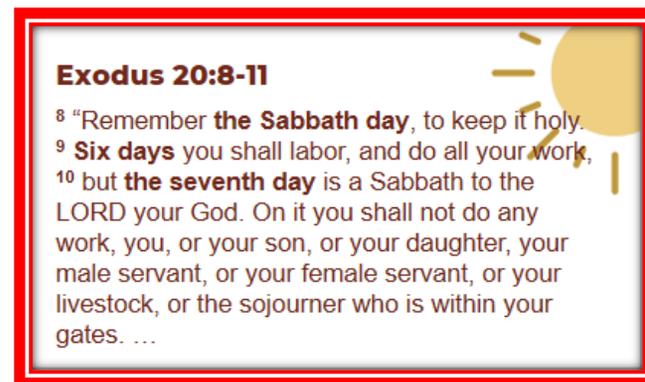
Now some have taken this verse allegorically to refer to chaos and the darkness of sin. This kind of thinking has caused some to mistakenly insert millions of years between **verses 1 and 2**, commonly referred to as the “gap theory” of creation.<sup>8</sup>

But in fact the formless emptiness of the dark creation was not out of control and chaotic, for *the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters*. In other words, God was not in some battle with some mythological chaos monster here. God was entirely in control of His creation.



**God is present.** His life-giving Spirit is active and involved, superintending every aspect of His creative work, all to bring about creation in His perfect order and time.

In fact, don't miss this: in **Exodus chapter 20**, as part of the 10 commandments, God makes it abundantly clear that all of the heavens and the earth were created in 6 literal, 24-hour days:



Just consider **Exodus 20** quickly:

<sup>8</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/genesis/gap-theory/>

God says, *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work,...*

Now...pause... obviously in this context God is using the word “day” to refer to a literal 24-hour period of time, right? So then let’s keep reading to **verse 11**,



Where God clearly says,

*For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.*

So first notice that God claims to have created the entire universe in six literal 24-hour days. The context of **Exodus 20** allows for no other understanding.

But further, don’t miss this, **Exodus 20** clearly includes the creation of “the heaven and earth” within the six literal days of creation.

Therefore the first day of Creation includes everything in **Genesis chapter 1, verses 1 through 5**. Scripture does not allow millions of years to somehow be added into God’s creation record. **Verse 2** simply reveals how God began his progressive creation within Day 1.

Therefore, as His first act of powerful creation, God immediately creates a watery sphere that has surface tension and gravitational pull – water is not flying off of its surface chaotically – but there’s no relief to this watery ball. The earth is first created as a foggy, misty, sphere of deep water that’s shrouded in darkness.

**Verse 2** says it was without form and empty. It needed order, and it needed filling. So in fact, that’s what the rest of **chapter 1** reveals.

In Days 1-3, God gives form to His creation. And in Days 4-6, God fills His creation. Thereby completing His creation with form and fullness, all to reveal more of His goodness and His glory.

Now before we walk through each of these six days of creation more carefully, let’s just pause and recognize the miraculous power of our Creator God.

**Jeremiah 32:17** puts our thoughts into words here,

**Jeremiah 32:17**

Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! **Nothing is too hard for you.**



*Ah, Lord God! It is You who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.*

The same God who is powerful enough to create the heavens and the earth is powerful enough to keep His promises and rescue sinners from sin!

Yes, it takes great faith to believe that God simply spoke our entire universe into existence out of nothing. That's why **Hebrews 11 verse 3** says,

**Hebrews 11:3**

By faith we understand that **the universe was created by the word of God**, so that what is seen was **not made out of things that are visible.**



*By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*

But it also takes great faith to believe that God can forgive sin, right? The faith required to believe that God created the entire universe immediately, with instant maturity and appearance of age, is the same faith required to believe that God will someday create a new heavens and a new earth instantaneously for His redeemed to occupy for all of eternity.

**Isaiah 65:17**

"For behold, I [Yahweh] **create new heavens and a new earth**, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.

