

In the Beginning...

An Examination of the Genesis Account of Creation and the Fall of Mankind

Genesis 1:14-19

8- The "Days" of Creation, Day 4

March 4, 2018

Genesis 1:14-19

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate 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 expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made* the stars also.

17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

19 There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

To the Glory of God

Now several people have asked me over the years why I am so rigid about what we are to believe. *"Why do you spend so much time studying and writing and preaching and teaching about what we are to believe and what we are to reject? Why do you emphasize over and over again, in everything you write and say, that we should not simply pursue God, but that we should pursue a delight in God? What are you driving at?"*

And if you haven't listened very well, you would get the notion that I am, somehow, promoting us all to become theologians and academics and intellectuals, which is the furthest thing from my mind. I, myself, am not very intelligent, and there is a lot about the Bible that I don't understand, and that I don't see how I will ever understand.

Like many of you, I struggle to serve God. I struggle to obey, and I struggle against a seemingly unending assault against me from my own flesh and my own mind and my own propensity to rebel and sin. I am ashamed that after 47 years of serving God, I find myself no more holy than I am. And I grieve over the fact that, many times, I actually offend those who are the closest to me and that I love more than life itself.

The Truth of the matter is that I was not formally trained to do what I'm trying so hard to do, and I think it shows. I study a lot, every week, probably because it takes me longer to grasp it. But I was never formally taught how to study the Bible or how to preach, and so, I had to learn it myself. And I've tried to make this glaring lack in my life *less* of a problem by reading everything I can get my hands on, but even with that, I don't think I'm particularly a good Pastor. I think I could do a whole lot more and do it a whole lot better. And I'm trying, but I think I routinely fall way short of the proper model.

So, what *am* I saying? *Why* do I promote "right beliefs", and *why* do I spend so much time splitting the hairs between Biblical Truth and false teaching? And *why* am I taking so much time at the beginning of this year to look at what God the Holy Spirit moved upon Moses to write down about Creation, 1,450 years before Jesus was born? *What* is my effort all about?

Well, it begins with the fact that I myself am a believer in Jesus Christ. I am a wicked and unworthy and completely unimportant sinner who has experienced the miracle of the New Birth. And so, my effort to "get the Gospel right" stems from the fact that I love Jesus, and I want to please Him in all that I do and think and say. And I don't *instinctively* know what pleases God and what doesn't. And so, the only way I know how to at least *understand* the difference between the Holy and the Profane, the only way I know what it is that pleases God and what doesn't, is to read and study the Bible. So, my motivation stems from my own God-given desire to love Jesus and to see Him as the Treasure of the Universe.

And so, *way before* I ever preached my first Sermon, *way before* I was a Deacon and then an Elder and then an Associate Pastor, and *way before* I began to study to give Sermons and Bible Studies and Radio Broadcasts, I read and studied God's Word so that I would not sin against my precious Lord, Who bought and paid for me.

And I learned a lot. I learned many things that I still hold fast to this day. But I also got some things wrong. I put some of the pieces together *wrongly*, and I didn't *apply* them properly, and I missed the mark, not because I didn't care or because I wasn't trying, but because I was a human being who was trying to navigate through *the* single most important and *the* single deepest and *the* single most profound Truth the world has ever known. And so, while I got a whole lot of things right, I got some things wrong, too.

And the things I got right, helped me, a lot. But the things I got wrong hurt me, a lot. Because part of being wrong is that you don't *know* that you're wrong. You think your right about all of it. And so, you go about to apply *all* the things you have that are true to your daily life so that you may be found pleasing in God's sight. And that is good. But you also go about and apply the things you have wrong to your life, for the very same reason. And that is bad.

And I woke up one day, after being a Blood-bought Christian for over 26 years, and found that I really didn't understand a lot of *what* I believed or *why* I believed it. And I was doing things and I was saying things and I was agreeing with things that I really wasn't sure about, and that I really couldn't explain, and that frightened me.

Look, I completely understand how people can get off base who never read and study their Bibles, and who hardly ever pray, and who attend Church sporadically, and who never seem to feel led to fast, and who are neck deep with the sin and compromise of this world. I understand how they could be deceived. But I wasn't doing *any* of that. I certainly wasn't sinless, but I *was* reading and studying my Bible. I *was* praying. I *was* fasting. And I *was* trying with all my might to *not* be "worldly". And me and my family were going through *unbelievable* persecution and sufferings and trails. And, by God's Grace, we were suffering *gladly*, *without* complaint, for the sake of Jesus Christ. And yet, I was off base, about a lot of things. So, how does that happen? Because it is one thing to be led astray with your Bible *closed*. But it is quite another thing to be led astray with your Bible *open*.

