



CREATION,
RUIN,
RESTORATION
&
REST

A FOUNDATIONAL STUDY

OF

GENESIS CHAPTER 1

&

GENESIS CHAPTER 2: 1-3

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LESSON 1

Creation and Ruin

The title of our new series is *Creation, Ruin, Restoration & Rest*, in which we will be studying the first 34 verses in our Bibles. These verses are the foundation upon which the rest of the Bible builds. Therefore, they are very important to know and understand. They are like a skeleton of the complete Bible, with everything that follows adding flesh and sinews and skin to that skeleton until the 'body' is complete. The history of the world is contained within those first 34 verses!

What is the very first book of the Bible, and who wrote it?

Moses wrote Genesis

Since we know that the Holy Spirit led him as he wrote, let's begin in the same place he did.

GENESIS 1:1

In beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Open your Bibles and read the first verse again. What do you notice?

In most Bible translations they include the word 'the' before 'beginning'.

Let's now compare this verse with two verses from the NT.

John 1:1

In [the] beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

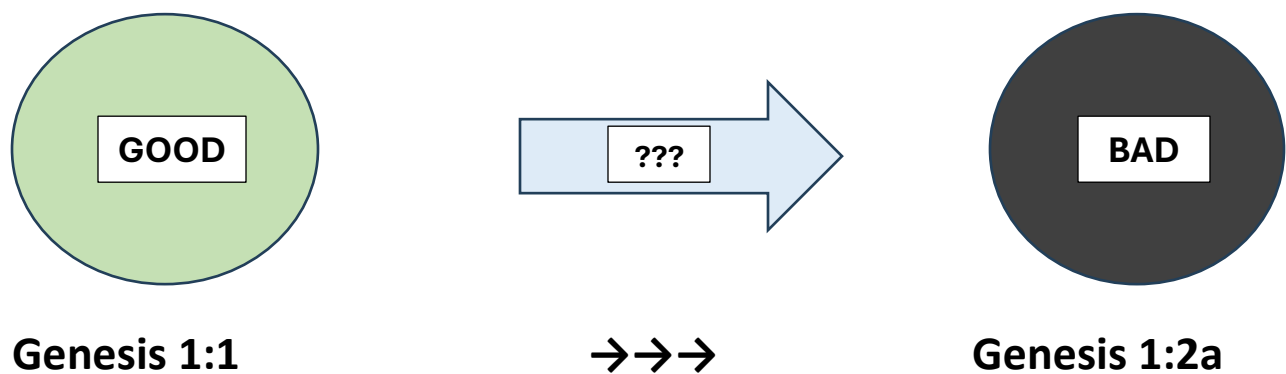
1 John 1:1

That which was from [the] beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life

In the English translations of both the Hebrew and the Greek texts, there is no definite article [the] before 'beginning'. Instead there is an indefinite beginning that opens each of these three books. This is helpful to know because it allows for more than one beginning. It allows for the heavens and the earth to have been created at a different time from the rest of the universe, and for the focus to be on just the earth and the heavens associated with the earth. This makes perfect sense because the focus of the Bible is on this part of the universe, and not elsewhere.



When God created the heavens and the earth, they were created **perfectly**. We can know this because God is perfect, and He is incapable of doing something imperfectly. The earth was in a perfectly **good** state following its creation, but then something happened to the creation and it became **bad**.



The next verse in Genesis chapter 1 describes the changed state of the earth.

Genesis 1:2a
The earth became without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.

This means the earth became **ruined!** It was covered with deep raging waters. And darkness descended to cover the waters that had flooded the earth.

Do you know what caused the perfectly created earth to become ruined?

(Teachers, give the students opportunity to respond.)

Something happened to cause God's perfectly created earth to become **ruined** ('formless and void'), and to find out what that was we must go elsewhere in our Bibles.

God created many angels to rule in His Universal Kingdom, and an angel called **LUCIFER** was created to rule over the earth and the heavens associated with the earth.

LUCIFER

Ezekiel chapter 28 verses 12, 15 and 18 tell us that:

"You (Lucifer) were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty."

"You (Lucifer) were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you."

"You (Lucifer) defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities,"

When God created **LUCIFER** to rule, he was perfect, 'full of wisdom and beauty'. But then **iniquity**, which is **sin**, was found in him, and because of his many iniquities, his 'sanctuaries'

became defiled. Lucifer's sanctuaries are the places of his rulership, and they became **RUINED**. And that is why 'the Earth became formless and void, and darkness was on the face of the deep'. As a result of Lucifer's rebellion and iniquities divine judgment fell upon the earth, and 'formless and void' describes that condition.

Isaiah chapter 14 also tells us that Lucifer wanted to raise his throne above all the other angels, or 'stars of God'. He wanted to be like God and even raise his throne above God's throne. Can you believe that!

Isa 14:12-14

*"How you are fallen from heaven, O **Lucifer**, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!*

*For you (**Lucifer**) have said in your heart: 'I **will** ascend into heaven, I **will** exalt my throne above the stars of God; I **will** also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; (**where God's throne is**)*

*I **will** ascend above the heights of the clouds, I **will** be like the Most High (**God Almighty**).'*

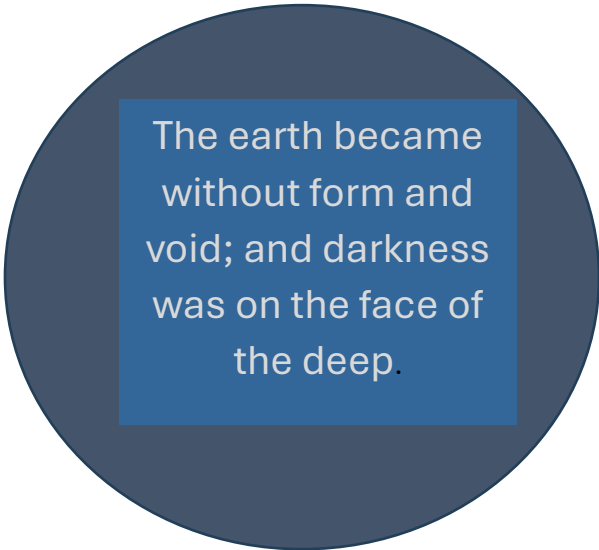
Did you notice how many times Lucifer's prideful, sinful heart said: "I will"?

When God created Lucifer to rule over the earth, he was created perfect (*Ezek.28:12*), just as the heavens and the earth were created perfect. **But** once he became puffed up and full of pride because of his wisdom and beauty, he tried to exalt himself above all the other angels and God Himself. As a result, the earth became **ruined** and so did he. Now his name is:

SATAN.

And he's not only gone from good to bad; he is evil. In the New Testament he is referred to as:

THE DEVIL.



The earth became without form and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.

We do not know how much time elapsed between the original creation and Lucifer's sin that brought about the formless and void conditions with darkness over the raging waters.

This was the first great flood, which was before God created man, and it is referred to as the pre-Adamic flood. The flood in Noah's time was also as a result of divine judgment of the all-pervading sin on the earth once again.



LUCIFER
before the LORD

By Mihály Zichy - Landor. Zichy
Mihaly.
Budapest, 1902, Public Domain,

The title of this series is:

Creation, Ruin, Restoration & Rest

In the lesson today we have seen that there was a perfect **creation**, the heavens and the earth, with a perfectly created angel to rule over the heavens and the earth. As a result of the entrance of sin, this was followed by **the ruin** of that perfect creation.

