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Is the earth 6,000 years or 4 billion years old—is the question, and it has been since the beginning of the world. And the much-different answers from the Creation Story vs the Evolution Theory shows just how far the world is from believing Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." We know that God spoke our world into existence in six calendar days of 24 hours each.

The Bible describes how <u>It all Began!</u>—and explains the first few thousand years of human history. The apostle wrote—John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." In Greek Genesis means origin—or the beginning of everything; how life began; the fall into sin; and God's plan of redemption.

God revealed to Moses the details of the remote past and revealed to the prophets the details of the distant future. Genesis is quoted more than sixty times in the New Testament, and Jesus quoted from Genesis often.

Satan knows that the best way to demolish a building, is to strike at its foundation; therefore, he strikes at the foundation of God's Truth in Genesis. If a person disbelieves the first pages of the Bible, they won't believe the last pages either.

The beginning of human history is described in Genesis—revolving around four events—the Creation; the Fall; the Flood; and the Tower.

The first ten words Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." The original Hebrew uses only seven words—the number of perfection. Scripture gives no actual date for the beginning, but we assume it was thousands of years ago when God created everything.

The Bible does not attempt to prove the existence of God, nor say anything about His origin, it just says God *spoke*; God *acted*; and God *created* the world—therefore God exists. Chapter 1 uses *God* or *Elohim* thirty-two times—more than any other chapter in the Bible. Elohim is plural but used with a singular verb—which speaks of the Holy Trinity.

In Hebrew, created means: Call something into being that never existed. Created describes a miracle—something from nothing—which only God can do. Humans make something from material already here. God just spoke the word—then nothing became something. The universe did not form by a long and slow process.

Believers affirm their faith in God who spoke all things into existence by the word of His Power! We believe that Psalm 33:6 "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of [stars] by the breath of his mouth."

Public school textbooks teach that evolution is true and treat it as a fact. Textbooks in public schools do not even *mention*, much less *teach*, creation of the world in six literal days, nor do they mention the destruction of life through a global Flood

But the creation account is true—Hebrews 11:3 "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear [are visible]." If we believe that statement to be true from the first page of the Bible, then we will also believe that all the other pages are the true Words from God.

In the beginning—Genesis 1:2 "The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon

the face of the waters." God could have created everything immediately, but He chose to create things in sequence—plants, animals, and man in six consecutive days—giving us a pattern for our workweek. Exodus 20:11 "For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Each creative day was a 24-hour day, and *not* a long period of time. If we say: *Back in the day*, it means long ago, but if we say: *Thursday is the fifth day of the week*, this refers to a solar twenty-four-hour day, because a *numeral* is associated with the word *day*.

Plants were created before animals, so if each creative day was an extended period of time—like thousands or millions of years as evolutionists believe—clover, for instance, would not have been able to reproduce itself without bees to pollinate it. This is just further evidence for the 24-hour creative day.

The first day Genesis 1:3 "God said, Let there be light: and there was light." On the second day Genesis 1:7 "God made the firmament [heavens and sky], and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so."

The third day tells of separating the land from water, and the introduction of plant life. Genesis 1:9 "God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so." 11 "And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so." Vegetation covered the earth; grass grew; and fruit trees.

Herbs were already bearing seeds and trees yielding fruit—everything was fully developed when created. Scientists try to assign dates to the origin of the universe, but they have to assume that the rates of change in the physical processes were always the same. It is not possible to determine

earth's age in that way, because the *rates of change* have not always been the same.

The global Flood Genesis 6:13 destroyed all earthly life—so physical processes were interrupted. Life did not begin at a zero point, but the first trees were full-grown and man a mature adult. In addition, each living object of God's creation reproduces "after its kind." There are hundreds of variations within species—a huge variety of apples and many breeds of dogs—but an apple is always an apple, and a dog is always a dog.

The fourth day Genesis 1:16 "God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day [the sun], and the lesser light to rule the night [the moon]: he made the stars also." God concentrated light in the sun and moon—assigning them the function of illuminating the earth and marking the division of time.

On the fifth day, all type of birds and sea creatures came into being. These animals and birds were brought into existence out of that which had not previously existed. The sixth day was the creation of a more complex form of life—human beings. Genesis 1:26 "God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Humans can *reason*; man can *think*; he can *solve* algebraic equations; he can *choose*; he can *decide* between right and wrong; has the capacity to *communicate* with God, and of *knowing* and *loving* God. Animals do *not* have these capacities—they cannot build an altar and sacrifice to God.

The seventh day was a day of rest. God did not *require* rest, but He *ceased* from His labor—leaving that *example* for us. That day of rest was sanctified in memory of the finished *creation*, and in the New Testament, the early Christians observed the first day of the week in memory of the finished *redemption*.

God created Adam and gave him something that is difficult to explain. One moment we are a living being, but the moment we pass away, there is no life or spirit in the body. We cannot really explain what is gone from the body—but the person we knew, seems far away. When God breathed life into Adam, He made man a creature of eternity. Genesis 2:7 "The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

Then Genesis 2:8 "The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed." In this place of indescribable beauty, man was to enjoy fellowship with his Creator. God knew that He had to give man a choice—a choice to love and obey Him, or to not love and not obey Him.

Genesis 2:9 "And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil." The Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil gave Adam and Eve a choice—this would be a test of their loyalty and obedience to the will and Word of their Creator.

Adam used his power of choice in the wrong way—Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." From that day to this day, everyone still has a choice—to love and obey God with all their heart, leading to everlasting life—or to ignore God and disobey His Word, leading to everlasting suffering.

Genesis 2:16 "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

God said—Genesis 2:18 "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." God intended that the marriage bond should never be broken—other than by death.

That is why Jesus said AV Mark 10:9 "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder"—because Genesis 2:24 "They shall be one flesh." Divorce, adultery, unfaithfulness, and other distortions of marriage, have no place in God's plan.

The Creation story is the *truth*; the evolution theory is the *lie*. The exponential increase of terrible crimes can trace back to the teaching of evolution. What a person believes about their origin, will determine what they believe about their life. If a person does *not* believe that God gave them life and promises an eternal Paradise, there would be no real *meaning* to their life.

Everyone must live every moment in light of the fact that someday, we will give an account of how we lived and on whom we put our trust. Hebrews 4:13 "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." Jesus will be the Judge of everyone who ever lived on earth.

14 "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess."

Knowing how it all *began* will inform us of how it will all end!



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*Be on our free mailing list—contact:
PO Box 24283
Philadelphia, PA 19120
info@fcgchurch.org
#3017 0821 22A