And *that* is why this Church exists. I didn't start this Church to prove a point. And I'm not about making anybody look bad or to suggest that I am the only guy in this town who is preaching the Truth. I don't believe that, and I've never said that, and I pray I don't come across like that. I am probably more tolerant and more forgiving to the

soul, who may be off base, than most of the people in this room, precisely because I know what it means to be off base about a whole lot of things, and yet still be saved.

And I never want to treat a genuinely saved person as though they aren't saved, simply because they may be off base about "second and third tier Issues". Because I know what it feels like to be treated as an outcast and to be shunned, simply because I disagreed with the established religious elite, here on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, about things that are *not* Essential Truth. I disagreed with many of them when I was wrong about a whole host of issues, and I disagree with many of them now that I'm right about a whole host of issues. But since June 25, 1971, by God's Grace, I had the Essential Truths of Christianity down pat. And that made me a Christian and a brother in Christ to those who shunned me and who rejected my fellowship.

Now there is a lot of "lip-service" in the Reformed Movement about how we are to embrace people who may disagree with us, as long as they agree with the "Essentials". But it is rarely practiced. The Reality is that people, who lay claim to believe the Bible to be the Word of God, *disobey* the Bible all the time by rejecting people and breaking off fellowship over issues, that, by their own admission, nobody should break fellowship over.

But, when your off base, even though you may believe whatever you believe *passionately*, it will fail you when the reality of life hits you square in the face. Because false teaching is false. It isn't true. It is, by definition, a lie. Therefore, it doesn't work, because God never said it. And so, false teaching will *never* become true. It will *always* be false, and it will *always* fail you. Therefore, false teaching *dishonors* God.

But besides dishonoring God, false teaching also hurts people. And it hurts them very badly. It hurts some people for many, many years, and it causes very destructive behavior in those who are deceived. There are literally millions of people, all over this world, right this minute, who are hurting real bad precisely because what they had been taught and what they believed and what they were clinging to, - with all their might, failed them.

And what I had been taught and what I believed and what I was clinging to with all my might, failed me, when my daughter was born with a cloud over her mind, and when she got sick, and when she died

inch by painful inch. And when I ran over my next daughter with a riding lawnmower and cut her leg off, I realized what I had been taught and what I believed with all my heart failed me miserably. And then I watched people, who said they were saved and who said they loved each other, turn against each other and destroy each other, and I realized that I had been deceived.

And so, standing here this morning, I will tell you that it was all God's Plan. It was God, Who brought such a bitter Providence into my life. It was God, Who exposed the false teaching by allowing me to hurt to the point I didn't think I could live. It was God and His Mercy that, while I was reeling with pain and disillusionment, brought me to this God-forsaken property and this run-down farm house. It was God, in the weakest time of my life, when I was more unsure of myself than I had ever been, that compelled me to stand behind this pulpit and preach.

And if you will listen to what I'm saying, you can escape the misery that I went through. You can avoid waking up and realizing that your "off in left field". What I'm teaching will prepare you, for not only the struggles of *this* life, but it will prepare you to meet God. By God's Grace and to God's Glory, what I'm doing with equip you and empower you and enable you to see Jesus as the Treasure of the Universe.

So, somehow, I knew that for me to be silent would be to die. I never asked God to make me a Pastor. I never prayed to give me a Ministry. I looked into the face of a hurting wife and four disillusioned children and I knew that I had to *say* something, *do* something, or else we would become a proverb in the land. And so, I fell on my face and I cried out to God, and I begged God to help me, and I opened my mouth and the Spirit of God fell on me, and out of my belly began to flow rivers of living water.

And I saw the best way to prepare my family and the people who began to gather with us for the Reality of life was to feed them the Word of God. Rightly. Fully. So, I do what I do and I say what I say, so that you will be equipped to walk this world in White. So, that you may suffer for the Glory of God. So you can live well and suffer well and die well. That when you hurt and when you become disillusioned and when things go south, you will be ready to give a reason for the Hope that lies within you. I teach God's Word so that you will be able to stand on

what you believe and what you have been taught, and you will *not* sink into the quagmire of unbelief and doubt.

