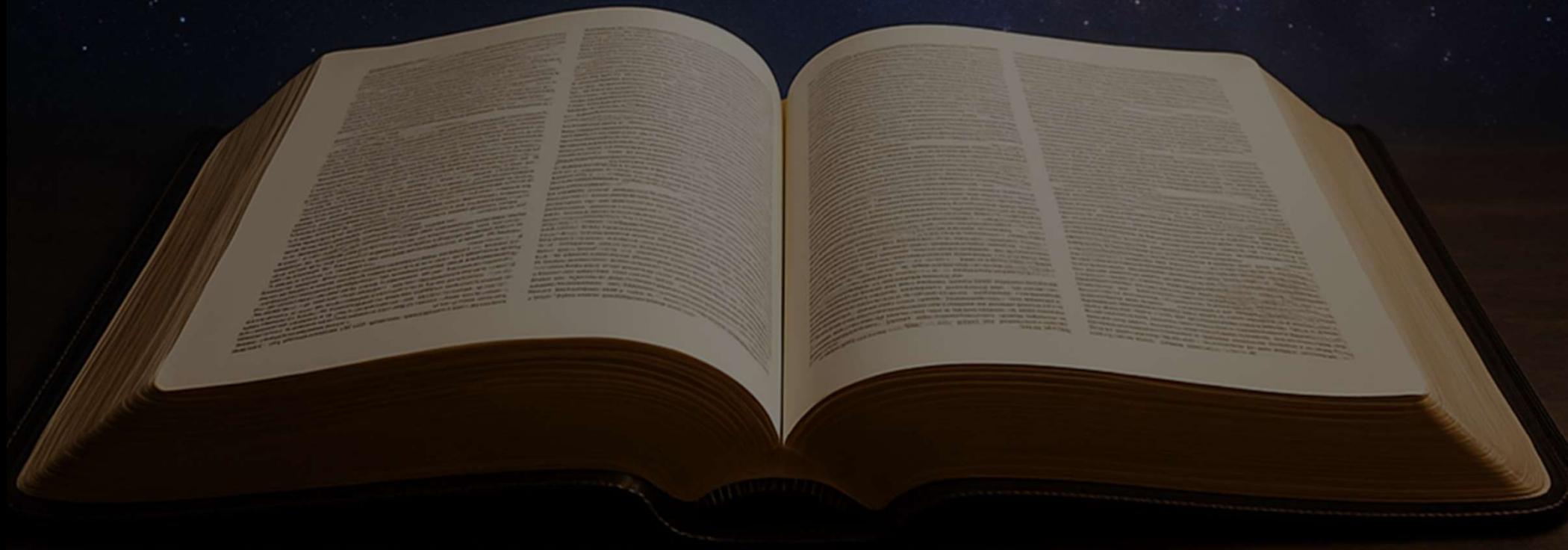


Genesis Chapter 1



Day 1- Light (1-5)

- **אֱלֹהִים Elohim in Genesis 1:1**
- **Usage in Genesis 1:1**
 - Singular verb (*bara* – “He created”) shows it refers to the one true God.
- **Broader Hebrew Usage**
 - Psalm 82:1 — “God (Elohim) stands in the congregation of the mighty; He judges among the gods (elohim).”
 - 1 Samuel 28:13 — The medium at Endor sees “gods (elohim)” rising — meaning spirits.
- **Key Point**
 - Elohim is a category term = “mighty one” or “spiritual being.”
 - Context + verb form reveal whether it means Yahweh, angels, false gods, or spirits.

Evil Did Not Exist in Creation

- **God Created a “Very Good” World**

- Genesis 1:31 — “Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.”
- James 1:17 — Every good gift comes from the Father of lights.

- **Darkness Was Functional, Not Moral**

- Genesis 1:4 — God separated the light from the darkness.
- Psalm 104:20 — Darkness marks the time for night creatures; not evil but part of rhythm.

- **Evil Is a Corruption, Not a Co-Eternal Force**

- Genesis 3:1–6 — Sin enters later through deception.
- Romans 5:12 — “Through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin.”
- John 8:44 — Satan is the father of lies, not a rival creator.

- **God Is Sovereign from the Start**

- Genesis 1:5 — God names day and night, defining reality.
- Isaiah 45:7 — “I form the light and create darkness... I make peace and create calamity.” God is in control, not chaos.

