



# ***The Essential Nature Of The Beginning***

**A study of Genesis 1-11**



## *The Essential Nature Of The Beginning*

### SESSION 3 – Learning Guide

Introduction: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. That is a broad and simple statement of fact. The following verses give insight into God’s creative process and design.

**A. Day 1** - The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

1. *The earth was formless and void.* Some translate the idea in this verse as *the earth became formless and void*. This is an attempt to force reconciliation between Scripture and modern scientific thought. Their proposal is the earth was originally created **not formless and void**. Their view is the earth **became formless and void** because of Satan. But this is not supported by the structure and use of grammar in the Hebrew language.

a. Proponents of this view see a \_\_\_\_\_ of time between **Genesis 1:1** and **Genesis 1:2**. It’s called the \_\_\_\_\_ Theory.

b. Whether or not the Gap Theory is valid, it fails to do what its proponents want it to do. A fossil record would require many deaths for some remains to be fossilized. The Bible is very clear that death came by Adam’s sin (see **Romans 5:12**). Since there was no death until Adam sinned, the Gap Theory cannot accurately account for the fossil record.

2. *Darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.* God had not yet created light. The formless world was dark.

a. Spirit was *moving*. Moving is from the Hebrew verb *rachaph*. It means to \_\_\_\_\_.

3. God said, *Let there be light* – This was God’s initial step in bringing order to the *formless and void* world. The analogy between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ remarkable. If the sinner responds positively, he/she is a new creation, old things are passed away!

a. God *said* – God did not form or fashion light from other materials. God simply spoke: **Light, be!** And there was light.

4. *So the evening and the morning were the first day* – Another attempt to align the Biblical record with modern science is the word *day*. *Day* is from the Hebrew word \_\_\_\_\_. This theory, like the Gap Theory, attempts to acknowledge eons of time. This theory does it by allowing each ‘day’ to represent \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. They propose God created the world in six \_\_\_\_\_ rather than six literal days. But the idea conveyed in the text is to be understood as a 24-hour day.

a. God spoke to Moses as a man speaks with a \_\_\_\_\_ (**Exodus 33:11**).

b. If *yom* is not to be understood as a normal *day*, is God \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ what He means?

5. Understanding

a. God created the heavens and the earth with age \_\_\_\_\_.

b. Believing in a \_\_\_\_\_ Creation by a Living God underscores Man’s \_\_\_\_\_



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\_\_\_\_\_ before God. That is why men invent systems to \_\_\_\_\_.

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