Based on our title, what do you think would need to happen next?

Restoration

That's right! There would need to be **restoration** of the ruined creation, the heavens, and the earth. And that is the subject of the second half of verse 2 which we will cover in a future lesson. But for now, let's read the whole of verse 2:

Genesis 1:2

The earth became without form, and void;
and darkness was on the face of the deep.
And the Spirit of God was hovering
over the face of the waters.

In our next lesson we will look at the role of the angels a little further.

On the next page are some thought-provoking questions for you to discuss.

Possible Discussion Questions:

How old is the earth? Does the Bible say? Can it be determined?

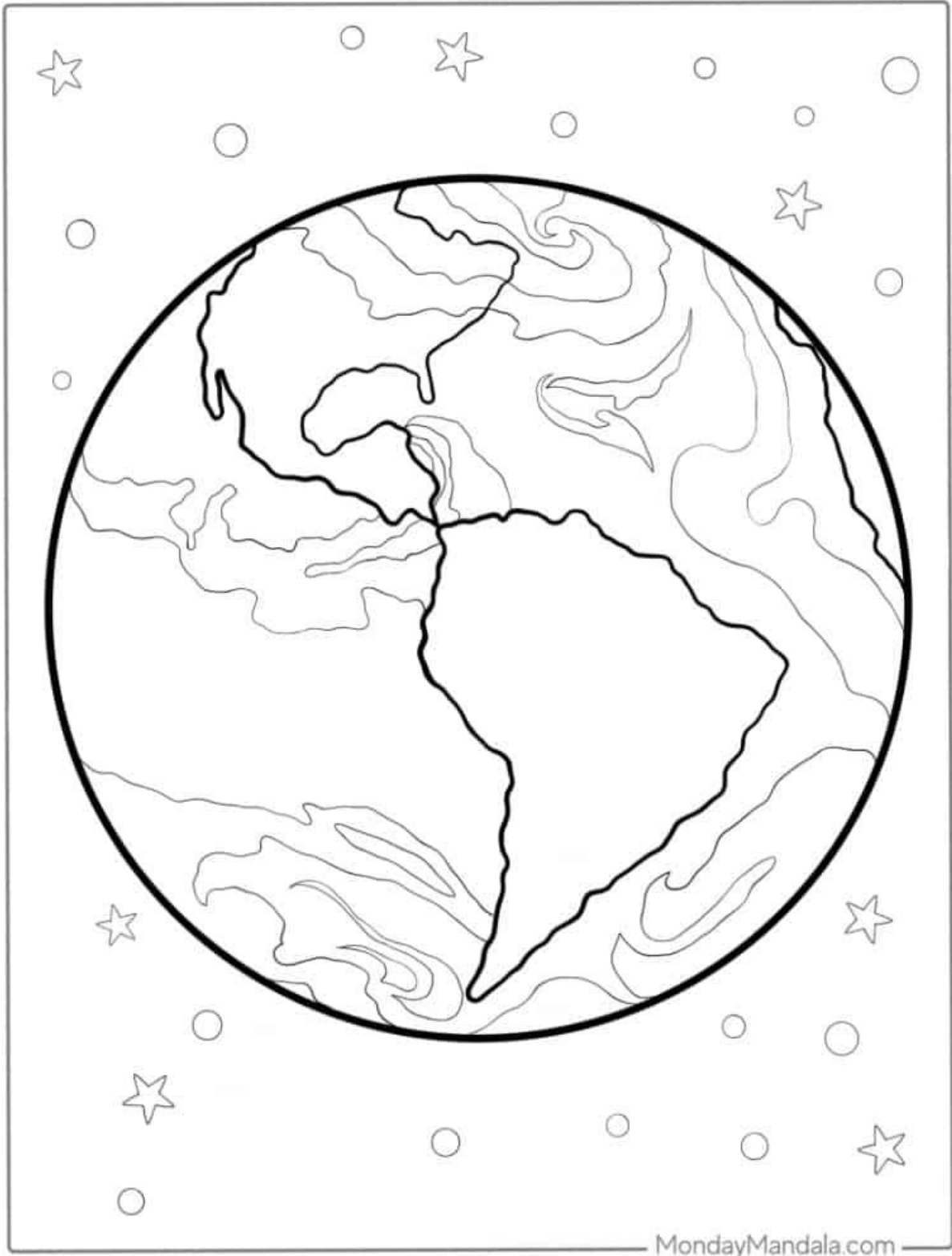
What about dating methods that the scientists use?

When God restored the earth beginning in Genesis 1:3 did He restore it with age? For example did a newly created tree have rings?

If it was subjected to dating methods would it show zero time, or maybe a number of years?

When God created Adam was he a child with little age, or was he an adult?

Arlen Chitwood has a very useful article on his website entitled: Age of the Earth
www.lampbroadcast.org



In beginning God created the heavens and the earth

LESSON 2

The Angels & Rulership from the Heavens

The title of our study is 'Creation, Ruin, Restoration & Rest'. Our study will cover the first 34 verses of the Bible from Genesis chapter 1 verse 1, through to Genesis chapter 2 verse 3. In the very first verse that Moses wrote, we can see 'creation', the first part of our study's title.

Can anyone recite Genesis 1:1 without looking below?

Genesis 1:1
In beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

According to Genesis 1:1, it would appear that the heavens were created first. Why might that be significant?

Hopefully they will make a connection with the heavenly realm ruling over the earth, putting the heavens into something of a superior position to the earth.

In the first lesson we learnt that God created the earth perfectly, but then something happened to it. What was it?

The earth became ruined. It was covered with deep raging waters. Darkness descended to cover the waters that flooded the earth.)



Who caused the perfectly created earth to become ruined?

Lucifer as a result of his sin and pride as he tried to exalt his throne above the stars of God.

Make a list of any other names he has that you know:

Satan (OT & NT), the Devil (NT), god of this age (NT), ruler of this world (NT), accuser of the brethren, (NT), the Serpent (OT & NT), the great dragon (NT), son of the morning (OT).

Lucifer was created perfectly by God to rule over the earth, and the heavens surrounding the earth. But Lucifer, because of his wisdom and beauty, became puffed up with pride and wanted to be just like God and sit on God's throne. As a result of his many iniquities, the earth became ruined.

What are iniquities?

Sins

Let's remind ourselves once more about the first part of Genesis 1, verse 2 that describes the ruin of the earth through Satan's sin:

Genesis 1:2a

The earth became without form, and void;
and darkness was on the face of the deep.

If you turn to this verse in your Bibles, it may read a little differently: “The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.” The underlined word in Hebrew is ‘*hayah*’ which means: to be, to come to pass, become. Therefore ‘*became*’ rather than ‘*was*’, is a better translation. Otherwise we might be tempted to think that when God created the heavens and the earth, He created it in a ruined state, rather than it becoming a ruin. Fortunately we don’t have to wonder which is correct because scripture gives us the answer.

Isaiah 45:18

*For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God,
Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it,
Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I
am the LORD, and there is no other.*

The LORD did not create the earth ‘*in vain*’, which is the Hebrew word ‘*tohuw*’ meaning a waste place. That is the same word translated ‘*without form*’ from Genesis 1:2a. The Lord (Jehovah) is saying through Isaiah, that God **did not** create the earth **a ruin**.
We will look at this verse again in the next lesson.