Remember this.

- 1 John 1:5 — “God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.”
- John 1:4–5 — Light shines in the darkness, and darkness cannot overcome it.
- Romans 12:21 — Overcome evil with good.

Key Clarifications on Day 1 Light and Christ

- **Jesus is Eternal**

- John 1:1–3 — “In the beginning was the Word... all things were made through Him.”
- Colossians 1:16–17 — All things were created by Him, and He existed before all things.
- Jesus (the Word) is the Creator, not a creation.

- **The Light of Day 1 ≠ Creation of Christ**

- Day 1 light is physical/spiritual illumination, not a person coming into existence.
- Jesus later says, “I am the Light of the world” (John 8:12), tying Himself to the symbolism of Genesis 1

- **Light is a Revelation of God, Not His Origin**

- God did not “become light”; He revealed light.
- The act of creating light shows His power and glory, not His own beginning.

- Day 1 shows that light and life originate in God Himself, and Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment — the uncreated, eternal Light who brings life to men (John 1:4–5).
- This combats false teaching that Jesus was a created being (Arianism, Jehovah’s Witness doctrine).

Emphasize bara

- Create out of nothing.
- Opposition: “Big Bang explains origins.” Response: Genesis says God spoke everything into being.
- God spoke, and light existed before the sun.
- Missler: “God Himself is light.”
- Morris: “Light independent of the sun proves creation is supernatural.”
- Rev 22:5—eternal light, no night.
- John 1:1–5—Christ as the true Light.

Day 2 – Sky/Expanse (1:6–8)

- **Hebrew Word**
- **רָקִיעַ** (*raqia*) — means “spread out thin,” “hammered sheet,” or “expanse.”
- Verb root = *raqa* (“to spread, beat out”) — like metal being hammered flat (Isaiah 40:19).
- *Genesis 1:6–8* — God makes the firmament to separate waters above from waters below.
- He calls it Heaven (*shamayim*).
- It forms the sky/atmosphere where birds fly (Gen. 1:20).
- **Function in Creation**
- Establishes vertical order:
 - **Waters below** → seas, rivers.
 - **Waters above** → clouds, rain reservoirs.
- Creates space for life to exist.



God is in control.

Shows God's power to bring **order out of chaos** (separation theme).

Displays His control over rain/flood — later echoed in Noah's flood when "windows of heaven" open (Gen. 7:11).

Day 3 – Land + Plants (1:9–13)

- Land appears, plants grow after their kind.
- Fossil record shows sudden appearance, not gradual evolution.
- Shows God’s design is **self-propagating** — plants reproduce “according to their kind.”
- Affirms creation is not static; it was made to be fruitful and multiply.
- Seed:
- God created matter with the **capacity to obey His word**.
- The soil held the potential — when God spoke, it responded and brought forth life.
- God’s Word still causes life to spring up from the “soil” of human hearts (Mark 4:14–20).
- Potential is there, but the Word activates growth.

Romans

- “Then God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth grass...’”
- The earth already contained the capacity for life — God’s word activated it.
- Creation is **responsive**, not passive.
- **Romans 8:19–22 – Creation Still Waiting**
- v.19 — “For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.”
- v.21 — Creation will be “delivered from the bondage of corruption.”
- Paul sees creation as still pregnant with potential, waiting for full redemption.

God's Design From the Beginning.

- **Past:** God spoke → earth produced life.
 - **Present:** Creation groans under curse, yet still produces.
 - **Future:** Creation will again be made free to flourish perfectly.
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- God's word still "activates" potential in us.
 - Believers are to cultivate the "soil" of their lives (Mark 4:14–20).
 - The gospel restores what was broken and points toward the New Creation (Revelation 21:5).

John 1:1–3 – The Word as Creator

- “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him...”
- Identifies **Jesus (the Word)** as the active agent of creation.
- Genesis 1 “And God said...” = God’s Word speaking reality into being → this is Christ at work.
- Tie this into “Let the earth bring forth...”
- God’s Word (Jesus) **unlocks potential** already embedded in creation (us).
- When Creation (us) obeys instantly — life bursts forth.

But that is not all.