And, in the past, God told me to prepare this people for Suffering. And to raise up a Standard of Sexual Purity, and to promote absolute confidence in the 66 Books of sacred writ, and to know what pleases God, and to review the Protestant Reformation, and to hate the holocaust of Abortion. And this year, God wants us to be able to believe what God said in the **Genesis Record** about Creation. And that's *why* I'm doing what I'm doing.

Because correct Theology alone will not save you. Now it absolutely matters *what* you believe and *why* you believe it. And Saving Faith comes by way of hearing the Word of Christ. But we must take heed to ourselves, because even if you have your Theology down pat, each person *must* behold the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus Christ. And you *must* be changed into that same Image, or you will burn. Each individual soul must *personally* experience the miracle of the New Birth, or you will never see the Kingdom of Heaven. So, never think that "mental ascent" to Divine Truth is the same thing as being saved. It isn't. To intellectually agree with what the Bible says, and to remain unchanged and unbent and unbowed is deception of the highest order. So, to read Scripture and agree with it is not the same thing as being radically transformed by a miracle from Heaven.

So, yes, I love Reformed Theology. But I love the Bible more. And when I say that, I'm not saying that I see a contradiction between Reformed Theology and Scripture. I don't. I think that Reformed Theology is the correct exegesis of Scripture. I say that simply because I want my mind to always understand the proper Order. And so, I love the Bible. But I love Jesus more. And making that distinction helps me to keep things straight in my own mind.

I don't seek to be in right standing with the Reformers. I seek to be in right standing with God. And the "tool" that I use to be in right standing with God is how the Reformers understood the Bible and how they put all the pieces together. So, I'm not trying to make you smart about what the Bible says about Creation. I'm trying with all my heart to reveal the risen Christ to you in my preaching and teaching about Creation, so that you are literally amazed at the Glory of God that you see in Jesus, and that you begin to love what you see.

Now, so far in our Study, we have seen three different kinds of "Separation":

Day 1- God separated the Light from the Darkness.

Day 2- God separated the Heavens from the Earth.

Day 3- God separated the Land from the Sea.

... and, *evidently*, these "separations" were *necessary* so God could create life. So, now here on "Day" 4, we see a *fourth* Separation. Let's read verse 14 again together:

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;

... so, on Day 4, God separated the Day from the Night. And then at the end of verse 16, Moses wrote a very simple statement:

He made the stars also.

Now how are we to understand this statement? Well, when it says that God made the stars along with the sun and the moon, the Bible is saying something about the indescribable Power of God. But he doesn't get into any detail here. He simply says, "God made it all".

And ever since this is been in the Bible, people have been trying to figure it out. And it is this effort at getting into the details that God didn't give us as to why we have so many theories about how all of this came about. So, let me try to explain what this little phrase, "**He made the stars also**" means (with apologies to John MacArthur).

A single beam of light originating from this building travels at 186,000 miles a second or six trillion miles a year. So, if we were to shoot a beam of light into space this morning, at the beginning of this Service at 10:30 am, by the time we finished the announcements and the reading of the Psalm that beam of light would be heading out toward the *edge* of our Solar System. By the time I began to preach, that light beam would be passing Jupiter. And by the time we left to go home, that light beam was passing Pluto.

Now, as you finish your work-week, *next* Friday afternoon, that little beam of light will be *leaving* our Solar System. And by the time you get ready to re-elect

Donald Trump in 2020, that beam of light has only reached the nearest star to our sun, *Proxima Centauri*, which is actually a conflux of several stars.

Now fast forward to the year 2030 and our little light beam has only passed 20 stars, and our sun appears as a rather bland yellowish star disappearing into galactic darkness. Imagine this little beam of light has been heading now into the constellation *Sagittarius*. On this path, it will be headed for the *center* of our *Milky Way Galaxy*. But it has to travel 32,000 more years before it will reach the *center* of our Galaxy! And that's at six trillion miles a year! But wait, it still has another 50,000 years to get to the *other side* of the *Milky Way*, which is *our* Galaxy, and when it does, it will leave behind about 100 billion stars.

Now, keep in mind, that the *Milky Way Galaxy* is only an *average* sized Galaxy, and that as far as we know, there are at least 50 billion Galaxies in the known Universe. Much of this has been determined by the use of the Hubble Telescopic Cameras.