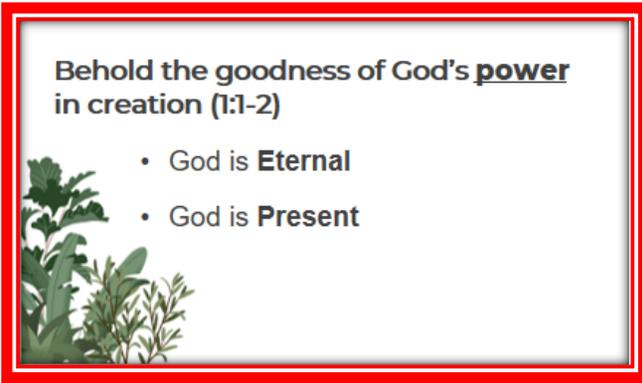


**Revelation 21:1**

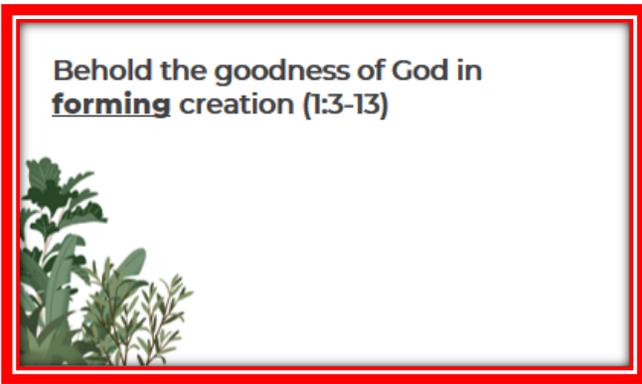
Then I [John] saw **a new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

*After all, it's interesting how so many Christians refuse to believe that Jesus spoke the universe into being at the first creation, while they have no problem believing He will create a new heavens and a new earth at the end of time without taking billions of years to do so!<sup>9</sup>*

<sup>9</sup> C.f. Isaiah 65:17; Revelation 21:1



O church let's behold and believe in the goodness of God's power in His creation. For God is eternal, and present, and He possesses all power to speak creation into existence. So let's quickly consider the rest of the first 3 days to,



Behold the goodness of God in forming creation.

In **verse 3** God commands light to enter the darkness, and there was light. *And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness.*

<sup>10</sup> Accordingly, the Hebrew calendar begins every day at evening, around

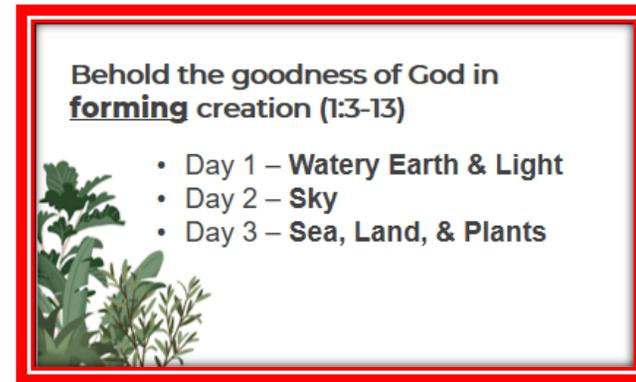
*5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.*

Notice by the way, evening comes first because darkness was there before light.<sup>10</sup>

Then in **verses 6-8**, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, God creates the sky, or the earth's atmosphere.

Finally **verses 9-13** describe in detail how God caused dry ground to appear, and then created fruit-bearing plants and trees to grow in the soil that He had made.

O I wish we had more time this morning to unpack all the glories of God's goodness in His creation... but for now, just notice,



In day 1, God created the watery earth & light. In day 2, God created the sky. And in Day 3, God created the sea, the land, and the plants.

6pm.

And I just want to draw out two evidences of God's goodness in these first three days of creation. First, notice carefully that while God is forming the earth during these first three days, His goodness is seen through separation or division. In other words,



God makes distinctions.

