



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

**A study of Genesis 1-11**



## SESSION 4

### Days 2-4

#### A. Day 2 - Man's Domain is \_\_\_\_\_

*God created the atmosphere – Then God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” And God made the expanse and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. And God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning; a second day.*

1. The *firmament* or \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ (various translations) is what God created. He separated the water of the seas from the water vapor in the atmosphere.
2. *Waters* \_\_\_\_\_ *the expanse* – The Bible accurately records the existence of water in the atmosphere. It existed, and still does, in the form of vapor. Scholars at the Institute for Creation Research and others believe the ‘*waters above the expanse*’ existed in far greater quantity than they do today.

#### B. Day 3

*Then God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them”; and it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning, a third day.*

1. Prior to this time, the earth was covered with water. Now the waters are *gathered together into one place*, and dry land appears.
2. *Let the earth bring forth* \_\_\_\_\_ : This happened before the creation of the Sun (the fourth day of creation, **Genesis 1:14-19**). This means the plants must have had sufficient nourishment because of the light God had created before the sun and the moon. Or they grew from the light of His presence (see below).
  - a. This is a big problem for those who propose these days of creation were not literal days, but successive "ages" of slow, evolutionary growth.
  - b. Many wonder how the sun, moon, and stars were created on the fourth day when light (including day and night) was created on the first day. Revelation tells us of a future day when the sun, moon, and stars will no longer be needed (**Revelation 21:23**). There's no reason why God couldn't have started creation in the same way He will end it.
  - c. *And it was so*: The elements of Creation obeyed God's command. Life was created by God, and did not slowly evolve over eons of time.
  - d. *Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding* \_\_\_\_\_ , *and fruit trees bearing fruit after their* \_\_\_\_\_ , *with seed in them, on the earth*. The plants were not created as seeds, but as full-grown plants each bearing seeds.



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- e. *According to its \_\_\_\_\_*: This phrase appears ten times in Genesis chapter 1. It means God allows variation within a *kind*. A Greyhound and a Poodle are variations of a *kind*, but they are the same *kind*: dogs. Something of one *kind* will never develop into something of another *kind*. That would violate God's law of Creation. One does not pick grapes from an apple tree or expect a pig to give birth to a litter of kittens.
- f. *And God saw that it was \_\_\_\_\_*: God knows what is *good*. This is the nature of God.
- g. *There was evening and there was morning, a third day.*

### C. Day 4

Then God said, *'Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,' and it was so And God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also.*

- 1. *For \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_*: Since the beginning, man has used God's provision of the sun, moon, and stars to mark and measure time and direction.
  - a. *God set them in the expanse of the heavens*: God's Creation is one of precision. God knew exactly how far to separate the sun from the earth. A slight variation would make life (as we know it) impossible.
  - b. *Let them be for signs and seasons*: Designating the lights in the heavens to be *for signs and seasons* includes several things.
  - c. The \_\_\_\_\_ light and \_\_\_\_\_ light – How did Moses know the sun was bigger than the moon? Observation with the human eye would lead to an opposite conclusion.
  - d. *He made the stars also*: Divine brevity!
  - e. God saw it was \_\_\_\_\_ – His Creation is consistent with His \_\_\_\_\_

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