

## LESSON #6 HOPE GROWS AS I LEARN ABOUT MY ROOTS

Hebrews 11:3 says, “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.”

### I. FROM WHERE DID THIS WORLD COME?

**Read Genesis 1:1 - 2:3**

1. How long did it take God to create all things? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did God do most of the creating? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What did God create on each day?

Day One: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Two: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Three: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Four: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Five: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Six: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Genesis 1:26-27 identifies two special blessings which God gave man and woman. What? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What does it mean that Adam was created in God’s image? (For help, consider Eph. 4:24. “... *put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*”) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What was God’s declaration concerning all which He had created? (1:31) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CREATION AND EVOLUTION COMPARED

	<b>Creation</b>	<b>Evolution</b>
<b>Time</b>	Six Days	Billions of Years
<b>Method</b>	God’s Word and Decree	Chance or Accident
<b>Man’s Status</b>	A Special Creation	A Superior Animal
<b>Man’s Purpose</b>	Serve and Honor God	Survive? Serve Self?
<b>Man’s Responsibility</b>	Thank and Obey God	Survive? Serve Self?

A mathematician named Wickramasinghe tells us that the chance of any one event happening in the universe is 1 in  $10^{170}$ . If something is less probable than that, it becomes impossible. The chances of one replicating system (i.e., life) to form by chance in all of time is 1 in  $10^{270}$  -- in other words, a mathematical impossibility. (*What is Creation Science?* Henry Morris and Gary Parker.)

Sir Fred Hoyle comments on this in *Nature Magazine*: “The chance that higher life forms may have emerged in this way is comparable with the chance that a tornado sweeping through a junkyard might assemble a Boeing 747 from the materials therein.” (Vol. 294; Nov. 12, 1981; p105)

In the book *Evolution From Space*, Hoyle discusses the chances of a biopolymer -- the basis for life -- happening by chance. “Imagine a blind person solving a Rubik’s Cube by chance. The chance of one biopolymer forming by chance would be like 1 in  $10^{50}$  blind people all solving the Rubik’s Cube at exactly the same time.” (That many people would completely fill our solar system!) (*Hoyle and Wickramasinghe; 1981; p527*)

## II. A CLOSER LOOK AT MANKIND

### Read Genesis 2:4-9, 15-25

Isaiah 51:1 says, “*Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn;...*” We can learn much about who we are by learning about how we were created.

1. When God had created everything else, He simply spoke and it happened. In contrast, how does God create the first man? (Adam) \_\_\_\_\_
2. What does that immediately teach us about human beings? \_\_\_\_\_
3. After placing Adam into the Garden of Eden and giving Adam the responsibility for taking care of it, God then gives Adam a command. (This is Adam’s opportunity to show he loves God.) What was that command? (v17) \_\_\_\_\_
4. What declaration does God make concerning Adam? (v18) \_\_\_\_\_
5. How does God solve that difficulty? \_\_\_\_\_

### III. GOD CONTINUES TO CARE FOR HIS CREATION

Some Helpful Passages:

**Genesis 8:21-22:** "The LORD ... said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

1. God had destroyed the earth with a flood. After promising never to do that again, what assurances does God give concerning nature? \_\_\_\_\_
2. To how many people does this care extend? \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Thess. 3:10-12** For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat." We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat.

3. Generally, God provides for people \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebr. 1:14** Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

**Psalms 91:11** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

4. God also sends \_\_\_\_\_

**Rom. 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him

5. God uses all things to \_\_\_\_\_

**Ps. 100:1-5** Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. <sup>2</sup>Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. <sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. <sup>5</sup>For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

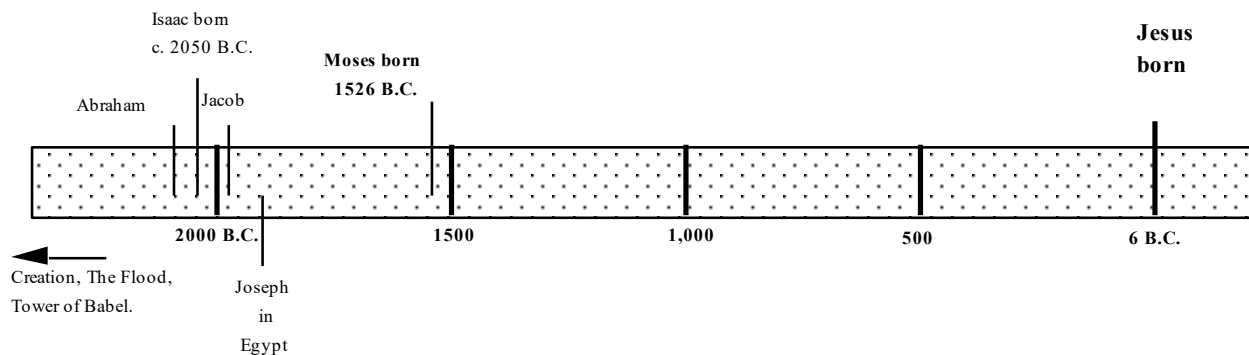
6. Knowing this will lead us to display what sorts of attitudes? \_\_\_\_\_

## Summary:

- God created all things in 6 normal days.
- Man and woman were the crown of God's creation, created uniquely and with great care.
- God continues to care for His creation and will continue to do so until the end of time.