So, our little light beam has to travel another 80,000 years, at its six trillion miles per year pace, to reach the *Magellanic Clouds*, which is the closest Galaxy or series of Galaxies to our *Milky Way*, which puts it at 160,000 years into the future. And our light beam, that is still moving of the same speed of 186,000 miles a second, faces 1.8 million more years of empty space before it reaches the end of the *Andromeda Galaxy*, which is close enough to earth to be seen with the naked eye.

And looking back from there at the *Milky Way*, you would see a fuzzy elliptical patch, similar to what *Andromeda* looks like to us on a fall evening. Now if our little light beam travels a couple more millions of years, it will encounter really open space. And our little friend will now travel another 20 billion years before it reaches the edge of the known Universe that we know about.

So, after over 20 billion years of travel, with about 50 billion Galaxies behind it with about 100 billion stars in those 50 billion Galaxies!¹

That is what Moses meant when he said:

He made the stars also

Now for about 150 years, Evolutionary "science" has struggled to explain all the bodies that exist in the Universe, and how they could have evolved out of what they call "spontaneous generation". And yet, all the trips to the moon, combined with all the satellites that we sent into space, combined with all of the telescopes and charts, have given

¹ John Mac Arthur;1998; <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/90-215/creation-day-4>

absolutely no insight at all into how they could have possibly evolved from a single source.

Now I have told you earlier that Evolutionary "science" makes certain *assumptions* at the beginning of their analysis. And it is these assumptions that get them off base. And one assumption that all of these people make, when trying to understand the Age of the Universe by using the speed of light, is *assuming* that light travels today at the same speed that it always has. Now there is no reason at all to assume that, but they do. And based on an analysis begun by an assumption, they get that the Universe is about 64 billion years old.

But, according to scientists like Henry Morris, there is reason to think that light traveled at an infinitely *faster* pace in the beginning. Morris teaches that one of the negative effects of the Fall, is that light has radically slowed down. Now, light traveling at 6 trillion miles per year sounds pretty fast to me, until you try to image light traveling at 10 billion times *faster* than it does now. And guess what? When you dramatically *increase* the speed of light, you can get an age of the Universe somewhere between 6,000 and 10,000 years! So, it is very possible that God not only made the stars way out there, but, at the same time, He also made all the Light in between those stars *instantaneously!*

So, there are really only two ways to understand the origin of the complex Solar System. You can either believe the **Genesis** Record or you can reject it. But there isn't any other Record about Creation. So, you can take it or leave it. But when you leave what the Bible says, just make sure that *whatever* logic you're following is not going to contribute to the destruction of your soul. Because in order for all of the things that evolutionary scientists say to be true, there has to be a "common ingredient" to *everything* in the Universe. And yet, that is simply not the case. The troubling fact is that there is absolutely *nothing* about the stars and the galaxies and the planets that is common to all of them.

They are all like unique fingerprints. Every set of binary stars, every one of these little galaxies and solar systems has the Fingerprint of God upon it unlike any other. George Wald, who was formerly of Harvard and winner of the Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine, acknowledged this dilemma. And Wald wrote this in the Scientific American Journal:

“The reasonable view was to believe in spontaneous generation. The only alternative was to believe in a single primary act of supernatural creation. There is no third position.”

... Wald went on to say:

“One has to contemplate,” he says, “the magnitude of this task to concede that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is impossible. Yet, here we are, as a result, I believe of spontaneous generation.”

But, in spite of that, and because they categorically *reject* the **Genesis Record**, Wald and many others like him believe and teach that entire universe of billions upon billions of galaxies is the product of irrational, random, “spontaneous generation”, which means that they believe that everything came into existence out of nothing with no external Cause. Yet, true Science tells us clearly and repeatedly that Evolution like this isn't *hard*, it's *impossible*. Any kind of “spontaneous generation” simply cannot happen. Any kind of “upward complexity” from “lower simplicity” is, by definition, impossible.

So, try to wrap your mind around this: Evolution has never been observed. Evolution has never been proven. And there is overwhelming and compelling, and conclusive, and unarguable evidence of a vast amount in every field of Science that verifies the utter and total *impossibility* of Evolution. And that makes all belief in Evolution to be completely irrational and erroneous. So, to believe in Evolution is the *height* of anti-science and the very *epitome* of superstition, and is anti-intellectual to the core. And yet it is force-fed to our children every day.

So, on Day 1, God created the material out of which the final shape of the Heaven and the earth would be made. And He spoke Light into existence and separated the Light from the Darkness. On Day 2, God separated the waters that covered the surface of the earth and took some waters and pushed them above, and left some below on the earth. And versus 6-8 tell us that in the middle, God created an “expanse” and called that expanse “Heaven”.

