

## The Creation

*John Isaac Edwards*

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Gen. 1:1). Genesis 1 & 2 give us a detailed account of the creation. Let’s discover what God’s word teaches concerning the origin of God’s world.

### 1) In the Beginning.

The Bible takes us where no other book can — *the beginning*. The Scriptures often refer to the beginning (Prov. 8:22-29; Eccl. 3:10-11; Is. 64:4; Mt. 19:4; 24:21; Mk. 10:6; 13:19; Jn. 1:1-2; Acts 15:18; Eph. 3:9; Heb. 1:10; 2 Pet. 3:4). The heaven and earth have not always existed, but had a definite beginning at a definite time.

2) **God.** *God* is the Creator (Eccl. 12:1; Is. 40:28; 43:15; Rom. 1:25; 1 Pet. 4:19). There are as many references to God in Genesis 1 as there are verses. The heaven and earth did not produce themselves, were not formed by chance or impersonal powers of nature, but are God-created or God-made.

The plural pronouns “us” and “our” (Gen. 1:26) indicate more than one person was present and active in the creation at the beginning. This includes God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Gen. 1:1-2; Jn. 1:1-3; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2). There is much to learn about God. We can know some things about God from the creation (Ps. 19:1; Rom. 1:20).

### 3) Created the Heaven and the Earth.

The creation of the heaven and the earth took place in six days (Ex. 20:11; 31:15, 17). These days were literal 24-hour periods and not long eons of time. Observe what was created on each day and the progressive order of the creation: light (Gen. 1:3-5), a firmament (Gen. 1:6-8), land and vegetation (Gen. 1:9-13), the sun, moon and stars (Gen. 1:14-19), sea creatures and birds (Gen. 1:20-23), land animals and man (Gen. 1:24-31). The words “God said” appear 10 times in Genesis 1, showing

that the heaven and the earth were created by the word of God. It is as the Psalmist said, “By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth...For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast” (Ps. 33:6, 9). Hebrews 11:3 records, “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.” On the seventh day, God ended His work and rested (Gen. 2:1-3). The general creation account (Gen. 1:1-2:3) is followed by a particular account of the sixth day of creation of land animals and man (Gen. 2:4-25). “And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good” (Gen. 1:31).

Since the Bible is the word of God, and the “... word is true from the beginning...” (Ps. 119:160), all other concepts of origins are false.

# No Man Gave Unto Him

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The Parable of the Prodigal Son cannot but touch our hearts (Lk. 15:11-32).

1) **The Son Said, “Give Me.”** The story begins with the younger of a certain man’s two sons saying, “Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living” (Lk. 15:11-12).

2) **The Son Wasted His Substance.** “And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living” (Lk. 15:13). He spent all, a severe famine arose, and he was in need (Lk. 15:14).

3) **The Son Came to Himself and to His Father.**

The story continues, “And when he came to himself, he said, “How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father...” (Lk. 15:17-20).

4) **What Prompted the Son’s Return?** Have you thought about what prompted the son’s return? While several things may have contributed to the son returning to his father, we must not overlook the fact that “...no man gave unto him” (Lk. 15:16). When the son would have filled his belly with the husks that the

swine did eat, no man gave unto him (Lk. 15:15-16). Why is it that some have not returned? Is it possible that they are being enabled by men giving unto them? It may be a family member who gives unto them: a grandparent, a parent, a brother or sister, or someone else. They may be given sympathy, association in eating together, money, gifts, or other things. It would have been easy to look at that poor, miserable man about to perish with hunger, show him sympathy, take him in and feed him. Yet no man gave unto him. The Scripture says, “...withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly...” (2 Th. 3:6). Is it possible that some wayward brother or sister has not come home because we’ve been enabling them to stay away? Think about it.

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