Created to Rule

Today we are going to look a little closer at the angels and the reason God created them. **Lucifer** was not the only angel created to rule over the earth. There are other angels who also have responsibilities over the earth, under Satan's authority.

Elsewhere in God's universe there are other angels **created to rule over** their individual places of dominion. 'Dominion' just means 'rulership over a territory', and over any individuals in that territory.

In both the OT and NT the meaning of the word 'angel' is:

Messenger.

They are God's messengers who are employed to do God's business in the government of the universe.

Luke 1:26

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

Gabriel is one such angel sent with a message for Mary. The Bible doesn't give the names of many angels. In fact, there are no female angels; the Bible only refers to male angels.

There are different kinds of angels with different jobs. For example, some are overseeing churches. Here is just one example of seven angels mentioned in the Book of Revelation:

Revelation 2:12

*"And to the **angel of the church** in Pergamos write, 'These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword...'"*

The angels can be likened to an army with different roles, ranks and levels of authority. As well as being God's servants, they are also powerful warriors who are sometimes called to fight. In the Book of Daniel there is an account of such warfare when a messenger angel was sent from God in answer to Daniel's prayers. However, the angel was held up 21 days in the heavens by rebellious angels under Satan who had jurisdiction over certain nations. In these verses, the angels are referred to as princes and kings.

Daniel 10:12 -13, 20-21

12 Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.

*13 "But **the prince of the kingdom of Persia** withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, **Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me,***

*for I had been left alone there with the **kings of Persia...** 20 Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to*

*fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed **the***

***prince of Greece** will come. "But I will tell you what is noted in the*

*Scripture of Truth. No one upholds me against these, except **Michael your prince.***

Lucifer had angels that he commanded. In Daniel chapter 10 the angels ruling over Persia and Greece are seen opposing the angel of God who was sent to speak with Daniel. He was

struggling to get through but was helped by another angel called Michael. Michael is the angel who rules over Israel, and unlike the princes of Persia and Greece, he did not rebel when Lucifer rebelled.

However, ruling over Lucifer and all the angels is **God**.

Once Lucifer rebelled, the Bible does not refer to him by that name anymore.

Lucifer means:

Brightness and Morning Star

But **Satan** means:

Opponent and arch enemy of good

And **The Devil** means:

Supreme spirit of evil

In the Book of Job, the angels are referred to as the:

'Sons of God'

And in Isaiah chapter 14 as the:

'Stars of God'.

Both names reveal that they are created beings for the purpose of **rulership**. God regularly meets with His angels, the **sons of**

God, on the mount of assembly in the furthest reaches of the north.

Let's read about it:

Job 2:1-2

*Again there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the LORD, and **Satan** came also among them to present himself before the LORD. And the LORD said to **Satan**, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on **the earth**, and from walking back and forth on it."*

How can we know that this meeting took place after Lucifer's rebellion?

The writer of Job refers to him as 'Satan'. The only time he is referred to as Lucifer is in Is.14:12 as Isaiah describes his previous high position before he fell from grace.

The Bible tells us that when Satan rebelled, he was not the only one. We do not know how many angels God created with respect to rulership over the earth, but we do know that **one-third of them chose to rebel with Satan**, their leader.

Can you see why once Lucifer rebelled, he was not referred to by that name, but by 'Satan', which means 'opponent and arch enemy of good'? And did you also notice where Satan had come from, despite his rebellion?

Despite his actions that caused the perfect creation of the earth to become **ruined**, Satan was still ruling over what would

eventually become the current restored Earth. *We will study more on the earth's restoration in upcoming lessons.* And despite his rebellion, Satan is still the angel with responsibility for rulership over the earth, until God removes him from that position of authority. This is why he can be seen in the Book of Job joining with the other ruling angels to meet with God.



Hosts of Angels (or Sons of God) in the heavens are ruling under Lucifer - who is the Morning Star over the Earth.

Jesus referred to Satan as 'the ruler of this world' (*John 12:31*), and Paul called him 'the god of this age' in *2Cor.4:4*. Until God removes Satan and the angels that rebelled with him, then they remain in authority over the earth but still under God.

In the meantime, we are to be prepared for the spiritual warfare that comes our way by having on the whole armor of God:

Ephesians 6:10-12

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Go back and underline the descriptions of the angels we are wrestling against in the heavenly places. They are not flesh and blood like we are, but spiritual beings of immense power. They sound formidable. However, if we are strong in the Lord, having on the whole armor of God, then we will be able to withstand them and the devil's wiles.

Why not spend some time this week studying about the armor of God, and also how Jesus overcame when tempted by the devil in the wilderness in *Matthew 4:1-11*.

In the next lesson we will look closer at the Hebrew word that is translated 'God' in Genesis chapter one, which reveals details about His character and work.



LESSON 3

God - Elohim

In the first two lessons we have been looking at how God created the heavens and the earth, and we saw that they were created perfect. God also created angels, referred to as 'sons' or 'stars' of God to rule over the earth. An angel called **Lucifer** was given responsibility for this province in God's Universal Kingdom.

We know from Genesis 1:2a that because of Lucifer wanting to exalt his throne and position above all the other angels and God Himself, that the perfectly created earth became **ruined**.

Genesis 1:1-2a

In beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

The earth became without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep.

Today we are going to study the word 'God' in the first chapter of Genesis, which is the Hebrew word 'Elohim'. Did you know that the Bible uses several different names for God? Each of the names with their various meanings reveal further details of the nature and characteristics of God.

ELOHIM

The Bible is God's revelation to mankind, and at the very beginning in Genesis He chooses to use the Hebrew word 'Elohim' to reveal Himself to us:

In beginning God...
In beginning Elohim...

The name 'Elohim' reveals to us that God is strong and mighty and all-powerful! The men who translated the Bible from Hebrew to English would have had a difficult time finding a word that could adequately describe Elohim's greatness. When Solomon had built the temple in Jerusalem for God to dwell in, he said this:

1Kings 8:27

"But will God [Elohim] indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!"

If the heaven of heavens cannot contain God, how can a name begin to describe Him! Names and their meanings can be important, and that is certainly reflected in many individuals in the Bible.. For example when God changed Jacob's name to Israel, he went from 'the supplanter' to 'he who will rule with God'!

When God inspired Moses to write the Bible, He led Moses to use 'Elohim' to begin the revealing of Himself. A name's meaning can have limitations because it highlights only one facet of a person's personality or character. Perhaps this is why the Bible is replete with different names that describe God in His various relationships with man. For example, the second name by which Moses referred to Him was '*Jehovah Elohim*' which has been translated as **LORD God** in Genesis 2:4

Elohim is a plural form of the word '*God*' and it reveals the **fullness** of God. Although there is only One God, there are three distinct Persons in the Godhead, and all 3 Persons are involved in the creation process.

