



Key Text: Genesis 1

Main Point: The creation story is a very real story.

Hey, everyone! We are so excited you have chosen to be with us this evening! If this is your first time with us, you picked a good time to come. We are starting a brand-new series called, “Why Should I Believe?” The whole idea behind this series is to answer some hard questions or doubts about why we believe what we believe about Jesus. Some of us here tonight may think Christianity is a little out there or stupid. But in this series, we are taking the time to answer those questions that make you ask, “Why should I believe in God?,” or “Why would anyone want to follow the Christian God?” It’s our hope through the next three weeks, that your answers about following Christ or the Christian faith will be answered.

Pray

Did God really create everything? Did He? You might be skeptical about the answer to that question. In case you didn’t know, we’re talking about how we can trust that the creation story is true. But when you really think about, did God create the heavens and the Earth, the galaxies, and everything in between? Most of us have probably had this question before. We are going to explore this today. It’s my hope that I can show you why you can trust in the creation story we read in the Bible, and more importantly, trust that God created the universe. We are going to read the whole first chapter of Genesis so that we can know the full story of creation. We want you to read and see the words for yourself, so if you have a Bible, turn to page one. If you Bible is on your phone, go to Genesis 1.

[If you’re able to, it would help to put these verses on the screen!]

[Read Genesis 1, this is NLT]

Genesis 1:1-31 (NLT)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day. 6 Then God said, "Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." 7 And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. 8 God called the space "sky." And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day. 9 Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. 10 God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. 12 The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. 13 And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day. 14 Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. 15 Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. 16 God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, 18 to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day. 20 Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." 21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." 23 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day. 24 Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. 25 God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same

kind. And God saw that it was good. 26 Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.” 27 So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.” 29 Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. 30 And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life.” And that is what happened. 31 Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

If we read on into chapter 2 of Genesis, we see that on the seventh day, God rested. So, for six days, God created everything. He created everything from the sky to the sun, to the moon, to the stars, to the trees, to the animals, and everything else we know! The one thing I really want to point out from this story right away is that God created humans in His own image. He made us to look like Him and have similar qualities to Himself. God created us uniquely to have ownership over all of creation here on Earth. The main thing that we need to know about all of this is that life began with God.

[The bold sentence is a suggested point to display when making a Power Point presentation.]

Life began when God created it.

We see this in the story of creation. Life started when God created the universe. Look at what John had to say.

John 1:1-5 (NLT)

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He existed in the beginning with God. 3 God created

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