Then, on Day 3, God separated the dry land from the water on the earth, creating the seas and land, and then God spoke two kinds of growing things into existence: “trees” which produce fruit that has seed

in it, and “plants” which have their seed in themselves. And now, we read on Day 4, that God populates this vast expanse of Heaven with the stars and galaxies.

And that corresponds back to Day 1. Because on Day 1, God created Light, and on Day 4, He created the many lights that become the means by which the Light He created on Day 1 is transmitted. And, at some point, God attached the Light He made on Day 1 with the stellar bodies that He made on Day 4.

So, there is a wondrous kind of *symmetry* in what God is doing here. On Day 2, God created the water below, and then, on Day 5, He created the fish that live in that water. On Day 2, God created the heavens above, and then, on Day 5, He created the birds to fly in that heaven. On Day 3, God created the land and the plants and trees, and then, on Day 6, He created Man and land animals who would live on those plants and live on the dry land. So, there are six Days of Creation that are wonderfully balanced.

Now I want to remind you again what is so very important to keep stating. All of this flow of Creation is introduced with this little phrase, “**then God said**”. Verse 3, verse 6, verse 11, verse 14, verse 20, verse 24, verse 26 and verse 29. So, the “mode of Creation” is *always* the same, God spoke it into existence.

And that means there was no “process” that took millions and billions of years. Creation was not some type of “process” that God initiated. Creation is completely *separate* from the various “processes” that are in place now by which all things operate. So, Creation and the current manner in which all things function today have *nothing* in common.

So, Creation is not merely something that God *started*, but it is also something that God *completed*. God spoke, and it came into existence and was fully functional. *That* is what the **Genesis** Record declares to be true. And *that* is what we should teach and believe. Here is how one of the psalmists spoke about Day 4:

Psalms 33:6

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

So, on Day 4, God separated the Light from the Darkness. And God called the Light "Day", and the Darkness He called "Night". Yet, three Days before God made the sun or any of the stars or the moon, He created Light. So, how are we to understand that? I'm not sure other than to say that the Light He created on Day 1 wasn't attached to any of those celestial bodies until Day 4. And that tells us that Light was *not* originally created by the sun. Light was *originally* created by God, and then *attached* to the sun three days later. And I am confident that as we continue to study all of this, *somebody* is going to find out the significance of why God spoke Light into existence three days before He attached it to the stars.

But I think it is very important for us to understand what seemingly is impossible and goes against everything we know to be true: Light was *already* shining three days *before* God made the stars. That isn't a "typo" in your Bible. It is Divine Truth. And it is important because God told Moses to write it down. And about 3,450 years later, we are studying it. So, the Light was shining *before* it was attached to the stars. And that allowed for the plants and trees to live, which paved the way for Man and animals.

Now what is fascinating is that the great Reformer, John Calvin, wrote this in his commentary on **Genesis**:

"... the only difference is this- that the light was before dispersed, but now proceeds from lucid bodies, which in serving this purpose, obeyed the Command of God."

Now, look again at verses 14-15:

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate 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 expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

Now here we see at least four things. The various stars and planets, that God created on Day 4, have at least four different purposes or reasons or duties:

1. To separate Day from Night
2. To act as Signs
3. To facilitate Time (Seasons, Days, and Years)
4. To give Light on the earth

So, the first thing the different “lights”, that God made on Day 4, did was to *separate* or *divide* between Day and Night. So, the stars in the heavens obey God by *separating* between the Day and the Night.

The next thing they do is to act or serve as “signs” by which something else can be known or carried out. Stars are used all the time to determine travel distance and direction, and even speed. And they are also used to determine God’s Judgment such as when the Apostle John wrote this in **The Revelation 6:12-13**:

12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth *made* of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;

13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.

Now, I’m not going to get too deep into this this morning, but “Time” is a very interesting thing. And it is very hard for us to wrap our heads around the concept that before Day 4 there was no Time. Time didn’t exist. God existed, but He is timeless. And God is not worried about time. Time only means something to us. And whether we want to or not, since the Fall, we are all *driven* by time. Time means *everything* to us.

