

# “IT DOESN’T MATTER HOW GOD MADE THE WORLD”

## Prayer Requests

### Focus

The Darwinian theory of evolution popularized the idea that God did not create the world. Despite the hundreds of references to creation in the Bible, even Christians have questioned whether it’s necessary to believe that God created the world in six 24-hour days. However, if one were to take this line of thinking to its theological conclusion, the truth and accuracy of all of Scripture would be in doubt. So does it matter? This lesson will help us answer with a definitive “Yes!”

### Activity

- As we read the following passages, comment on how that passage helps explain why it matters if God made the world as the record in Genesis indicates.

*2 Timothy 3:16,17 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,<sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

*John 17:17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.*

*Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.*

*Colossians 1:16,17 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.<sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

*Luke 1:37 For nothing is impossible with God.*

*Romans 8:19-23 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*

*John 5:39 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me,*

- Consider what evolution leads a person to believe about the following:

**Humankind's status**

**The method of creation**

**Humankind's purpose and responsibility**

**Sin and original sin**

**Death**

**Jesus**

- Someone says, "You believe in creation, I believe in evolution. We can agree to disagree. I still believe in Jesus! What does it matter how God created the world?" How might you respond?

## Creation Matters

1) (Answers in Genesis video) According to the video, why does Creation matter?

2) As we read Genesis 1:1–2:3 out loud, underline phrases that argue against evolution.

**1** *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.*

<sup>3</sup> *And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.*

<sup>6</sup> *And God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the expanse “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.*

<sup>9</sup> *And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.*

<sup>11</sup> *Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.*

<sup>14</sup> *And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.*

<sup>20</sup> *And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.*

<sup>24</sup> *And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.*

<sup>26</sup> *Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

- <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
- <sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”
- <sup>29</sup> Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.
- <sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

**2** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

- <sup>2</sup> By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup> And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

3) How did God create the world and why do we believe it?

*2 Corinthians 4:6—“For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ.”*

*Hebrews 11:3—“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.”*

*Matthew 19:4-6 --- “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ <sup>5</sup> and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”*

**Apologetics** (What is apologetics? \_\_\_\_\_)

1) How can apologetics be used to show there is a Creator?

*Hebrews 3:4*—\_\_\_\_\_

2) Evaluate the value of these philosophical arguments for the existence of God as creator.

- ❖ Since we can conceive of a supreme being, he must exist.
  
- ❖ Since all nations believe in a supreme being, he must exist.
  
- ❖ Since the world exists, there must be a creator. Since everything has a cause, there must be a prime cause.
  
- ❖ Nature has a design, therefore there must be a designer.
  
- ❖ Since people have morals, there must be a supreme author of morality.

3) What is the goal in the use of these arguments?

4) What must be remembered about these arguments?

**Discussion**

- 1) What “biblically rational” reason might we come to as to why God might have chosen to created Adam and Eve on day six and not on day one?
  
- 2) Agree/Disagree: We should use science to refute the theory of evolution.
  
- 3) The resurrection of Jesus is the lynchpin of Christianity! We believe it because the Bible proclaims it. But how would you answer the skeptic who asked, “How do you know the gospel writers were telling the truth?”
  
- 4) How does the reality of the resurrection help in answering someone who says, “It doesn’t matter how God made the world”?
  
- 5) Theistic evolutionists claim that God created the world using evolution and that the days in the Genesis account are actually billions of years. Defend the 24-hour day of Genesis using God’s Word. How could the passage below help defend biblical truth?

*Exodus 20:8-11 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