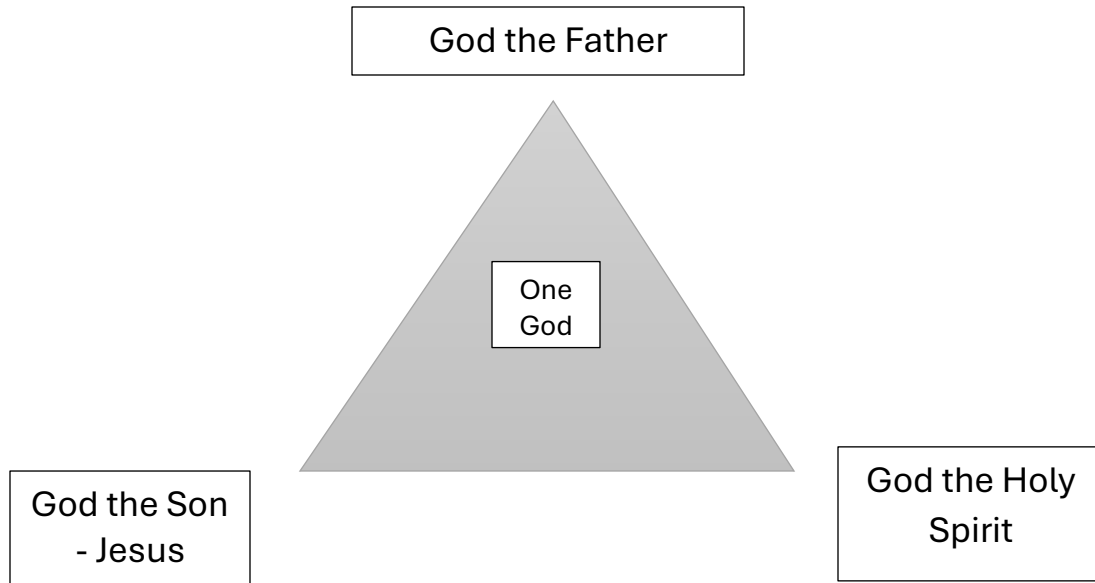
Write them out here:

1. *God the Father*
2. *God the Son*
3. *God the Holy Spirit*

God is a Trinity, which means He is as **3 Persons**, and yet there is **only One God**. It sounds like a riddle! However, it is something we have to believe by faith because that's what the Bible shows us. The plural nature of God can be seen quite clearly in Genesis chapter 1, verse 26:

Genesis 1:26a

Then God said, "Let **Us** make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness; let them have dominion



Elohim created...

Now although **'Elohim'** (God) is plural, meaning more than one, the next word **'created'**, which is a verb, is singular. Once again this tells us that all 3 Persons of the Holy Trinity were working as One to create the heavens, and the earth, and everything that followed during the restoration.

If you were **'creating'** a cake, what is the first thing you would do?

(Gather together the ingredients, mixing bowl and utensils)

To **'create'** a cake you have to gather the ingredients from which to make the cake. But when God/Elohim created the heavens and the earth, He created them out of nothing! It was a new creation that had not existed in any form before. That's

very impressive and it helps us to appreciate much more how awesome and magnificent God is.

Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead [The Trinity], so that they are without excuse,

Romans 1:20 tells us that God's existence is clearly seen by the things which He created and made. God is invisible to our natural eyes, but as we look up at the skies and the world around us, what we see speaks to us of His existence and of His greatness. But we can only see this through the eyes of faith.

We know that God created the heavens and the earth perfectly before it became ruined by Satan's rebellion against Him. This next Scripture shows that the earth was created for a purpose.

Isaiah 45:18

For thus says the LORD [Jehovah], Who created the heavens, Who is God [Elohim], Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the LORD, and there is no other.

According to this verse, **why** did God create and form the earth?

(He formed the earth to be inhabited)

It also says that Elohim did not create the earth *'in vain'*, meaning a formless chaotic mess, a waste place. This is the same word translated *'without form'* from Genesis 1:2a. The LORD (Hebrew word 'Jehovah') is saying through Isaiah that Elohim **did not** create the earth **a ruin**. Instead, He **'formed it to be inhabited'**.

'Inhabited' means to be occupied or lived upon. In beginning, who did God create to inhabit the earth?

This sounds a bit like a trick question. Was it for Lucifer and the angels? Was it for Adam and the Woman? What do you think, **and why?** *(Teachers, allow the children to respond. Whilst Lucifer was the first inhabitant of the earth, it is, and has always been, God's plan for the man and woman to rule in a marriage relationship, in the heavens and on the earth. It is also true that as part of that plan, God the Son, Jesus Christ would rule with a Bride from the heavens and on the earth in a marriage relationship.)*

The work of restoring the earth so that it can be inhabited began with the 'Spirit of God hovering over the face of the waters' (Gen.1:2b). And that is where we shall begin in our next lesson.

Activity:

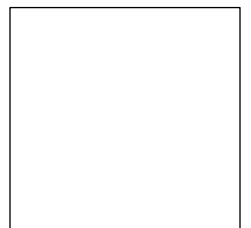
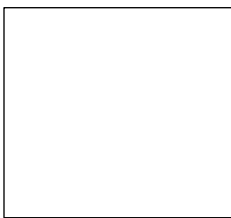
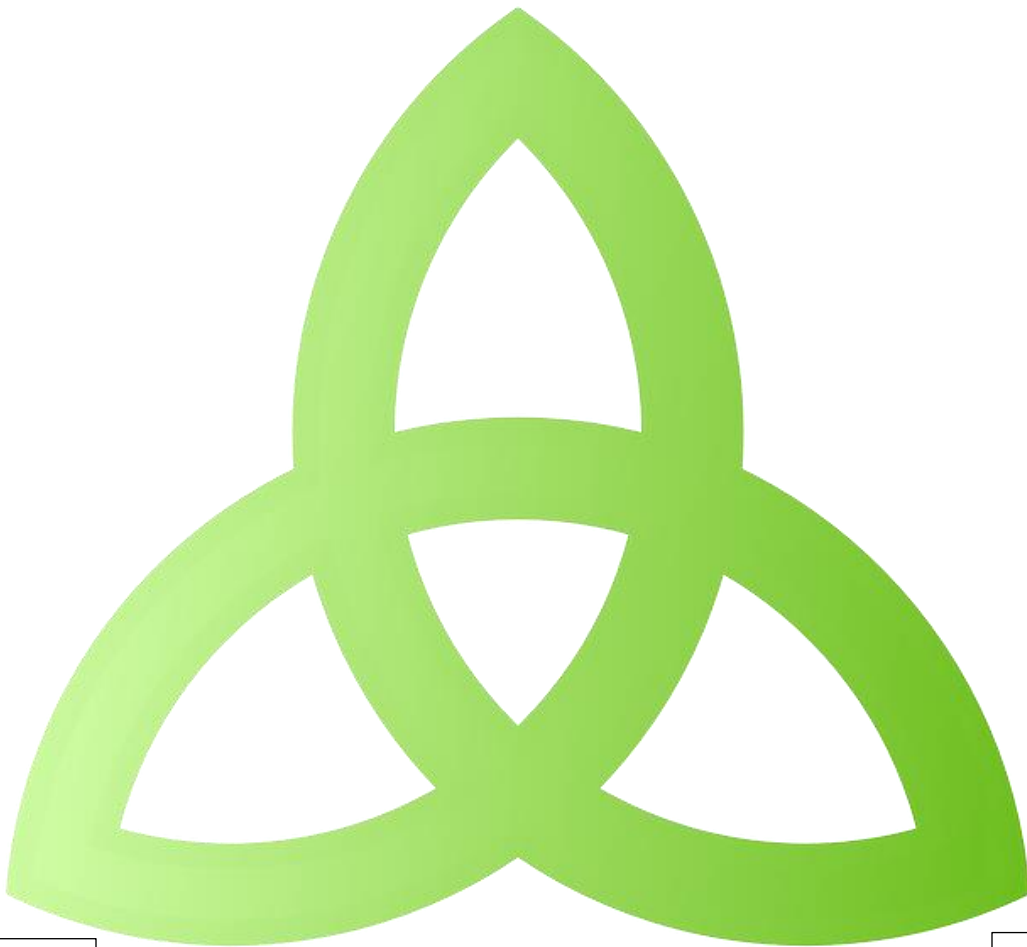
On the next page is an image that helps us to understand how the Trinity is One God in 3 Persons.