- **Power of the Word = Power of Life**
- *Hebrews 11:3* — “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God.”
- *Colossians 1:17* — “In Him all things hold together.”
- The Word not only initiates life but also sustains it.

- *1 Peter 1:23* — “Born again... through the word of God which lives and abides forever.”
- *James 1:21* — **Word planted** in you can save your soul.
- Just as creation responded to the Word physically, hearts respond to the Word spiritually.



Therefore

Preach, teach, and speak the Word — it still **calls forth life** in dead places.

Trust that God's Word is never powerless (Isaiah 55:11).

Day 4 – Sun, Moon, Stars (1:14–19)

- Sun, moon, stars set for signs, seasons, days, years.
- Missler: Word for “signs” is also used for God’s appointed feasts. Built-in prophetic calendar.
- End-time tie: Luke 21:25—signs in sun, moon, stars before Christ’s return. Rev 6:12—sun darkened, moon to blood.
- Lights serve God’s purposes. They are not to be worshiped.

The Stars Tell the Story of Christ

- **Stars as Signs**

- Genesis 1:14 — lights for “signs” (*oth* = appointed signs).
- Psalm 19:1–4 — “The heavens declare the glory of God.”

- **Gospel in the Stars** (ancient constellations reflect God’s redemption plan):

- Virgo (Virgin) → Christ born of a virgin.
- Libra (Scales) → mankind weighed in sin, Christ the ransom.
- Scorpio (Scorpion) → conflict, Christ wounded but victorious.
- Leo (Lion) → Christ the Lion of Judah, victorious King.

- **Christ as the Fulfillment**

- Revelation 22:16 — “I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”
- Matthew 2:2 — wise men followed His star

Day 5 – Fish + Birds (1:20–23)

- God fills waters and skies. First blessing: “Be fruitful and multiply.”
- Fruitfulness and blessing come from God, not chance.
- Opposition: “Birds evolved from dinosaurs.”
- Response: Fossils show sudden appearance; Archaeopteryx (ancient wing) is a fully formed bird.
- “ahr-kee” (means ancient)
- “OP-tuh-riks” (Greek for wing)
- **Fully Formed Bird Traits**
- Feathers with asymmetry (for powered flight).
- Wishbone (furcula) like modern birds.
- Wings and flight feathers arranged like birds today.

This Is NOT Evolution!

- **Reptile-Like Traits**

- Teeth (modern birds have beaks).
- Long bony tail (modern birds have pygostyle).
- Three clawed fingers on wings.

- **Why It's Called Transitional**

- “Transitional” does not mean halfway or unfinished.
- It means it links two groups (theropod dinosaurs and modern birds) in traits.
- It's a snapshot of an early bird with primitive skeletal features.

- **Cambrian Explosion** – ~540 million years ago, almost all major animal body plans appear suddenly (trilobites, sponges, mollusks, chordates) with few precursors.
- **Birds** – Archaeopteryx and other early birds appear suddenly in Jurassic layers with fully formed feathers.
- **Flowering Plants (Angiosperms)** – Appear rapidly in Cretaceous; Darwin called this “an abominable mystery.”
- **Mammals** – Show up fully formed alongside dinosaurs, not just after.

- There are some fossils from fish-to-amphibian fossils BUT
- These are not direct ancestors — just a group of unique species with mixed traits.
- There are still **big gaps** — no step-by-step fossils of fins turning into fully jointed legs.
- All fossils are fully formed, not half-developed or in transition.

Day 6 – Animals + Mankind (1:24–31)

- Land animals, then mankind.
- Man created in tselem Elohim—the image of God.
- Hebrew: *נַעֲשֶׂה אָדָם בְּצַלְמֵנוּ* — “Let us make man in our image.”
- **Plural form** — “Let *us*... in *our* image.”

- Trinitarian View
- Divine Council View
- Royal/Plural of Majesty View
- Tripartite View

Trinitarian View

- God the Father, Son, and Spirit all present in creation (John 1:1–3; Col. 1:16; Gen. 1:2).
- “Us” = conversation within the Godhead.
- Early church saw this as a hint of the Trinity.

Divine Council View

- “Us” refers to God addressing His heavenly host (angels, elohim).
- Only God creates (singular verb *bara* in v.27), so man is made in God’s image, not angels’.
- Shows God includes His council in the decision, but acts alone.

