

ALL THINGS WERE MADE THROUGH HIM

The Implications of Creation

Life!

Genesis 1:20-25

Today in our service we have a group of **VIPs**.

Yes, **Very Important Persons**.

These are the good folks who are our **ETC** volunteers.

ETC means **Extended Teaching Care**

- These dear saints of God, young and old, **Extend themselves** to minister **to** our **preschoolers** and their families by serving **one Sunday per month** during the 10:30 hour teaching and caring for our littlest people on campus so that their parents can participate in Worship or Lifechange Groups. Without the dedicated ministry of these people, we have young adults who couldn't or wouldn't be in church!
- You may say, but can they really **Teach** a little baby or one of those terrific twos or a never be quiet chatty Cathy or never be still running Randy? Yes, they teach appropriately for each age and each child
 - By rocking a crying baby while singing Jesus Loves the Little Children.
 - By pushing the Bye-Bye cart full of toddlers and telling them that when Jesus was a boy, His parents took Him to church!
 - Or by for a fleeting moment capturing chatty Cathy and running Randy's attention by blowing some soap bubbles and saying, "This reminds me that God spoke and made the earth and moon and sun and stars."
- And they **Care**. By caring, they show these preschoolers that Jesus cares for them and that church is a safe and happy place where we learn about God who made us and loves us.

To all of you who are a part of our ETC ministry, as your pastor, I say thank you.

I want to ask you to stand.

And our church wants to say thank you also for your faithfulness to this important work.

And in case you have forgotten, you are to be guests of our church at lunch in the Fellowship Hall today at 11:45.

Thus far in Genesis we have seen that

God, specifically **the Lord Jesus Christ, created space-time and matter-energy**, thus beginning the universe.

- **Consequently, God holds us accountable for seeking Him since the evidence of His creative power is everywhere available 24/7.**

God, again specifically **Christ, created light and used it to mark His creative work as done in six days.**

- **The consequence for each of us is that if we reject what Scripture says, we make ourselves vulnerable to rejecting God's Word on other issues of critical importance in our lives.**

Two weeks ago we saw an example of how **the Lord specifically formed both the heavens and the earth for the benefit and blessing of mankind.**

- **The implication of that fact is that God very much cares about each of us and wants us to live with Him for eternity as a part of His Forever Family.**

As we progress in our study to Genesis 1:20-25, I want to call your attention to two words in verses 20 and 21.

Genesis 1:20–21 NKJV 20 Then God said, “Let the waters abound with an abundance of **living** creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” 21 So God **created** great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

This is only the second time in Genesis 1 that we have seen the word create, meaning to call into existence out of nothing. We saw it in Genesis 1:1 when the Lord Jesus created space-time and matter-energy.

After that, everything else: the waters, visible light, the atmosphere, outer space and the heavenly bodies within it, even the third heaven the residence of God, the Lord formed or shaped out of the matter He had already created, called into existence.

That remains true of the dry ground and even the plants. Everything is shaped from the matter-energy the Lord created on day one. Until day 5!

On the fifth day, there is something God desires in His universe He is making for mankind that does not yet exist and cannot be formed out of the matter-energy He has already created.

LIFE!

So now the Hebrew word “bará” is used the second time, for God calls life into existence.

The Hebrew for life is “nephesh” and it is also properly translated as “soul.”

There is a second thing in this passage that is notable. I want to incorporate both of these important parts of the text into our fact for the day, and then we will look at the text to see both of these things emphasized in the passages.

Jesus created each of the living animals according to its kind.

Now see for yourself how pronounced this declaration is in the text of God’s Word.

Genesis 1:20–25 NKJV 20 Then God said, “Let the waters abound with an abundance of **living** creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” 21 So God **created** great sea creatures and every **living** thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, **according to their kind**, and every winged bird **according to its 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 birds multiply on the earth.” 23 So the evening and the morning were the fifth day. 24 Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth the **living** creature **according to its kind**: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each **according to its kind**”; and it was so. 25 And God made the beast of the earth **according to its kind**, cattle **according to its kind**, and everything that creeps on the earth **according to its kind**. And God saw that it was good.

We have already talked a little about creating the second time and about the word for life or living.

What does “according to its kind” mean?

- **The meaning of “kind” – Hebrew “min”**
- **Biblical “kind” is NOT ALWAYS THE SAME as the modern word “species.”**

Today’s modern word “species” is taken from biological taxonomy or the attempt to classify all living things into related groups.

Although this classification began with Aristotle, it did not take a scientific approach until the 1700's and later. Today the word species is sometimes used to describe a very narrowly defined group of animals or plants that have much in common.