### FOR STUDY AT HOME DURING THE WEEK

1. Complete the homework sections below.
2. To build up your knowledge of God's Word, memorize these passages:  
**Exodus 20:11** 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  
**Psalm 91:11** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways
3. Memorize the Old Testament books of the Bible, Genesis through Esther. (the historical books), Job through Song of Songs (the poetical books), and Isaiah through Malachi (the prophetic books).
4. Suggested daily reading: Genesis 37-43



Jacob's whole family moved to Egypt to survive the famine. There God preserved them, and more importantly, preserved the line of the Savior. Additionally, the Israelites grew into a great nation, just as God had promised. The book of Genesis ends with the record of Jacob's death and burial, then Joseph's death. Joseph's brothers promise not to bury him in Egypt, but that they'll bury him in the land of Israel whenever God would take them there.

Several hundred years go by, then God resumes the narrative. Two of the promises made to Abraham are fulfilled (Isaac was born and they've become a great nation). Now it's time to set in motion the fulfillment of the third promise; that the land of Israel would be given to them as their homeland.

**Read Exodus 1-2**

1. What did the new king -- who didn't know about Joseph -- decide to do to the Israelites? (v11) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The Israelites multiplied greatly. How did the Egyptians treat them? (v12-14) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What horrible decree did the Pharaoh then give? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In chapter two, we're introduced to two Levites (Levi was one of the 12 sons of Jacob). How long did they hide their child? \_\_\_\_\_
5. When they couldn't hide him anymore they put him into a basket in the river. Who found him? \_\_\_\_\_
6. The sister (Miriam) had watched from a distance. When she saw what had happened, she ran up and asked Pharaoh's daughter if she should go find a Hebrew woman to nurse the child. Whom does she get? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Later, Moses was adopted into whose family? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Eventually Moses had to leave Egypt. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What attitude did God have toward His people? (vv23-25) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Read Exodus 3:1 - 4:17**

10. How did God appear to Moses? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What messages did God convey to Moses? (vv 7-10) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Describe Moses' reactions to God's directive. (i.e. 3:11, 3:13, 4:1, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. In what ways does God deal with Moses' several objections? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Moses went back to Egypt, Aaron (his brother) meeting him on the way. They announced themselves to the Israelite elders, then went to Pharaoh and relayed God's message to him; he was to let the Israelites go. Pharaoh responded by sharply increasing the Israelites' work load. (You can read about it in chapter 5.)

Then God set in motion a series of 10 plagues upon the land of Egypt. God turned the Nile River to blood, He caused their land to be infested by flies, He caused darkness over all the land, etc. Before each plague Moses and Aaron would go to Pharaoh and tell him to let the people go. Pharaoh would refuse. When the plague struck, Pharaoh would call for Moses and Aaron and would say that he would let the people go. God would lift the plague, then Pharaoh would change his mind and refuse to allow the Israelites to leave.

Through all this, God was preparing His people to leave the land of Egypt and start on their journey to the promised land. Additionally, God was giving clear witness to the Egyptians that He was the only true God.

Because Pharaoh continued in stubborn rebellion against God, the plagues became progressively worse. Today we'll read about the 10th and final plague, the Passover.

**Read Exodus 11-12**

1. What did Moses tell Pharaoh that the final plague would be? (11:5) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. God never wanted the Israelites to forget this. Because of that, at this time every year afterwards, what was each family to do? (12:3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Describe what that lamb was to be like. (v5) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. On the 14th of the month, the people were to slaughter the lamb. What were they then to do with the blood? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What did God say would happen on that night? (v12) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. According to v13, what purpose would the blood on the door serve? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why was that feast called “The Passover?” (v13,23) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. When this happened, how did the Egyptians react? (vv31-36) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. 1 Corinthians 5:7 says, “*For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.*” In other words, the celebration of the Passover was a picture of Jesus, who was to come. What similarities can you find between the Passover celebration and the work of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Answer these questions:**

1. What truths can you learn about God from Genesis 1-2 (the creation account)? (Try to come up with at least three truths you can learn about God from that account.)
2. In your own words, what did it mean that humans were created “in the image of God?”
3. All human beings desire a good relationship with God, good relationships with other humans, and opportunities for meaningful service. How did God give Adam and Eve each of those three things?
4. What aspect of the creation account made the biggest impression on you?
5. Agree or Disagree. “Since God has promised to preserve me, there is no need for me to work.” Explain your answer.

**Write the passages, from memory if possible.**

Exodus 20:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 91:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Write the books of the Old Testament, from memory if possible.**

_____	_____	_____
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## Addendum #3

Jesus said that in the last days many false teachers would arise who would deceive many. Because that happened and continues to happen, the church periodically felt it necessary to make a simple, public declaration of the truths of the Bible. The Apostle's Creed is one such declaration of faith. Although the Apostle's Creed isn't found in the Bible, every one of the truths in it are found in the Bible. The Apostle's Creed (so named because it's an accurate reflection of what the Apostles of Jesus had taught) simply brings those truths together in an organized way.

Martin Luther was a pastor in Germany in the early and middle 1500's. Luther recognized the great difficulty which many people have in teaching the truths of the Bible to their children. In order to help them, Luther wrote the Catechism. (The Catechism, like the Apostle's Creed, presented the truths of the Bible in a simple, orderly way, making it easier for parents to teach their children the important truths of Scripture. The difference is that the Creed was meant to be used in worship services and was quite short. The Catechism was much longer, meant to be a teaching aid.) Below is the First Article of the Apostle's Creed and Luther's explanation.

### ***The Creed***

*As the head of the family should teach it in the simplest way to those in his household.*

#### THE FIRST ARTICLE (Creation)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God made me and every creature and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, cattle and all I own, and all that I need to keep my body and life, and by defending me against all danger and guarding and protecting me from all evil.

All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.