

Studies in Genesis

Before the Beginning - The Godhead inhabited eternity, from everlasting to everlasting.

eternity - 1x in HB Is 57:15

eternal - 27x in 12v Deu 33:27 1 Tim 1:17 Heb 9:14 1 Pet 5:10 1 John 5:7

other references - Ps 90:2 & 93:2 Pr 8:22 Isa 43:13 Micah 5:2

Eternity is the abode of God; it is unbounded in space and time. It is beyond our mortal comprehension. God requires that we take it by faith, Hebrews 11:1-3 & 6.

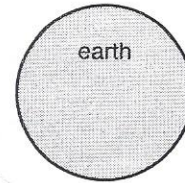
I. God's Creation

the Beginning - **Gen 1:1**

John 1:1-3

Rev 21:1

heaven



The 'universe' is a spherical creation, consisting of space, matter and time existing within God's eternity. It is God's laboratory to test His creatures; the layout is a spherical heaven blanketing a spherical earth. The universe is God's creation to provide for the needs of the creatures He will next create. God will initially create heavenly creatures (angels) and later follow with earthly creatures (animals and man). God sits above his universe and observes the fulness of its entirety; both dimensionally and chronologically.

The dimensions of the first heaven and earth can be inferred from those of the new heavens and earth in Rev 21:1-2, 16: therefore the first heaven was 1,500 miles above the earth; as it will be in the re-creation. cf {addenda, section I} on p 2

A. the Creation of angels Ps 104:4 (Heb 1:7)

1. their nature - 2Th 1:7 are *mighty* Mt 22:30 neither *marry* Lk 20:36 nor *die*
2. their number - Heb 12:22 *innumerable*
3. their purpose - Heb 1:6 *worship* and *serve* Acts 7:53 & Rev 15:1
4. their kind - *cherubims* Gen 3:24 Eze 1 & 10 (Heb 9:5)
seraphims Isa 6:2-3 & Rev 4:8
archangels Jude 9 and *angels*

B. the Dispensation of Angels on Earth

(i) *their first estate* Jude 6 John 1:51

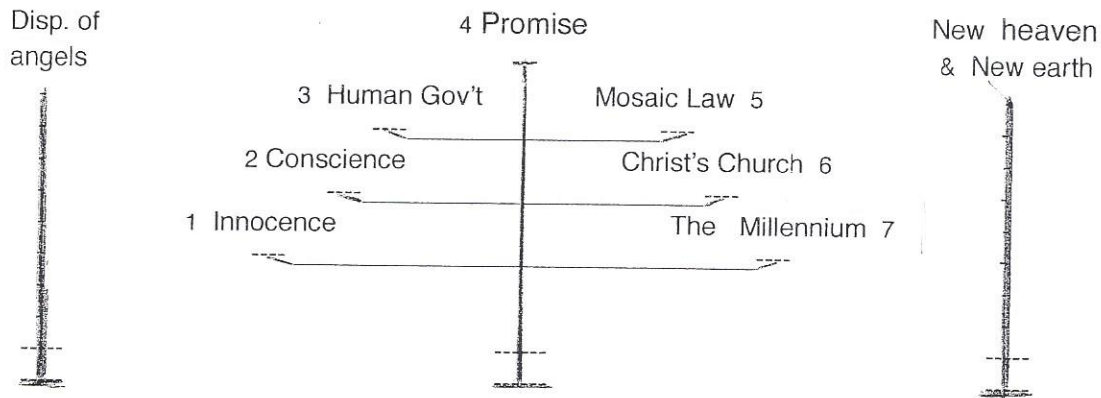
(ii) *Lucifer's pride* - rebellion and fall Eze 28:13; Isa 14:12 1 John 3:8

{ ? how long (2 Sam 2:11) ~ 1,500 y ? cf Job 24:1 (2 Pet 3:8) Acts 3:19-21 }

note: the symmetry 1,500 years long : 1,500 miles high

Zech 4:2-3

The Seven Dispensations
& the two olive trees



The two olive ('O' - 'live') tree dispensations contain 'spiritual' creatures who will live on for ever. The creatures of the seven dispensations had earthly bodies; they were born, they lived a mortal life, and then died (the few exceptions prove the rule).

{addenda, section I }

	<u>radius</u>	<u>diameter</u>	<u>circumference</u>	<u>volume (cu.miles)</u>	<u>vol. ratio</u>
new Earth	3,959	7,917.5	24,901	~ 260 billion	1
new Heaven	5,459	10,917.5	34,336	~ 6.814 trillion	24

- all above measurement in miles -

Rev 4:4
Rev 21:12 & 14

II. God's Judgment = Gen 1:2 (~ Jer 4:23)

(i) devil and his angels (Mt 25:41) were cast down, Luke 10:18

(ii) the earth was turned upside down, Isa 24:1

note: God's Gospel puts things back in order, Acts 17:6

(iii) God created **hell**, Deu 32:22 2 Pet 2:4

(iv) God created a. **darkness** and b. **evil** cf Isa 45:7 !!

a. **darkness** : def. the absence of light

note: * there is no such thing as eternal darkness *

types

1. physical darkness - Gen 1: 2, 4, 5

2. spiritual darkness

a. Eph 4:18 *understanding darkened ... ignorance* the mind

b. Rom 1:21 *knew not God...foolish* the heart

c. Col 1:13 Eph 6:12 *power of darkness* soul / will cf 2 Tim 2:26

- b. *evil* def. 1. having bad qualities of a natural kind: tending to produce injury or harm
 2. having bad qualities of a moral kind: wickedness, corrupt, perverse

Amos 3:1-6 *I will punish ...shall there be evil ... the Lord hath done it*

Lam 3:38-39 *evil...for the punishment of sins*

Prov 13:21 *Evil pursueth sinners*

Psalm 140:11 *evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him*

e.g. 1 Sam 16:14-16 note: Mt 6:13 *evil* = the correct word (pv's say 'evil one')

III. God's Renewal Ps 104:30

The rest of chapter one, from the paragraph marking in verse 3, describes God's renewal of His creation for a new group of creatures with *earthy, natural, terrestrial* bodies. 1 Cor 15:40-47 Jesus said: *The Father seeketh such to worship him ...in spirit and truth*, John 4:23-24 God has just watched one third of his heavenly host (Rev 12:3-4) turn from worship to rebellion. He had one of three choices before him : (1) destroy everything; (2) replace Satan's host with a new set of angels (which live forever - and if this new group rebels, we have a 'rerun' of the first show); or (3) make a lesser type of creature (Ps 8:5) which can die. The rest of the Bible is primarily about that lesser creature (i.e. man) and his relationship with the true God who desires *true worshippers*. Man has a *soul* that can *die*, Eze 18:4, Rev 20:14. But all through the scriptures God call to man to receive a gift : *eternal life*, Rom 6:23. Then, Jesus said, *they are equal unto the angels*, Lk 20:36, and can continue worshipping God forever.



Gen 21:1-
 +/k

drawn to scale