We get up at a certain time and we go to work at a certain time and we go home at a certain time, and everything about us is *driven* by time. Everything important to us begins and ends at a certain time, except God. And yet, Time was created by God when He created the stars on Day 4. But, after Jesus comes back, Time will be abolished. **The Revelation 10:6** says:

and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE EARTH AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE SEA AND THE THINGS IN IT, that there will be delay no longer,

Now the word “**delay**” here comes from the Greek word *chronos*, which has to do with “time” as we know it. So, John was saying that time as we know it will no longer be a factor when Jesus comes back.

But, in the meantime, the stars serve as signs pointing to seasons and days and years. In other words, all of these stellar bodies divide time into seasons, and into days and years. So, this is how seasonal times, as well as calendar times, came into existence. And that will last as long as this natural life exists.

And that’s true about both the sun and the moon. Because the earth is tilted on its axis, it causes the sun to be at varying distances from its surface at different points on the globe at different times of the year, which produces the seasons which are critical for the rejuvenation of life and the growing of crops and the flourishing of the earth and the blessing of Mankind.

So, God designed the sun and the moon to function in determining seasons. And, in particular, God created the sun to serve in the matter of years, but the moon serves in days. Because a 24-hour day is simply determined by the fact that that’s the cycle from sunset to sunset, or sunrise to sunrise, morning and evening. One period of “time” where the sun is shining and one period of time where the night is lit by the moon and stars. And this functions as the dividing between Days and Years and Seasons.

But where did a “Week” come from? There is nothing in the celestial bodies that determines a week, even though across the face of the earth, we all live by weeks. So, where do you think people got the concept of a week. Right here in **Genesis 1**. That was the seven days in which God created the Universe and then “rested”. So, days and years are respectively the shortest and longest measures of time definitely fixed by the movement of the sun and also involving the moon and its monthly movements, and, of course, within the framework within these days and years, the moon and the sun also affect the seasons.

Now this is very clear and straight forward, and actually very simple. And yet, because of the Fall, sinful people have to pervert everything. And so, instead of taking the stars as God created them, in their clear and straightforward way, demon-possessed men developed an entire religion of the stars. And they have created very intricate myths and doctrines and teachings about how the stars affect people.

And there are many people today who believe in the “supposed” supernatural power of the stars, that even newspapers have a section on the “Zodiac”. But this is sinful paganism, pure and simple, dear friends. God has already told you what stars are for, and they *don't* have power over your lives, and they are *not* to be worshipped, and they are *not* to determine when the President can travel, or when you can have a baby, or who you can marry.

The three wise men, who traveled to Jerusalem to search for the King of the Jews were *not* worshippers of the stars. They were *not* following the Zodiac. If anything, these men were *astronomers*, who *studied* the stars looking for the sign that probably Daniel had given them about the birth of the Messiah. But they weren't *astrologers* who *worshipped* the stars. They had made the trip to worship Jesus. But, the stars were also created to give light on the earth. And this is “natural sunlight”, *not* “spiritual illumination” as the pagan religions teach. Now look again at verses 16-18:

16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made* the stars also.

17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

Now notice that Moses wrote that God created two “great lights”. And while both of them are “great”, one is *greater* than the other one. So, obviously, Moses was calling both the sun and the moon “great” in comparison to how the other stars look to our naked eye. Now we know that even though stars look very small to our eye, they are, in fact, huge. And our eye sees what we think is a single star, but in actuality, that one star may be an entire galaxy that contains billions of stars, each one far larger than our own sun.

But while all that is interesting, and while it absolutely deserves to be studied and explored, it is completely *irrelevant* to what Moses is saying here. The sun is larger than the moon, and both the sun and the moon are larger than the way the other stars appear to us. And that doesn't contradict what we know to be true about the Universe.

And Moses wrote that the sun, the *greater light*, would “govern” or *rule over* or *dominate* the Day, while the moon, or the *lesser light*,

would *govern* or *rule over* or *dominate* the night. Again, very simple and clear. And yet, it wasn't long before somebody began to teach that the "ruling" or the "governing" here was a "ruling" over Man. And yet another pagan religion was birthed over the issue of how the sun and moon supposedly *dominate* over Mankind and their affairs. But God the Holy Spirit moved Moses to say that the sun governed the Day while the moon governed the Night. Not Man, Day and Night. Not the affairs of Man, simply Day and Night.

And even some of the ancient Jews joined in with the Babylonian Mystery Religions to develop an entire formal, codified, religion that could be taught and learned and passed down to future generations that had the stars actually becoming human and visiting earth. And **Ezekiel 8** gets into this a little bit.

