Genesis 1:1 - 25



~ In our first two very lengthy reports from our Spiritual Safari we didn't get very far in Genesis; in fact, we didn't even get past the tremendous, majestic threshold of the Bible - that is - the first verse. Genesis chapter one verse one is the door through which anyone who enters the Bible must come. We simply must accept that God is the Creator of this world and universe that we have been thrown into if we are to sail across the gulf between conventional worldly wisdom — which God calls foolishness — and arrive at the beginning of His wisdom in Revelation chapter twenty-two verse twenty-one of our own personal spiritual safaris. We will truly be getting down to the nitty-gritty of it all in this report, friends. He that comes to God must believe that He is; and the first thing that means is....

1 In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth.

~ Man does not know the time frame involved in creation — and it doesn't affect us in our daily lives one way or the other as God's creatures, either. What does matter is the Greek word used for "create" - meaning literally that God created something out of nothing — true alchemy. When we hear of man's alchemy — it is not really that - because man always starts with SOMETHING. When we hear of alchemy with God it is exactly that — God makes something out of absolutely nothing. You know; like, bang — there it is! There are three acts of creation and the word "created" appears in as many areas - and five times - in Genesis.

First is the creation of something from nothing – the earth and universe. Then we are given the creation account of herbs and grass and whales and animals and every living creature that moveth in verse twenty-one. The birds and animals were all brought forth after their kind in one little verse. Only eggheads will ask which came first, the chicken or the egg? - Ignore them because the real question is: which came first – the chicken or the

whale? – Let's look for the answer to that one. It's a much more worthwhile pursuit; and why did the whale get honorable mentions – did God approve of whales more than anything else? - So many questions.

Evolution can account for neither matter from nihility nor life from inanimate matter. It is both a quantum leap and a moot point to say we came from monkeys or a single cell amoeba if we cannot account for the life in a monkey or single cell amoeba, friends. Theistic evolution is not a credible answer to these problems of creation, either. In theistic evolution's attempts to follow from creation up to the point that man somehow wiggles onto the scene, it unwittingly reduces mankind to being the biproduct of some evolutionary process of descent. So, on that basis alone theistic evolution absolutely fails miserably. Next, theistic evolution must necessarily ignore wholesale the account God gives concerning His creation of Adam and Eve. When they ignore that factual tenet of Biblical truth then they must, likewise, also ignore the words of Christ Himself when He says, "....if any man shall add unto these things written in this book, then God shall add unto him the plagues that are written herein: and if any man shall take away from the words of this book, God shall take away his part out of the book of life" - Revelation chapter twenty-two verses eighteen and nineteen.

So, if one does not believe the Biblical account of creation — or any other part of the Bible, for that matter, then they are not a Christian, my beloved; because Jesus said that would literally be impossible. All three types of evolutionists must also unnecessarily and irreverently convert the days in the creation account to some redefined period of time; as if they have had a sneak-peek at God's calendar or access to some privileged information that you and I can't have. Well, the evening and the morning were literally one twenty-four hour period known as a day each. God calls them each one "day" - and I think we can trust the Lord to deal with us on a level we can understand.

The impossible to misunderstand simplicity of the first verse of Genesis requires a conscious decision in order to gain the knowledge whereby we can proceed properly; and we must move along now in our safari because it's easy to become stuck on creation and get bogged down here forever.

Creation is, arguably, the most highly debated topic of Scripture - and it is the source of more contention and division among unsaved mankind than any other subject. So, to pull us out of verse one, the Heaven and the earth were separated. Why? - Because man would soon live on earth and God would reside in the Heavens – and that, by de facto, requires two distinctly separate places.

Man is a creature of God and, on that basis alone, we end up owing Him something! Herbert Spencer said, "....the most general forms into which the manifestation of the unknowable are re-divisible are time, space, matter, force and motion." George Dewey Blumgren said, "....in the first verse of Genesis we have time, the beginning; we also have space, the heavens; matter is the earth; and in verse two we have force, the Spirit of God; and verse two also contains motion, as the Spirit moved on the waters. All of these great scientific principles that man must understand are, obviously, taken from the first two verse of the Bible!" ~

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

~ Obviously, some profoundly cataclysmic and catastrophic occurrence took place between verses one and two. I say that because God does not create ANYTHING void and without form! So, what we have here is a flood without a Noah! If you look out into this universe it should become painfully clear to us that something has happened to it; that is, once we get a few miles up – it's nothing but an eternally uninhabitable wasteland. How did space get like that? – Why is the earth the only place where man resides? Well, when God says the earth became without form and void and that darkness was upon the face of the deep, it irrefutably means without God. Then, in that frightful condition, the Spirit of God moved on the face of the waters.

Isaiah 45:18:....God himself formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited $^{\sim}$

Alright, God did not create the earth without form and void – it became without form and void at some point in time after it and Heaven were both

created. That is so important; because we also know that the universe was created a kosmos – not chaos. God took nothing and made it an inhabitable, tolerable – potentially pleasurable – something for man. The study of space reveals that you and I live in a really small "bubble" floating in an otherwise infinite universe which just happens to be the only place we know of that can sustain human life naturally. I think when this earth became without form and void and the face of the deep was nothing but darkness it was pretty much just like the moon – or Mars – or – any of them are today - until the Spirit of God moved on it.