- **Biblical “kinds” are usually broader than “species.”** It confuses our thinking and the thinking of others if we use the terms interchangeably.
- **Biblical “kinds” are connected with reproduction. Members of the same kind can mate and produce offspring.**
- **There can be, and usually is, great variation within the biblical kinds.**

For instance in the CAT KIND, there are many varieties of CATS. I am sorry if the variety of your CAT is not pictured here. There are many more than will fit on our screen.

Many of the varieties within the kind can mate. Variations within the kind can also be caused by mutation.

For instance, have you ever heard of a Tigon (male tiger and female lion) or a Liger (male lion and female tiger)?

But there is no reproduction between kinds. Nor does one kind change by mutation into another.

Ken Ham – You see, God created organisms to reproduce according to their kinds.

Cats produce cats, dogs produce dogs, and elephants produce elephants.

But God built tremendous genetic diversity into the DNA of every kind that He made. This allows them to spread out and fill the earth, adapting to different ecological niches. That's why we can have wolves that thrive in the cold arctic, coyotes that scavenge at the local city dump, and dingoes that hunt on the grasslands and deserts of Australia. They're all dogs, but different species because of adaptation and speciation.

Now, this is not evolution. It's the opposite of molecules-to-man evolution, which requires new genetic information for characteristics, previously not possible, that are added to the genome.

No change from one kind to another has ever been observed nor indisputably documented in the fossil record.

Now let us look at some evidence. Here I want us to look at the larger issue of life, rather than the secondary issue of kinds changing from one to another. What about the origin of life?

Evolution says that the origin of life is out of chemical processes among non-living molecules.

The Bible says that non-living molecules, created in abundance on Day 1, were not enough.

Life itself, nephesh, had to be created and given to animals and then to man and woman.

Is there any evidence? My friend, there is such powerful evidence that life had to be created by God and could not possibly have happened by chemical interactions no matter how much time is allowed, that ardent agnostics and atheists have been convinced.

Gary Parker - is a scientist who used to be an evolutionist. He explained why he changed sides.

- **“There’s not a single molecule in your body that’s alive.**
- **There’s not a single molecule in the living cell that’s alive.**
- **A living cell is a collection of nonliving molecules! What does it take to make a living cell alive?** The answer is something every scientist recognizes and uses in a laboratory, something every scientist can logically infer from his observations of DNA and protein. What does it take to make a living cell alive?
- **Creative design and organization!”**

Dr. Parker explains,

“Chemistry... is not our ancestor; it’s our problem.

- **When cells lose their biological order and their molecules start reacting in chemical ways, we die.**
- A dead body contains all the molecules necessary for life and approximately the right amount of each, but we never see a “road kill” get up and walk off because sunlight energy shining on the carcass made all the molecules of life start working together again.
- **What’s lost at death are balance and biological order that otherwise use food to put us together faster than chemistry tears us apart!”**

He offers a good example:

Did you ever wonder what makes an airplane fly?

- Take the wings off and study them; they don’t fly.

- Take the engines off, study them; they don't fly.
- Take the pilot out of the cockpit; the pilot doesn't fly.
- Don't dwell on this the next time you're on an airplane, but an airplane is a collection of non-flying parts! Not a single part of it flies!

What does it take to make an airplane fly? Creative design and organization.

For that very reason, no scientist believes that airplanes are the result of time, chance, and the properties of aluminum and other materials that make up the airplane.

Flying is a property of organization, not of substance.

A Boeing 747, for example, is a collection of 4.5 million non-flying parts, but thanks to design and creation (and a continuous supply of energy and of repair services!), it flies.

Similarly, "life" is a property of organization, not of substance.

A living cell is a collection of several billion non-living molecules, and death results when life ceases to supply the organization and creative design allowing inherent chemical processes to destroy its biological order.

Leviticus 17:11 NKJV For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'

Gary Parker is not the only scientist who has realized this. He saw it and became a Creationist and ultimately a Christian. But **many scientists** who were and still are unbelievers **have seen and acknowledged the same truth, that evolution over vast spans of time cannot produce life.**

Francis Crick, who shared a Nobel Prize for the discovery of DNA's structure, said, "... life could not and did not evolve on earth ..."

That opinion seems to be shared in part by famed astronomer **Sir Fred Hoyle**, who made the news under the heading: **"There must be a God."**

Hoyle and his colleague, **Chandra Wickramasinghe, an atheistic Buddhist**, independently reached that conclusion after their mathematical analyses showed that **"believing that life could result from time, chance, and the properties of matter was like believing that a tornado sweeping through a junkyard might assemble a Boeing 747 from the materials therein."**

EVIDENCE: Life is more than the sum of the parts that are made alive. Life is what causes the parts to work together for the good of the living animal or person.

IMPLICATION: The very fact that each of us is alive, means that we have the testimony that God gave us life inside our very bodies, not just seeing the testimony of His power and majesty around us in the rest of creation. **That increases our accountability to God.**

Romans 1:18–21 NKJV 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest *in* them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.