In **verse 4**, God separates light from darkness. In **verses 6-7**, God separates the atmospheric waters from the waters on the earth. In **verse 9**, God separates the Seas from the dry land. In **verse 10**, God sets the boundaries or limits for the seas.

In other words, God makes distinctions and sets good limits on His creation. The rest of God's law will make this explicit, but God's creation is declared good within its God-given limits, and thereby the creation hints at the holiness ethics that will be revealed later in God's law.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Time doesn't permit me to expand on this in today's message, but creation here hints at how God makes divisions between the clean and the unclean, the holy and the profane (Leviticus 10:10; 11:47), between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place (Exodus 26:33), and in fact between

But also, be sure to notice how,



God provides for His creation. Our Creator is a God of order, who cares for all that He creates.

God first creates water, then light, and then dry earth...but notice...not just rock, but soil that can sustain vegetation on Day 3. Soil normally takes years of weathering and chemical processes to produce, right? But God created fertile ground instantly, with maturity. After all God knew that His plants needed sunlight and soil to survive.

**Genesis 2:5** even tells us how God provides a daily mist of fresh water for the plants, since they couldn't survive off the salty sea water.

Again, notice God's care for His creation. Only after God created plants did He create animals, so that the animals

Israel and the nations (Leviticus 20:24, 26). God's setting of distinctive boundaries in His initial creation even provides a theological backdrop for His distinctive complementarian roles for males and females and human sexuality which will be more clearly revealed later in God's law.

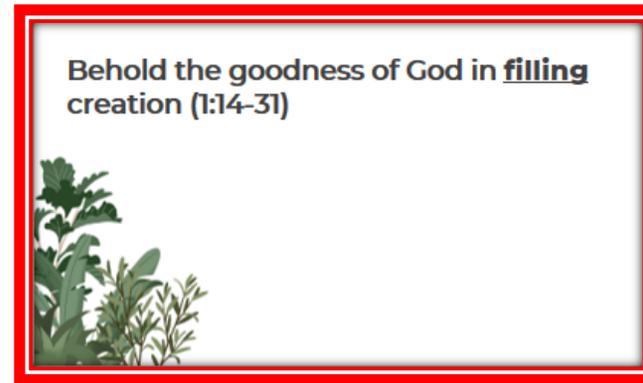
had something to eat, and then He creates humans, so that they have something to eat and a whole creation to rule over.

So behold the goodness of God who doesn't just form His creation, but is actively providing and caring for all that He created!

After all, in a couple of weeks we're going to open our Bibles to **Genesis 22** where we see God providing a ram in a thicket for Abraham... proving again that our Creator is Yahweh-Jireh – the God who provides! Our Creator God not only provides for our physical needs, but He provides for our spiritual needs as well! Jesus didn't just create us to live in His world as His representatives, Jesus came to this world Himself to die the death our sinned deserved, and rise from the dead so that all who believe in Him should not perish, but can live forever with our Happy God in the new heavens and new earth.

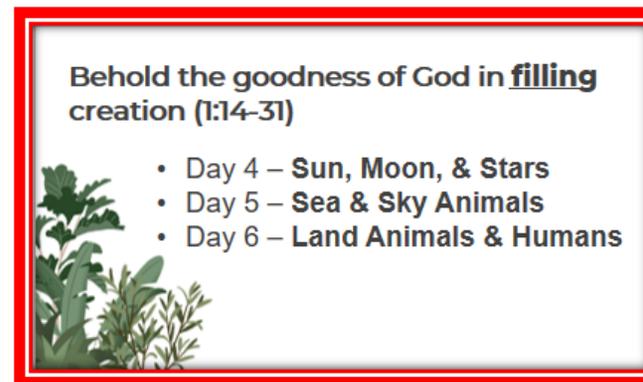
How good is our Creator God who provides everything that His creation needs!

Now we need to keep moving, but notice now that in **verses 14-31**,



We behold the goodness of God in filling creation.

First in **verses 14-19**,



God creates the sun, moon, and then notice that little phrase at the end of **verse 16**, and the stars also.