- (1) Label the image with **'God the Father'** at the top and **'Jesus – God the Son'** on the bottom left corner, and **'God the Holy Spirit'** on the right corner.

- (2) Then take a colored pencil and starting by God the Father, follow the 'pathway' until it brings you back to the top.

The Holy Trinity

(Referred to as *The Godhead* in Rom. 1:20 & Col.2:9)



In Beginning God...

X U W R A F C E D S J V Q B F **D** F L B Y E N P S
P S R G W F X Q C D F O I S N **E** O P D C U T B Z
T J R W Q T K **V** S I U P Q V T **T** Q K C N R W H Z
B M H Q N V **O** Q F O D V Z R U **A** G H K R L C Y B
E Q A Y Y **I** P H U T X U K P **Y** E S Y C C Y **H** B C
J P N Z **D** P H P L S Z T D **T** R R I C E M J **T** R I
V V W Z D C P U K S N I **I** P H **C** R J H V X **R** Z T
S U E B R P M J M T R **N** P V E J **S** B S I H A L E
V **S** C V W Y U L S T **I** N C S Y **N** X B S G J **E** B X
B E **E** G W L R C C **R** F N C Q **E** K C Z Q P **D O G** R
P G E **L N** N Y G **T** D Z K J **V** R J A I V S I S L G
Z K I **I M** S T M B P V X **A** E T Z O I P V S F X T
U G **U** E Z **R** A D Z Q S **E** G A U M G K Q G H A V K
J **R** X A G L **O** C X R **H** P H H P C J Y P Y N L E C
U Z G G S C I **F** E V Z V **M B E G I N N I N G** I J
A X G A F L H F A Y **L U C I F E R** Q W T M M U Z
Y T K I B Q J S A **I** S F J D **H** T Q Q C C B U N Z
R **S** G U J T M V **F** Q **N** F O D E **O D G** B C X E F E
B C **I** G H J R W N **O** Z **V** J I M K L Q **O** U E N I L
V G J **S** K X T O N Y **R** Y **A** D O H U **E** T **D** A N D P
S U I E **E** D D H W E B **M** A **I** B C N F V S **H** L C D
K S I W J **N** A L G C E V **E** T **N** W T D K S X **E** D B
O G K A V U **E** T V V W B Q **D** H Q G H K V H Q **A** F
L C G X G V S **G** B C E Z N J L Z S E I G M J S **D**

BEGINNING CREATED EARTH ELOHIM

FORMED FORMLESS GENESIS GOD

GODHEAD HEAVENS IN VAIN LUCIFER

RUIN TRINITY VOID

LESSON 4

Day 1:

The Light Shines in the Darkness

Let us begin with some reviewing:

Genesis 1:1-2

1 In beginning God [Elohim] created the heavens and the earth.

2 The earth became without form, and void [ruined]; and darkness was on the face of the deep [raging waters].

And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

What do you remember about why the earth became ruined and covered in darkness?

The title of our study is: *Creation, Ruin, Restoration & Rest.* We now understand that the heavens and the earth were created perfectly by Elohim (God in 3 Persons). However, it became ruined as a result of its chief ruling angel, Lucifer, wanting to exalt himself to a position above all angels and make

himself equal with God. God's perfect creation, the Earth over which Lucifer, now called Satan, ruled, became **ruined**. As a result of his iniquities the earth was covered with deep raging waters and darkness.



'*Restoration*' is the 3rd word in our study's title. And just as we established in the previous lesson that all 3 Persons of the Godhead were involved in the creation of the heavens and the earth, so all 3 would have to be involved in the **Restoration of the heavens and the earth**.

Restoration began with the third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, hovering over the darkened raging waters of the deep.

Genesis 1:2b
And the **Spirit of God** was hovering over the
face of the waters.

Creation → Ruin → Restoration

In the same way that the Bible does not tell us how long it was between the **creation** of the heavens and the earth and the **ruin** of the earth; so the Bible does not record how much time elapsed from the ruin to the beginning of the **restoration**. But we do know that the counting of time begins with **Day 1** in the restoration process as the *Spirit of God* began to hover. Let's read what happened next:

Day 1

Genesis 1:3-5

3 Then **God** [Elohim] said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

What did God say?

What did God see?

What did God do?

In v.5, what did God call the 'light' and call the 'darkness'?

LIGHT He called → _____
DARKNESS He called → _____

Which other segments was the first day separated into, and which came first?

FIRST DAY

The restoration of the ruined creation, the Earth, began on **Day One** with the hovering of the Holy Spirit over the face of the waters and God speaking. We know from other studies that Jesus Christ is the Word of God who took on flesh (*Jn. 1:14*). Jesus is the written Word **and** He is the spoken Word. So when God spoke the words "Let there be light", we see once again that all 3 Persons of the Godhead were involved in the restoration process.

Why do you think the evening came before the morning?



God is Light

There is another thing to understand about **Day 1** in the restoration process. When God said, “Let there be light,” light already existed because ‘God is light’, and He is clothed in light.

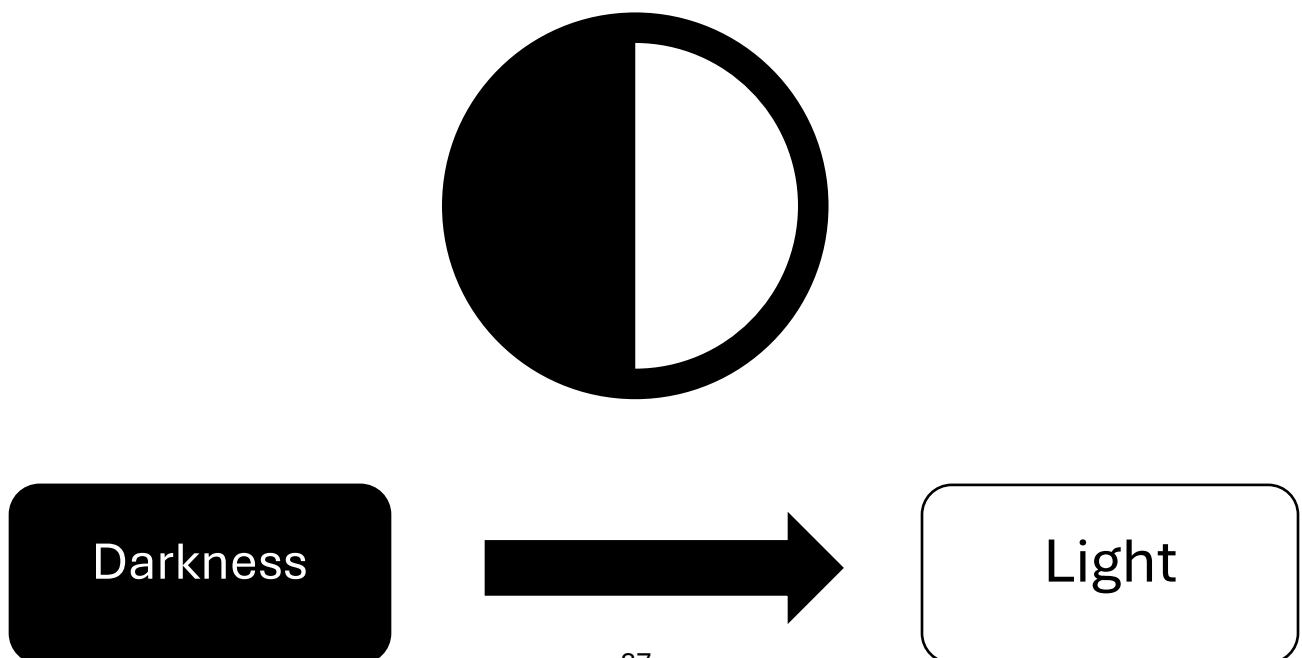
1st John 1:5

*This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that **God is light** and **in Him is no darkness at all**.*

