

GENESIS: GRACE FROM THE BEGINNING
**CREATION: THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE
GRANDEUR OF NATURE AND THE DIGNITY OF MAN**

Genesis 1:3-31

Are you a monkey's uncle? Of course not! But if you seriously swallow the theory of evolution or its "softer" variants, you may be admitting that in a certain way.

Do we really believe that God created the world in six literal days? To answer with another question: Which miracle that Jesus did required millions of years to happen after He spoke? The raising of Lazarus? The feeding of the 5,000? The calming of the storm? Let us not reduce God to bite-sized portions by questioning His ability to create miracles at once. This is the whole point of the story of Creation—the Glory of God in His creative power.

1. THE ACCOUNT OF CREATION:

The Six Days of Genesis 1

Day 1 Light

Day 2 Firmament

Day 3 Land and vegetation

Day 4 The light bearers: sun, moon, and stars

Day 5 The inhabitants of the sky and sea: birds and fish

Day 6 Land animals and human beings

2. THE ARGUMENTS AGAINST CREATION:

a) The Theory of Evolution

Three Puzzles Evolution Can't Solve (by Kevin Anderson, et. al)

- 1) *Life from Non-life*: "Life comes from life" is a fundamental law of biology, and yet the formation of the first living thing must violate this law. How this could happen still stumps scientists.
- 2) *Information for Life*: Life consists of more than all the physical parts working in unison—it requires the information to run the parts. Scientists still don't understand where this information could have come from.
- 3) *Irreducible Complexity*: Darwinian evolution requires that every complex component of life arose step-by-step. The discoveries of genetics and cell biology have highlighted this impossibility, which scientists still can't explain.

From its inception, the theory of evolution has been consistent with a worldview that favors one group of people over another. This "theory" is responsible for fostering much of the murderous racism seen from the 19th century until present.

b) Theistic Evolution (Definition and Flaws)

c) Progressive Creationism (Definition and Flaws)

3. THE APPLICATIONS FROM CREATION:

a) **Our Lord Jesus is King of the universe (Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1):**

- Think of the sovereignty of God displayed here and then claimed by Jesus: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me"! (Matthew 28:18). By Him all things were created, and "in Him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:17).
- Seeing the exalted nature of Jesus makes us more aware of His tremendous sacrifice in becoming a human being (2 Corinthians 5:21).

b) **God only had to speak and things came into being:**

It reminds us of the importance and authority behind God's Word (Psalm 119:89, Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:24-25).

c) **Be comforted by the truth that your God is the sovereign Creator who controls the world's destiny, and yours:**

Jesus taught that the Father is sovereign (Matthew 6:9-11) and that we need not worry. He encourages us, "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Matthew 6:26).

d) **There is no place or excuse for racial discrimination anywhere on earth:**

It is illogical to say that all human life is sacred, that all are created equal, and that all are endowed with certain inalienable rights, unless we affirm that there is a Creator who values EVERY life as masterpieces borne of His heart (Ephesians 2:10).

e) **How a Christian must see him/herself:**

You are the epitome of God's creative genius and infinite love. How can we see ourselves as anything less? Why do we often sell ourselves short, and settle?

Final Thoughts:

We have to close our eyes not to see God in the grandeur of His creation. We have to intentionally shut out the stimuli, all of which proclaim that God exists, that there was an intelligent Designer behind the order of the universe and the grandeur of Creation. But the highlight of His work is you, because you convey the *Imago Dei*.

As a Christian, one of the greatest things you'll realize is to see yourself the way God sees you. You were created by God, for God, and life will never make sense until you realize that and build your life around God.