Almost as if it's an afterthought, all of the planets and starry hosts are created by the all-powerful command of our God's voice!!

Loved ones... we don't worship a sun god, or a moon god, or some god of astrology. We worship a personal

God who is so powerful that He just speaks, and billions of planets and stars leap into existence out of obedience to His Word!

I love how **Psalm 147** captures the goodness of God's creative power,



**Psalm 147:3-6**

<sup>3</sup> He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup> He determines the number of the stars; He gives to all of them their names.

<sup>5</sup> Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked to the ground.



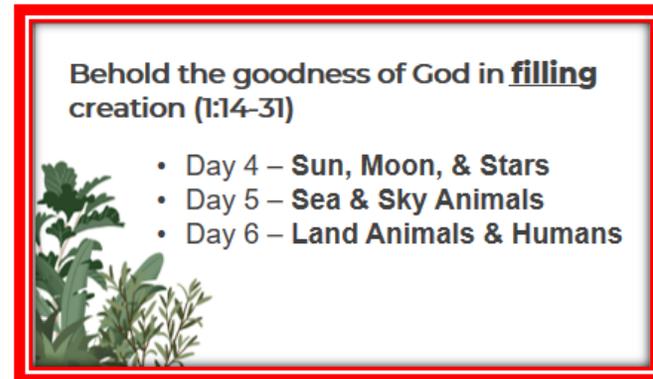
When **verse 4** says,

*God determines the number of the stars, He gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure!*

But then notice loved ones, this God of indescribable power is the same God who *heals the brokenhearted* in **verse 3**, and *lifts up the humble* in **verse 6**.

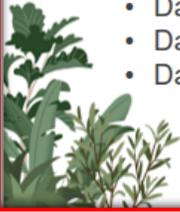
No brokenness is too great that our God cannot restore! No wound or injustice is so strong that our God cannot resolve. The stars give a constant testimony to this, right? They're not just up there saying "twinkle, twinkle." No! The stars are shouting, "Glory, Glory!" Our God's a Savior! The Creator is Strong enough for you! You can

bring all of your injustice and all of your brokenness to your Creator, and be fully restored!



Behold the goodness of God in **filling** creation (1:14-31)

- Day 4 – Sun, Moon, & Stars
- Day 5 – Sea & Sky Animals
- Day 6 – Land Animals & Humans



Then in **verses 20 to 23**, on **Day 5**, God fills both the seas and the skies with animals, each according to their kind, or according to their created species.

Can you imagine the creative delights of our God? Eagles and penguins, storks and sharks, orange starfish and red Cardinals ... all blessed to reproduce and fill the earth for God's creative joy!

In **verse 21** God makes special mention of the great sea creatures, since so many of the nations feared and worshipped the dragons and largest creatures of the sea. God makes it clear: He created *all* the creatures in the sea and sky. There's no earthly creature that is ever stronger than Israel's God.

**Verses 24-25** are clear that God created every species of animal that lives on land. So why would God's people ever worship creation? Israel's personal God who redeemed them out of Egypt is the Creator of all things,

and in fact, on Day 6, His creation reached its highest pinnacle when He made people to represent God Himself on earth, and have rule over all of His creation on His behalf.

Look at **verse 26**,

*26 Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

*27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*



Behold the goodness of God in **filling** creation (1:14-31)

- Day 4 – Sun, Moon, & Stars
- Day 5 – Sea & Sky Animals
- Day 6 – Land Animals & Humans
- God creates **image-bearers**

**Don't miss this goodness of God in filling His creation...** for **verses 26-27** teach us how God creates image-bearers. Both male and female are the image of God Himself... the representation of God on earth.