Psalm 104:1-2

*1 Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, 2 **Who cover Yourself with light** as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.*

The darkness covering the earth came to the earth because of Satan’s sin. On **Day 1** God **restored the light**; He didn’t create it (*cf. 2 Cor. 4:6*).





Romans 13:12

The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Why would Paul say ‘the night is far spent, the day is at hand’?

Which day was at hand?

What would be the works of darkness that we are to cast off?

What do light and darkness portray?

Paul is not talking about physical day and night. Rather, his words should cause us to make spiritual connections based upon the darkness that enveloped the earth as a result of Lucifer’s sin. Darkness is the absence of the Light, and the works of darkness are associated with Satan, the god of this age. Instead of doing

those works, we are to 'put on the armor of light', which is associated with the day.

What is this armor and how are we to put it on? How does it protect us from that associated with the darkness?

Can you think of any Scriptures that would help us answer this question?

Jesus is Light

*John 1:3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And **the light shines in the darkness**, and the darkness did not comprehend [lit. overcome] it.*

*John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light of the world**. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."*

The light will always overcome darkness, both in the physical realm and the spiritual. Jesus is 'the light of the world' for all those who choose to believe and follow Him. If we do, then we will not walk in spiritual darkness but will have the light that leads to life in the Age to come.

When we first believed on Jesus Christ, His light shone in our darkness and gave us eternal life. Then when we chose to follow Him Who is the Light of the World, so the darkness and the night no longer had the same influence in our lives. The

darkness still exists but now we can 'walk in the light as He is in the light' and have fellowship with Him as He forgives us from our sins associated with darkness and the night (*1st John 1:7*). The Apostle Paul used the same imagery from Genesis [Day 1](#) when talking about the darkness and the light to the churches in Ephesus and Thessalonica.

Ephesians 5:8-11

8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. 11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5,

4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day [the 7th Day] should overtake you as a thief. 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.

[How do these 2 sets of verses describe the faithful believer?](#)

Paul told the church in Rome that the night was almost over and the day, meaning the 7th Day, was close. They were to arm themselves with the light that is the Word of God so that the darkness would not overcome them as they waited for that Day. As we have learned, there are powerful forces working to

oppose those who seek the coming Kingdom, so let's do all we can to stand strong in our faith, and walk in the light so that we do not stumble.

Let me challenge you to choose to walk in the light of the Word of God this week by studying God's Word, which brings light and life, as we wait for the 7th Day.

Next lesson we will look at **Day 2** in the **Restoration** of the **Ruined** material **Creation**.



**The night is far spent, the day is
at hand. Therefore let us cast
off the works of darkness, and
let us put on the armor of light.**

Romans 13:12

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LESSON 5

Day 2: The Firmament Divides the Waters

On Day 1 we saw that when God said, “Let there be light”, the light appeared alongside the darkness that had been covering the earth due to Satan’s sin. God saw that the light was good! On the same day, God divided the light from the darkness.

Thinking back to our last lesson, what did God call the light and the darkness?

How else was the first day divided up?

In today’s lesson we will look at **Day 2** of God’s continued work of restoring the ruined creation. Do you remember how, following the rebellion of Lucifer, now called Satan, not only did the earth become darkened, but it was also covered in raging waters? Then the Spirit of God began to hover over the face of the waters as He began His restoration work on **Day 1**.

Day 2

On *Day 2*, we shall see how God made a division once again, just as He did on *Day 1*. This time it relates to the waters covering the earth. Let's read about it now:

Genesis 1:6-8

6 **Then God said**, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.

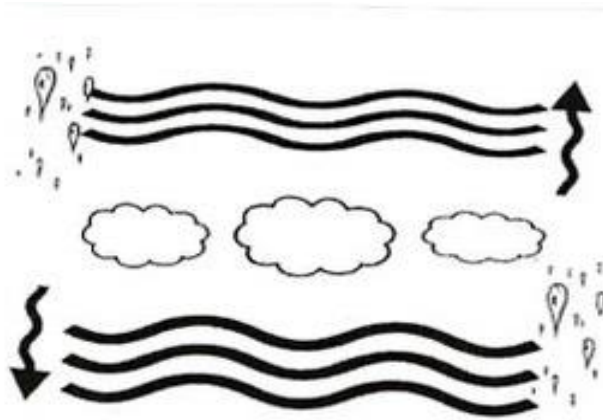
8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

What did God divide?

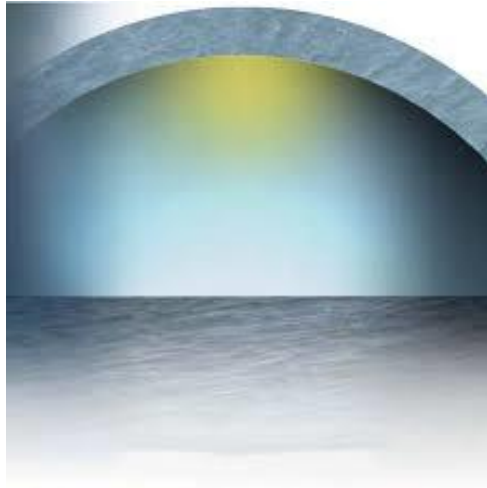
What did God make between the divided waters?

That's an unusual word! What did God call the firmament?

'Heaven' in the Hebrew language means 'an expanse' and it refers to the wide area of space between the two bodies of water. There was water below that covered the earth. There was water above that surrounded the earth like a canopy. The expanse between the two bodies of water is what God called 'Heaven'. The word 'heaven' is plural in Hebrew, so between the divided waters are 'the heavens'.



How should we understand the heavens? We know that in beginning, God created the heavens along with the earth. The expanse, or firmament, that we call the heavens has to do with the area close to and surrounding the earth. This does not relate to other parts of the universe. We know this because God's word is focused totally on this province of the universe. This province encompasses the earth, and the heavens associated with the earth. There is no indication that any other province in the universe experienced rebellion and the resulting devastating conditions that occurred on the earth.



So what are the heavens?

They refer to that which we can see **visibly** with our eyes as we look up, such as the sky with the clouds. They also refer to what is **not visible** with our natural eyes, as in **the spiritual realm in the heavens** above the earth.

Colossians 1:16

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers.

What things are being described in this verse?

