

Creation

AIM: To teach my pupils the truth about Creation

POINT OF CONTACT: Just to see how much the pupils know, see how many pupils can write down or give verbally the things that God made appear on each of the six days that we call the "days of Creation."

INTRODUCTION: This subject could cover volumes, or it could be simple enough that the smallest child could understand. For the lesson this Sunday, we will do our best to avoid oversimplification as well as excessive depth. We will try to teach it so that children can understand it! (With this lesson, we begin a series of lessons based on exciting accounts from the Old Testament.)

I. THE SEVEN DAYS ARE ACTUAL DAYS.

You will notice in Genesis 1:5, 8, etc. The words, "And the evening and the morning were the first day." This means a regular solar day. There are some who say it was a creative day or a period of time marked off by the beginning and ending. The Bible says, "...the evening and the morning were the first day"; hence, these were seven actual days.

II. "...THE EVENING AND THE MORNING WERE THE FIRST DAY."

This means the evening came before the morning. In Bible days, the days started at about sundown in the evening; hence, the evening came first. That is why we have the words, "...the evening and the morning were the first day."

III. SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE SIX DAYS:

1. The first day. Read Genesis 1:3-5. Light became visible. You will notice the plan of salvation so beautifully pictured in verses 2 and 3. First, "without form, and void" pictures the condition of every unsaved person. Then, "the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" pictures the Holy Spirit moving upon Jesus Christ. Then comes light. What a beautiful picture of salvation—the Holy Spirit, Jesus, then light!
2. The second day. See Genesis 1:6-8. It is very interesting that salvation is pictured the first day; then water comes the second day. Water is always the second thing; in fact, it always follows deliverance in the Bible. When the Jews were delivered from bondage by the blood, then they crossed the Red Sea. In John 1, Jesus tells about His being the Lamb of God; in John 2, He performs the miracle in Cana—the turning of water into wine. Notice: blood first, water second. In the tabernacle, there was the brazen altar as you entered. The second piece of furniture was the laver for the washing. Notice: blood first, water second. This is carried out throughout the entire Bible. When 3,000 were saved on Pentecost, they then went to the water. When Lydia was saved, she was baptized immediately. The same is true with Philip, the eunuch, and others in the Word of God. God, in making the second day the day of water, was setting a pattern that He would fulfill throughout the entire Word.
3. The third day. Notice Genesis 1:9-13. It is very interesting that plant life appeared on the third day. Three in the Bible is God's number (the Trinity) and also the number of the resurrection. Jesus was raised after three days and three nights. In I Corinthians 15, He chose to liken the resurrection to the planting of a seed and its coming forth from the earth; hence, He tells us that on the third day plant life appeared, as a picture that after three days and three nights Jesus would rise from the dead.
4. The fourth day. Read Genesis 1:14-19. The sun, moon and stars became visible. The sun represents Jesus Christ. See Malachi 4:2. The moon, then, shines at night and represents all Christians shining collectively together during the darkness. Each is to let his own light shine in a world of darkness.
5. The fifth day. Notice Genesis 1:20-23. Animal life appeared.
6. The sixth day. Read Genesis 1:24-31. God's creation of man took place on this day. Six is man's number in the Bible; hence, man was made on the sixth day. Man was created; he did not evolve. This truth is expressly declared! Jesus

Himself confirmed this in Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6. It is ridiculous to say that man evolved from a lower creature. Someone has said that there is such a gulf between the lowest man and the highest beast, evolution could not be true. There is such a difference! From the lowest beast to the highest beast, there can be found all kinds of transitions. From the lowest man to the highest man, there can be found all kinds of transitions. The gap between the highest beast and the lowest man is so much greater than any other gap, it would be an impossibility for man to have evolved.

IV. MAN WAS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.

Notice Genesis 1:26a, "And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness." God is a Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Man was made a tri-unity also. Man is spirit, soul and body. The spirit is that part which fellowships with his creator and gives him God-consciousness. The soul is that part which gives man self-conscious life and distinguishes him from plants which have unconscious life. The body is that which we see and feel.

V. ONLY THREE ACTUAL CREATIVE ACTS OF GOD ARE RECORDED IN THIS CHAPTER.

The word "create" is mentioned in the truest sense only three times:

1. When God created the heaven and the earth. Read Genesis 1:1, "...God created the heaven and the earth."
2. When God created animal life. See Genesis 1:21, "And God created..."
3. When God created human life. Read Genesis 1:27, "So God created man..." Actually He created the heaven and the earth which included plant life and which included the sun, moon and the stars. This, no doubt, was created in the dateless past. Then when the seven days came, He simply made that which was created appear.

The word "create" as used in these three instances means "to make something from nothing." The other words mean "to make visible" or "to make something." For example, it is one thing to "create" a table, and it is another thing to take some wood and "make" a table. To create a table would mean that there is nothing there and then a table appears; to make a table means that there is some wood there and a table is made. God "created" the heaven and the earth. God "created" animal life. God "created" man. He created all the other things too, but He did so in verse 1. This means that in the dateless past God created the heaven and the earth. How many years, centuries or millenniums later He created man, we do not know; but we do know that when He created man, He created him from nothing!

VI. MANY REMINDERS OF JESUS CHRIST ARE FOUND IN THE EARLY VERSES OF THE BIBLE.

Let us read Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning...." Revelation 22:13 says Jesus is "the beginning." "In the beginning God...." Isaiah 9:6 says He is "The mighty God." "In the beginning God created...." John 1:3 says, "...without him was not any thing made that was made." In Genesis 1:2 we find the word "waters"—Jesus is the living water. See John 4:14. In verse 3, we find the word "light"—Jesus is the Light of the world. See John 8:12. Again and again we could find pictures of the Lord Jesus Christ in the creative acts.

VII. THE CREATION OF WOMAN.

Read Genesis 2:21, 22. Woman was taken from a rib of man and brought to the man. This is contrary to the teachings of our day, but it is certainly Biblical. She was made to make man complete and to be a help meet to him. She was not made to cause him problems but to help solve his problems.