And then in **verse 28**,



Behold the goodness of God in **filling** creation (1:14-31)

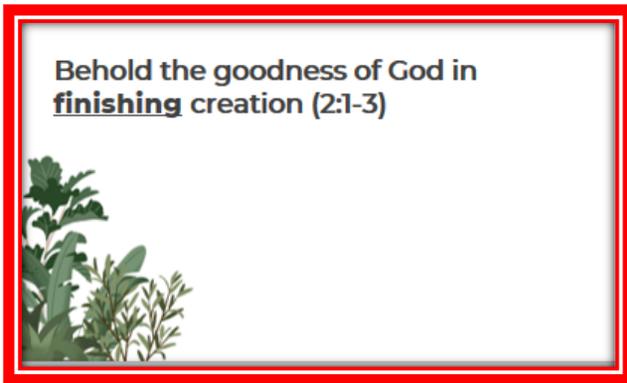
- Day 4 – Sun, Moon, & Stars
- Day 5 – Sea & Sky Animals
- Day 6 – Land Animals & Humans
- God creates **image-bearers**
- God grants **dominion**

**God grants dominion to the entire human race** – both male and females are vice-regents together over all that God has created, to rule over creation and fulfill God's created purposes for His creation... all for God's eternal glory and praise.

Now of course, we could preach several sermons on God's creation of humans, but for now, simply note how God concludes this creation account in **verse 31**:

*And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good.*

Once His universe is formed and filled, God declares it all very good! So let's look then at the conclusion in **chapter 2** to,

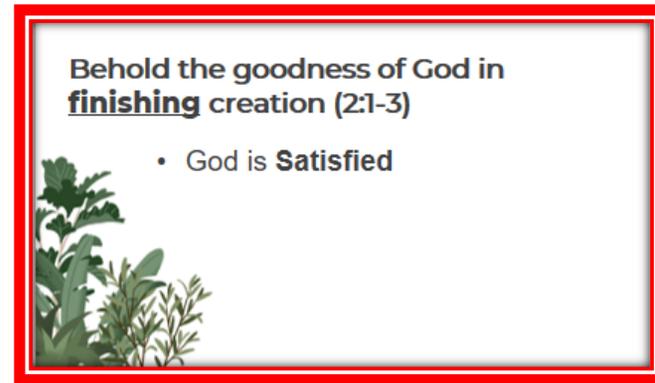


Behold the goodness of God in finishing creation.

**Chapter 2** begins,

*Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished His work that He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done.*

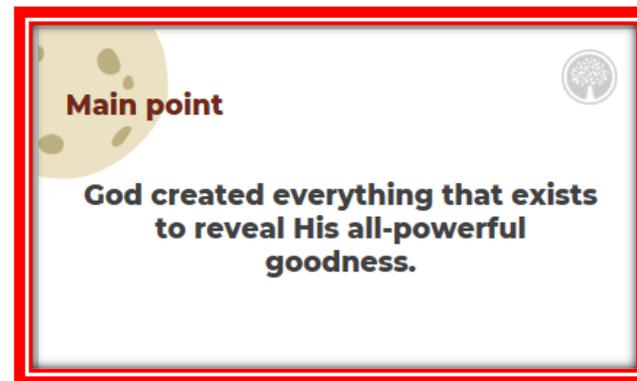
The key word here is rested. But don't be confused by what this word means. God wasn't exhausted. He didn't need a nap. Rather the word "rest" just means to stop, cease from working, and take it all in with great satisfaction.



It means that our **God is Satisfied**. He celebrates all that His creative powers have brought into existence. He enjoys what He's done.

So much so that He blesses the 7<sup>th</sup> day, Saturday, and makes it holy in **verse 3**... pointing forward to how observing the Sabbath will be the entire sign of God's covenant with His redeemed people.

So make no mistake church. Holy Scripture begins with the account of God's creation so that God's people would confidently know how,



God created everything that exists to reveal His all-powerful goodness.

His power displayed in our physical creation gives us hope and confidence in His power at work in our spiritual creation. Seeing God's power in His first creation assures our faith in God's second creation. And so when we consider all that God has made, doesn't it cause us to,



Worship God and trust His Word for life?

After all, once we see the power of God's Word bringing creative life to the entire universe, don't we want to trust and obey this same Word for our own spiritual lives as well?