It tells us in **Daniel chapter 4** that 'the heavens rule over the earth'. This describes the **invisible** realm in the heavens above the earth from which rulership by angels takes place. We need to grasp that when God divided the raging waters that

covered the earth, He placed an expanse between them which He called Heaven, by which we mean the heavens which are both **visible** and **invisible** to the naked eye. The waters that were above the heavens were like a canopy, producing a sort of protective greenhouse effect over the world at that time.

‘The Heavens Do Rule’

(Dan.4:26)

In lesson 2 we looked at some verses from *Daniel chapter 10* with respect to the angels that occupy the **invisible** realm above the earth. The prophet Daniel was living in captivity in **Babylon**, which was being ruled by the Medes and Persians. Daniel was seeking God in prayer and fasting so that he might understand a vision given to him.

The angel sent by God to give Daniel understanding had been held up in the heavens for 21 days by the ‘prince of the kingdom of Persia’ (v.13). The angel knew that on his return to God he would have to fight with the prince of Persia again.

Daniel 10:20-21

20 Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. 21 "But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. No one upholds me against these [principalities], except Michael your prince [of Israel].

Daniel, a Jew, was living in the capital of Gentile world power, under the Persians who were currently ruling from

Babylon. The *'prince of Persia'* was an angel ruling in the heavens at that time. The next dominant earthly nation, who eventually conquered the Persians and ruled from Babylon, were the Greeks under Alexander the Great. This explains why the angel said the *'prince of Greece'* would come. History has shown us that what was revealed to Daniel would indeed come to pass more than one hundred years after his death.

What do these verses teach us about the relationship between heavenly and earthly, visible and invisible rulers?

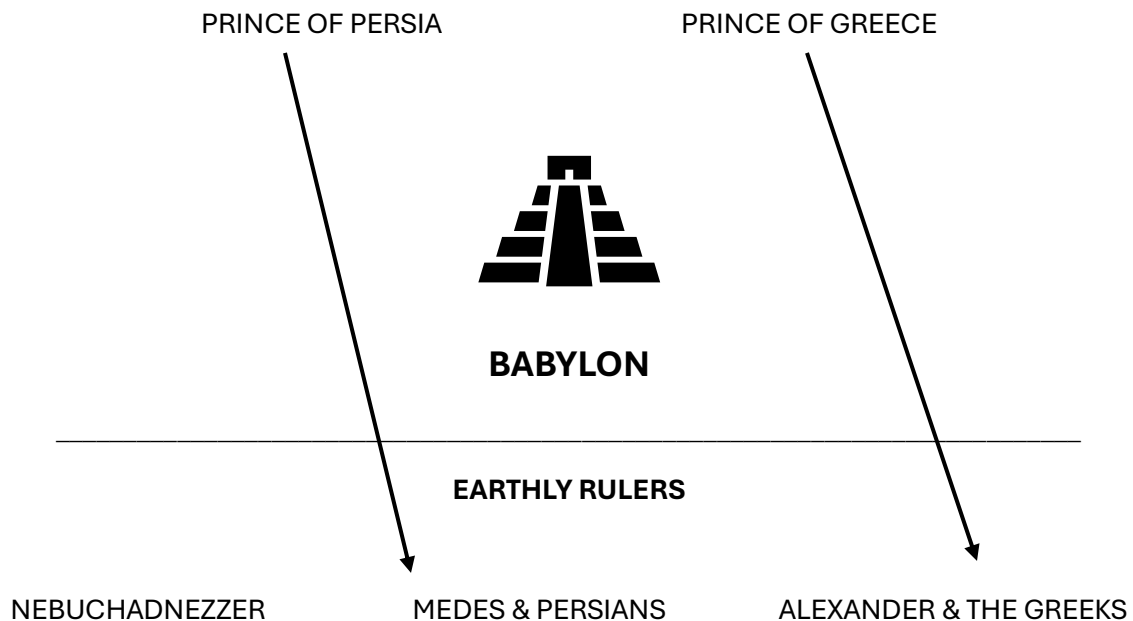
Today the status quo remains the same as in Daniel's day. There are angelic rulers in the heavens that correspond to those rulers and nations on the earth. They are the principalities, powers, and spiritual beings that Ephesians chapter six references. We know that Satan, despite his rebellion, continues to rule from the heavens with the one-third of his angels who rebelled, until such time as they are removed by God.

There is one nation on the earth whose prince in the heavens is not part of Satan's rebellion. Which nation would that be?

The Heavens Do Rule

(Daniel 4:26 & 10:20)

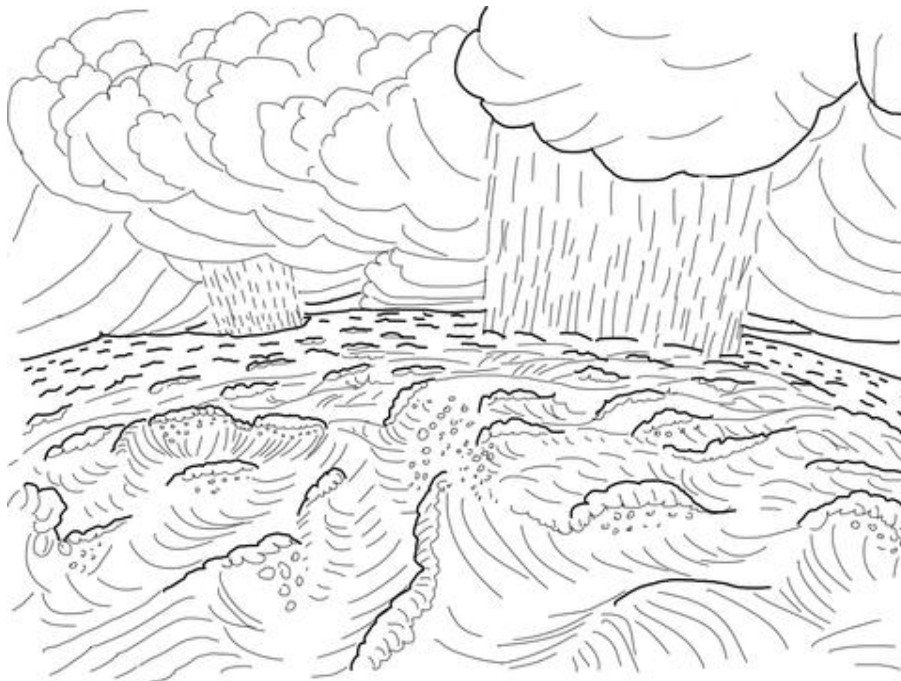
PRINCIPALITIES IN THE HEAVENS



As we finish our study of the **Restoration** on **Day 2** in Genesis chapter 1, here is something for you to ponder: when we look up, we see that the waters above that provided the protective canopy are no longer there. **Do you know what happened to them?**

The protective water canopy is no longer there, but interestingly the earth's inhabitants are protected from the sun's harmful UV rays by another type of 'canopy'! **Do you know what it is?**

It is awesome to realize that in the details which science has identified that we continue to see the marvelous provision God has given for His creation here on earth and in the heavens. His invisible attributes are clearly seen by the things which He has made (*Rom.1:20*)!



*(Gen. 7:11 In the six hundredth year of **Noah's** life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and **the windows of heaven were opened.** 12 And **the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights.**)*

(Answer: The ozone layer.)

