Everything Came from Nothing

Preached by: Matthew S. Black Text: Genesis 1:1-5 Date: May 30, 2010, 5pm

Series: Genesis (Foundations of Christian Living)

Introduction: Open your Bible tonight to Genesis 1. I want to just give a very brief introduction to a 60 or so message series on the book of Genesis. We want to usually take a chapter or two each time we meet, but tonight I'm going to give just a short introduction.

We find here the story of the creation and the formation of the world in a week, six twenty four hour days, with God resting on the seventh day.

Genesis 1:1-5, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day."

Now let's just stop right there. The evening and the morning were the first day. In 1859, Darwin wrote his famous book, "The origin of the Species", and in that book he proposed to tell us where we came from. He talked about the origin of the species. Now the Bible tells us our origin. It's right here, but I've I believe that the destiny of the species is far more important than the origin. We are going to learn where we came from, but more importantly, you need to know where you are headed.

Your destiny is right around the corner. We are all only a heartbeat away from eternity.

Outline

- The **Start** of Creation: Everything has a beginning.
- The **Source** of Creation: God has no beginning.
- The **Similitude** of Creation: The new birth.
- I. The <u>Start</u> of Creation: Everything has a beginning.
 - A. The universe began by the voice of God (vs. 1-3).

Genesis 1:1-3, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. 3 And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."

Did God use a process? The Scriptures indicate that the world was created in six

normal 24 hour days. First let us look at the Meaning of the word "day".

1. **The Word "Day" usage.** The word "day" is used in the Bible in many different ways over 1400 times. This one Hebrew word Yom, is translated many ways. And so as we look at these days, the evening and the morning were the first day, we want to ask ourselves, what did God mean? Did he mean literal twenty-four hour days as we mean them? Because some people have tried to make the Bible coincide with evolution and the secular interpretation of geology. How does God define a day? He defines it at least six times in the first chapter.

2. Scriptural definition of the Word "Day".

Six times we find this specific statement, "The evening and the morning were the..." first day, the second day, the third day, the fourth day, the fifth day, and the sixth day. In case you want a reference point to how long each day was, for the mass of humanity that is going to read this, you need to compare it to a normal evening and a normal morning. I know sometimes we say that a day seems like an eternity, but it's only an expression! God says—six days that each had an evening and a morning.

- Verse 5, "God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day."
- Verse 8, "And there was evening and there was morning, the second day"
- Verse 13, "And there was evening and there was morning, the third day."

The first three days, God furnished the locations of the earth (1-light and darkness, 2-sea and sky, 3-the vegetation of the earth), and on the second three days, he created the inhabitants of the earth (4-sun-moon-and stars, 5-fish and birds, 6-land animals and man). And on the seventh day God rested and enjoyed His creation.

The Days of Creation

Location	Inhabitants
1. Light and dark	4. Sun, moon, & starts
2. Sea and sky	5. Fish and birds
3. Fertile earth	6. Land animals and mankind
7. Rest and enjoyment	

We do not need to go to geology or even go to a Hebrew class to learn what God means.

We can interpret the Word of God by the Word of God. Evening and morning make one normal twenty four hour day. God said it, so we believe it.

B. We believe God created the universe by faith.

The faith chapter begins with this. **Hebrews 11:3**, "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible." In other words, we don't need an elongated evolutionary process to bring things about. By faith we can understand that all that we see was made *out of nothing*.

Everything in our world has a beginning. An oak tree was once an acorn. A chicken was once an egg. A butterfly was once a caterpillar. A caterpillar was once a tiny insect smaller than a dot on a piece of paper. But long ago there were no acorns. There were no eggs, there were no insects. There was nothing! Every thing in the universe has a beginning. You have a beginning. It wasn't long ago that you were a little baby. Not long before that your parents were babies, your grandparents were babies. But there was a time long ago when there were no fathers or mothers or grandparents or people. There was nothing. Absolutely nothing.

God created it all by a direct miraculous act of His will over six days.

Transition: Ok, so we believe that everything has a beginning. But who made God? Good question! Let's go back to Genesis 1.

- II. The **Source** of Creation. God is the source of all creation. He is the only unmade being in the universe. **Genesis 1:1,** "<u>In the beginning, God</u>". The Bible never sets out to prove the existence of God—it actually assumes it.
 - A. The Bible declares that God is the source of creation. **Genesis 1:1-2** agrees with **Psalm 33:6**, "By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host."

Now look at the parallel passage in **John 1:1-3**, "<u>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made."</u>

Speaking of Christ we read in **Colossians 1:17-17**, "by him [Christ] all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

God is uncreated. He has always been. Before you existed God was. Jesus said, "<u>Before Abraham was, I am</u>" (**John 8:58**). God is the Great I Am. He is the self-existing one. God is the only uncreated, self-existent Being, who is not dependant or contingent on any one. He never changes.

III. The **Similitude** (Parallel) of Creation.

- A. The <u>Parallel</u> of the earth's chaos with Man's heart. Sadly, man suppresses this great truth. We find that mankind, like creation are "<u>without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep</u>" (Genesis 2:2).
 - Romans 1:16-21, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.
 - 19 ¶ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse".

Chaos reigns in the heart of man until God begins to move and draw and convict through the Word of God—until God says "Let there be light".

Ephesians 4:17-18 says, "Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart."

And there is a parallelism between the first creation and new creation. What God did to that physical world and what he's done now in the spiritual world.

B. The **Power** of the Word of God.

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth and the earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep. I want you to see that chaotic condition without form, void, dead, sterile and dark is a picture of every person who is without the Lord Jesus Christ. For every man, woman, boy and girl without the Lord Jesus Christ is alienated from the life of God.

- **2 Corinthians 4:6**, "For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."
- **2 Corinthians 5:17** says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

How does this new creation occur? God speaks! God says, "Let there be light."

Consider two passages of Scripture.

- 1 Peter 1:23, "you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God".
- **James 1:18** says: "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth".

Conclusion: Thank God for the Word of God. **Hebrews 4:12**, "<u>For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."</u>

Testimony of Dr. Tim Williams. God's voice in Creation is the difference between Chaos and New Creation!