Royal/Plural of Majesty View

- “Us” as a kingly self-reference (“we decree”), but this is rare in Hebrew and not the best fit.

Tripartite View

- Body, Soul, Spirit – humanity mirrors God in being a triune being.
- Key verse: *1 Thessalonians 5:23* — “your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless.”
- Image = reflects God’s nature as relational, spiritual, moral.
- Fits idea that man is more than physical — created to relate to God (John 4:24).
- Shows inner capacity for communion (spirit), personality (soul), and physical representation (body).
- Limitations
- Genesis text never explicitly defines image as tripartite structure.
- Some scholars prefer function (representing God’s rule) over composition.
- Even if humans were only two-part (body + spirit/soul), they’d still bear God’s image.

What “Image” Means

- Hebrew: *tselem* = likeness, representation, statue.
- Humanity is God’s visible representative on earth — meant to rule (Gen. 1:28).
- Includes:
 - Rationality & morality (Eph. 4:24).
 - Relational capacity (John 17:21 – unity reflects God’s unity).
 - Authority — to steward creation under God’s rule (Psalm 8:5–8).
 - Also Christ-like AKA the Body of Christ
- “Us” does not mean multiple gods.
- It reveals either (1) God’s triune nature or (2) His rule with His heavenly council, but the image is uniquely God’s — no other being shares it in the same way.

Balanced View

- The image of God includes what we are (body/soul/spirit) *and* what we do (rule, steward).
- Being three-part may reflect God's relational nature but is not the only meaning.

So what are we to do?

- “Subdue it; have dominion over” – Genesis 1:28
- Subdue – *kavash* (: (כַּבַּשׁ) to bring under control, to subject, to harness.
- Have dominion – *radah* (: (רָדָה) to rule, govern, exercise authority.
- Both are strong action words — God gives humanity authority to manage creation actively, not passively.
- Subdue it – bring the earth’s potential under order. Cultivate, tame, make it productive.
- Have dominion – act as God’s steward-king, ruling on His behalf over animals, land, and resources.
- This is not exploitation but responsible rulership — ruling as God would rule.

Spiritual?

- Genesis 1:28 likely includes spiritual as well as physical dominion, given the whole biblical storyline.
- *Genesis 1:28* — “Have dominion... over every living thing.” This clearly includes animals but may imply spiritual authority since man is God’s image-bearer.
- *Genesis 3* — The serpent (a spiritual being) was in Eden. Adam was supposed to guard and subdue — but failed.
- *Genesis 2:15* — Adam was put in the garden “to work it and keep/guard it” (*shamar* = protect).

Biblical Pattern

- Psalm 8:5–6 — God made man “a little lower than elohim” and set all things under his feet.
- Hebrews 2:7–8 — Applies this to Christ, who will put “all things in subjection under his feet” — including spiritual enemies.
- 1 Corinthians 6:3 — “Do you not know we will judge angels?” — restored dominion includes spiritual realm.
- Humanity was created as God’s imagers to co-rule with Him, including displacing rebellious elohim.
- The “dominion mandate” was cosmic — humans were to spread Eden and extend God’s reign over the whole earth (and over any spiritual beings resisting it).

Pattern

- Adam's failure opened the door to rebellion (Gen. 3).
- Christ, the "last Adam," reclaims this dominion (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:21).
- Believers now exercise authority over spiritual forces through Christ (Luke 10:19).

Everything Was “Very Good” (Gen. 1:31)

- Suggests no rebellion yet — neither human nor spiritual.
- God’s declaration covers all creation, including unseen realm.
- *Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31* – after each act of creation, “God saw that it was **good**.”
- Culminates in *v.31* — “very good” after humanity is created.
- **טוב (tov)** = good, pleasing, beneficial, complete, functioning as intended.
- Not just moral — includes beauty, order, usefulness.

It is Good!

- Good declares that creation is **fit for its purpose** — perfect harmony, no defect.
- Shows God's standard — He defines what is good, not man (Isa. 5:20).
- Each “good” builds to a fully ordered, fruitful world.
- *James 1:17* — “Every good gift... comes from above.”
- *Romans 8:28* — God still works all things for good for those who love Him.
- *Mark 10:18* — “No one is good but One, that is, God.”