Okay, we apparently had this great catastrophe on earth; but what was it specifically? – Well, I only have a vague and incomplete suggestion. I won't go into detail. I'm just going to throw it on the table for you to consider. We will see it more in-focus as we get to other passages – but not here. One reasonable conclusion is that there was some creature on this earth prior to Adam - and our account picks up in Genesis chapter one verses one and two in some connection with Lucifer, Son of the Morning – Satan - and precisely how and when he became the devil as we know him today. All of that seems to be involved right here – but - since God has only given us sketchy details, I don't want to hang around this place for too long. Darkness was upon the face of the deep when the Spirit of God *moved*, friends. The word used for "moved" is the same word as "brooded" - as a mother bird does over her chicks - *brooding* upon the face of the waters as the Holy Spirit does what we see Him doing again and again – re-creating – just as He did with us.

Remember, we must be born again; and not only that – we must be born of the Spirit – born again of Water and of the Spirit. Of course, the water signifies the Word of God. Making baptism the symbol is fine, if that's what we want to do – but the water speaks of the Holy Word of God Himself. Further, the Holy Spirit is the Author of it all. Candidly, that could take us right back to square one where God made everything; and that is precisely the loop that unbelievers find themselves trapped in. God took what was void and without form and, for six days, we discover Him *re*-creating. God created everything from nothing - and by the time we get to where we are in this report we are already at the re-creation of something that was called into existence long ago. Turn that over in your mind a few times and see

what you come up with. God spoke into existence everything from light to man during these six days. Man still roams the face of the earth today, but he wouldn't be roaming in or on anything if we didn't have light. This is a very important note to make as we begin this second safari expedition....

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

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

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

~ God says ten times in this chapter, "....let there be...." Someone has called this the Ten Commandments of creation. A Divine Decalogue is spiritually detailed here. God named the day and the night. The evening and the morning were day one. God spoke everything into existence – which documents the first time He speaks. The firmament is the air and space as we know it. The first division was a double perpendicular to man; that is, there is water above us and there is water beneath us. In Hawaii, five inches of rain falls in just a few short minutes. Over two hundred inches will fall in some areas each year. Well, two hundred inches on the ground of a little island like that means a whole lot of water in the air, friends. That's what God did – He divided the waters that are under from those which are above. The firmament is Heaven, but not like you and I think of Heaven. Scripture mentions three different Heavens. The Lord Jesus spoke of the birds of Heaven - or our sky; and that is what we have here - it is the air and space around and above us as we know it. Then, there are the stars of Heaven – outer space; and lastly we have the Third Heaven, where God dwells....

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

~ From here forward the land will separate the waters. As simple as it is there is nothing unscientific about it. Scientists *ALL* agree on one thing: that water covered every inch of the earth at one time. Evidently, judgment had come upon the earth way back before Genesis chapter one verse two; sometime in the eternity of ages past. We know practically nothing about that, either. It's all speculation regarding details of when and how because, for all of the information we have here, He really gave us quite little. We know just enough to believe and, as far as I can tell, that's all God wanted to accomplish by providing us this mostly irrelevant and unuseful information....

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

~ After God made land and sea and Heaven, the very next thing He made was grass and herbs yielding seed. Don't tell me He doesn't have a sense of humor. There is a WHOLE lot more I could say regarding this, but I won't dare. What I will add is that man had nothing but fruits and nuts in his diet at one time. Today, only fruits and nuts seem to have a diet; but I digress! It may be overstating the obvious, but this is also where God ordained that an apple seed wasn't going to grow an apricot – and visa versa. We don't plant an orchid seed and then sit around and wonder what's going to pop up. No,

that which you plant is that which you will grow and reap; and we will come back to this truth again and again in our Spiritual Safari....

13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And 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 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

~ It is most interesting to me that God already had seasons and times and all of that handy in His back-pocket. I think He already had the sun and moon and all of that in His hands, too. Again, He just did something new with these things He already had. We know the moonlight has a lot of power in it – a lot of romance happens under it. Then, almost as if an afterthought, He made the stars, also. We make such a big deal out of stars today; but they were merely an afterthought to Him. I think God created Heaven and earth and He didn't even half-try. Notice in verse eighteen that it is God that does the dividing in Scripture. God still does the division today, too. He draws all the lines. What's the difference between right and wrong? – Whatever God says is right or wrong! God puts down certain principles by dividing the light from the darkness that carries over into almost every area of our existence! There is just that much distinction between the two, by the way. God makes the difference, friends – no one or nothing else matters – He always has mattered – He always has always been the difference where there is a difference – and even when there isn't - and He always will be all in all....

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 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

~ In verse twenty, there is a certain degree of evolvement – but it's still not evolution, per se – as the waters brought forth creatures that have life and fowls that fly above. Yes, the fowls are evidently included in the creatures that came forth from the water. This has no connection and no reference to man or mankind – animals only. That's pretty much where we are left concerning creation because, again, it really is not that important in our lives in the big scheme of things. Creatures were made after their own kind; to say that everything originated from one little amoeba is just dead wrong – not to mention absurd. Now, to be fair, Darwin did get one aspect of his erroneous theory exactly right: the order of evolvement; that is, it most certainly is a *descent*....

21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

~ So, we end this leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God with an admonition from me, your safari guide, to read this chapter again now very carefully so there is no misunderstanding. God has now distinctly and intentionally separated plant, animal and all other life forms from man. God is going to say soon, "....let us make man in OUR image." The animals were commanded to bring forth their own kind – and that will be true of man when he finally makes it on the scene, too. We won't find a little Suzy or a baby Willie by digging up a stump or turning over a rock, my beloved. Alright – we have had an intense first five days of

creation. As we move forward, we must look at that creature named man a little more closely than we examined creation, because that just happens to be my great, great - and so on - grandfather and grandmother in this chapter; and yours, too. That means you and I are, at least, cousins – so let's be careful about whom we kiss these days, shall we? We are all related and have been since Adam fell; brothers and sisters in sin are we – and we move into the deepest, thickest parts of the jungle in our next report. I hope you can continue with us....

23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good ~