Now very few people will ever tell you this, but I will. The development of a genre of writing called "Science Fiction" came out from a heresy called Socinianism. And Faustus Socinius developed this heresy to do battle against Divine Truth. And if you notice, Science Fiction is always based on the notion that green three legged bugged eyes creatures from the planet Zynar are going to come here to earth to rescue us. You see, Socinians don't believe in the Fall, and so, Science Fiction holds out the premise that beings from other galaxies are far more *evolved* than we are. And through the omnipotence of Science and Technology, these civilizations from outer space have *eradicated* things like hate and jealousy and poverty and war and injustice and violence, and even crime.

So, writers like HG Wells and Isaac Asimov, who was a homosexual, and Gene Rodenberry, the creator of the very popular Star Trek series, *reject* the Bible, and therefore, they *reject* Creation and the Fall and our need for Grace and Forgiveness, and are *especially* hostile to any kind of Salvation through Jesus Christ. Socinians believe in the "god" of Science and the virtue of the human spirit, and so, they champion the ability of human beings to "chart their own course" in life.

But, the flip side to Science Fiction is just as bad. And this is the Socinian combination of ancient paganism with advance scientific developments, which has become enormously popular in our day through fantasies of things like "*Game of Thrones*" and "*The Matrix*" and all the superhero cartoons coming to life in movies through computer aided graphics.

But when you listen to how these so-called scientists discuss the Universe, they sound more and more like the pagans and the Socinians who are eager to believe almost *anything* except what the Bible says. Seriously, the silliest and the most off the wall myths they can come up with are being discussed in some of the most important institutions on this planet today. And while they seldom agree on *anything*, one thing they all are almost *universally* in one mind and one accord over is that the **Genesis** Record cannot possibly be true.

And it is almost embarrassing to watch these supposedly intelligent people go through “astrological gymnastics” trying to justify their position. Because if the so-called “Big Bang” actually happened, then every single piece of matter in the entire Universe originally came off of the very same object. And that means that all of the stars and all of the planets and everything else would all have “common material” in them. Yet the more they look, the less they find. It is actually sad. Because no matter how much their theories all fail, they never admit that the only reasonable Account of Creation is the **Genesis** Record.

For example, 98% of the sun is hydrogen or helium. So, if our solar system was created somehow by matter that tore off from the sun, then Earth, Mars, Venus, and Mercury, would also have a similar composition. Yet less than 1% of these planets is hydrogen and helium. There are simply no natural *processes* that could form stars, which burn fuel hundreds of thousands of times more rapidly than our sun burns it. So, there are no explanations for how galaxies could come into being with their billions times billions of stars, except one, God made them on Day 4.

When you look at the Universe from a truly scientific standpoint, what you find is not something that’s evolved over billions of years, but something that is very young. For many years, we all thought that the sun and the other stars derived their energy from “nuclear fusion”. But if that is true, then the fusion in the sun would produce subatomic particles called “neutrinos”. And back in the 1960s, Raymond Davis conducted an experiment designed to detect them. But so few neutrinos were found that Davis said:

“... we do not regard this result as a measurement of the solar neutrino flux, because of uncertainties in various background effects.”

Alabama English? If nuclear fusion was *creating* the sun and the stars, they would produce neutrinos, So, they looked. But they didn't find any.

It has recently been discovered that the sun is *oscillating*. And by studying the nature of these oscillations, scientists gain knowledge of the sun's *interior*, just as the study of seismic waves tells us about the earth's interior. And those studies show that the sun's central temperature is too low to produce nuclear fusion. Calculations have also shown that if the sun was formed by the contraction of a gas cloud, as stellar evolution postulates, its central temperature would never reach the point where nuclear burning could even begin.

And you would think that would end the discussion. Every single one of their evolutionary theories goes down the tubes when confronted with irrefutable scientific data. Like where does the sun get its energy? They have no idea. But in a rare moment of honesty, one scientist said:

“... the sun is contracting or shrinking which tells us that our sun is a very young age- at most, thousands of years ago.”

Not only does the sun demonstrate a young universe, but the moon does, too. The speed at which the moon is receding from the earth tells us that it has only been around a few thousand years. Because if the earth and moon were 4.5 billion years old, the moon would be out of sight a long time ago.

So, the only logical and reasonable explanation for the solar system is found in verses 16-19:

16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made* the stars also.

17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

19 There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

Amen. Let's pray.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.