When we come face to face with such creative power, it causes us to ask, why would God care about someone so small as us?<sup>12</sup>

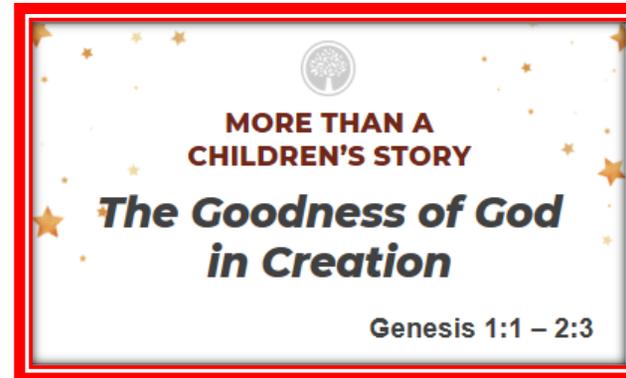
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<sup>12</sup> Psalm 8:1-9

But then we remember the goodness of our God in creation. That all things were created by Jesus, and for Jesus. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.<sup>13</sup>

God always provides for His creation. He cares for us. And His greatest care for us has come when our Creator became our Savior, and Jesus Himself died and rose again to make us restore the image of God that sin had so ruined in our lives. Now then, our greatest rest and satisfaction comes when we entrust our lives to His Word, and live according to His good distinctions and limits.

O will you worship our Creator, and trust His all-powerful word for your life?



Let's pray.

**Closing prayer.**

<sup>13</sup> Colossians 1:16-17

Closing Song – <<Glorious Christ>>

Exit Offering today for John & Missy Camiola.

**Benediction**  
**Romans 15:4-6** For **whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction**, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.  
**May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*  
*Romans 15:4-6*

Reminder about 2-minute drill, then picking up chairs.



Making the first **2** minutes count!  
Seek to show hospitality...  
*Romans 12:13b*



**Many Hands Make Light Work.**  
Please share a few minutes to stack chairs & ready the Family Center for weekly activities.  
*Thank You New Castle!*

### Recommended Resources on God's Creation:

- Exodus 20:8-11
  - Psalm 19:1; 33:6; 104:30
  - Isaiah 42:5; 45:12, 18
  - Jeremiah 10:12
  - 2 Corinthians 4:6
  - John 1:1-3; 6:63
  - Acts 17:26
  - Romans 1:20; 11:36
  - 1 Corinthians 8:6
  - Colossians 1:16-17
  - Hebrews 1:2-3, 10; 11:3
  - 2 Peter 3:5-7
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- Dr. Barrick's Genesis Class - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzMp5P1rPtg>
  - Louie Giglio "Indescribable" - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qh4HcVY2\\_KE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qh4HcVY2_KE)
  - <https://answersingenesis.org/>
- 
- Coming to Grips with Genesis, ed. Mortenson&Ury
  - What happened in the Garden, Chou
  - The Battle for the Beginning, MacArthur
  - More than a Story, Michael

### Growing Deeper: Life Group Questions

1. Read John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:16, and Hebrews 11:3. By what means did God create the universe? How should this truth motivate our own relationship to God's Word, especially in light of Scriptures like John 6:63, 2 Corinthians 4:6, and James 1:18?
2. Review Genesis 1:1-2:3. Find and mark each of the following repeated phrases: "And God said"; "And it was so"; "And God saw that it was good"; and "And there was evening and there was morning". What can we learn from this repeated pattern through the creation account?
3. Read Exodus 20:8-11. Who authored this Scripture? According to these verses, was the "heaven and earth" made during day 1 or before the six days of creation? Does Exodus 20:8-11 present the creation days as literal 24-hour days, or something different?
4. Note the phrase "without form and void/empty" in Genesis 1:2. Discuss how Days 1-3 of creation give order and form to God's creation, while days 4-6 give fullness and harmony to God's creation.
5. Read Genesis 1:31. How does God's creation reveal God's goodness and glory to you? What should be our response to God's sovereign power, and His Word, as we behold His creation?