LESSON 6

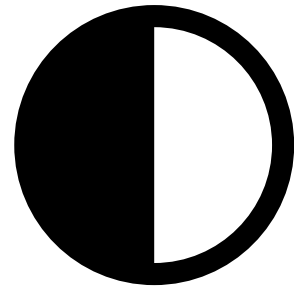
Day 3 Part 1: Dry Land Appears

Then God said...

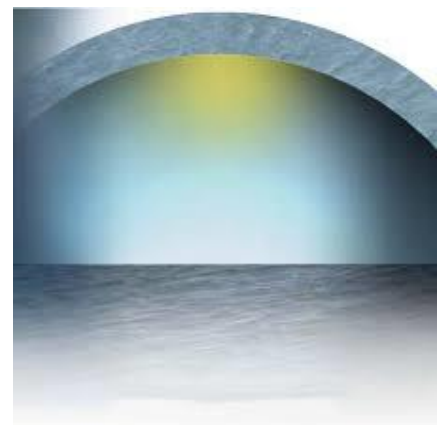
Today in our Genesis study of the *restoration* of the *ruined* creation, which was as a result of Satan's rebellion, we will begin looking at Day 3 in the *restoration* process.

In Days 1 and 2, we saw how God spoke and a restoration took place, which brought about a division, or separation.

On *Day 1* God divided the light from the darkness, the day from the night.



On *Day 2*, God restored the raging, chaotic waters when He separated them and placed some waters above the firmament and some below. The space between them was called 'Heaven'. In this lesson on Day 3, we



will see how God's restorative work involves separation once again, on *Day 3*.

In the previous lesson we discussed how in the heavens there are **invisible** rulers, such as the **Prince of Persia** and the **Prince of Greece**, who correspond to **visible** earthly rulers. Just as nations rise and fall on earth, so corresponding angels in the heavens do likewise. Each Gentile nation will have an angelic prince ruling in the heavens, with greater or lesser power. They are a ruling class and took part in Satan's rebellion.

However there is one angel, corresponding to an earthly nation, who was **not** part of the one-third who rebelled when Lucifer fell. Which nation is it, and what is the angel's name?

(Hint: Dan.10:21)

In Scripture, the seas are often presented as **a type** of 'the place of **death**', and they are also associated with 'the **Gentile nations**'.

Based on what we have learnt from the beginning, why would that be?

Day 3 – The waters below

Genesis 1:9-10

9 **Then God said**, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

What did God say?

Which waters was God referring to, and how were they gathered together?

What then appeared, and where did it come from?

God called the dry land →

The gathered waters He called →

There is NT Scripture that indicates that prior to Lucifer's sin that resulted in the ruin and flooding of the Earth, the land was in the water and out of the water.

2 Peter 3:5-6

5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water [prior to the ruin], 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water [after the rebellion].

So when God was restoring the material creation on **Day 3**, He gathered together the waters into one place, and the dry land came up from below the waters, where it had been consigned.

He called the dry land **Earth**, and the gathered waters He called **Seas**. Once again the earth was standing in and out of the water.

There are various OT Scriptures that provide commentary on the events of **Day 3**:

Psalm 24:1-2

The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. 2 For He has founded it [the earth] upon the seas, And established it upon the waters

Psalm 136:5-6

To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy endures forever; 6 To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy endures forever;

These verses express the idea of the earth in a superior position to the seas.

If the seas are an expression of the Gentile nations, as we have established, then who does the Land represent?

As further commentary on the distinction between the waters and the land, the following verses reveal that God set a boundary, or limits, beyond which the seas cannot cross.

Psalm 104:9

You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth.

Job 38:8, 9-10

"Or who shut in the sea with doors, When it burst forth and issued from the womb; 10 When I fixed My limit for it [the sea], And set bars and doors; 11 When I said, 'This far you may come, but no farther, And here your proud waves must stop!'

In this next verse God is talking to the people of Israel who have dealt treacherously with Him, and although He says He will punish them for it, He will not make a complete end of the nation. Let's read:

Jeremiah 5:22

Do you not fear Me?' says the LORD. 'Will you [Israel] not tremble at My presence, Who have placed the sand as the bound of the sea, By a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass beyond it? And though its waves toss to and fro, Yet they cannot prevail; Though they roar, yet they cannot pass over it.

According to Jeremiah, who or what will be allowed to punish Israel, but will not be able to prevail because God has established a boundary which cannot be crossed?

In our lesson today we have seen that once again that a separation took place as part of the *restoration*. This time there was a physical separation of the land from the seas.

However, we have also been able to grasp the spiritual significance of what took place through the *types*. Here in foundation we have seen the preeminence of the **Land representing Israel**, over the **Gentile nations, represented by the Seas**.

The Dry Land Divided

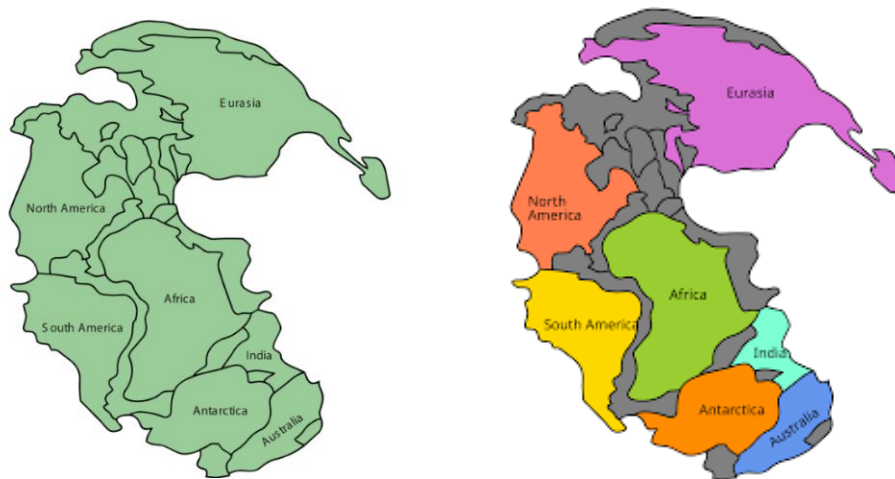
If you look at a map of the world today you will see that there are continents and oceans (or seas).

Can you name the Continents, and find them on the map?



Have you ever noticed how the continents look as if they might fit together like a jigsaw puzzle if they were pushed together?

Scientists and geologists think that a long time ago (they think millions of years ago), the 7 continents did not exist as they are now. Instead there was **one giant super continent** which eventually broke up and drifted apart to where the continents are today. They gave it the name 'Pangaea', which means 'all, or one, earth'.



But what does the Bible say? Could there once have been a large single continent, surrounded by sea? What we read in **Genesis 1:9-10** suggests that the seas were all gathered in one place and therefore the dry land that appeared would be one land mass in the midst of the seas. Therefore, it could be so!

There's a scripture further on in Genesis which supports the idea of a single land mass, because it refers to when **the land was divided**.

*Genesis 10:25 To **Eber** were born two sons: the name of one was **Peleg**, for in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.*

Eber was the great grandson of **Shem**, one of Noah's sons, and he would have lived around 100 years after **the Flood**. The flood was the time when the windows of heaven were opened and the fountains of the deep burst forth (*Gen. 7:11-12*).

It says in *Genesis 10:25* that in Eber's days, 'the earth was divided'. He had 2 sons, one with the name **Peleg** meaning 'division, earthquake, watercourse'; and the other Joktan meaning 'he will be made little', or 'small dispute, contention'.

Let's review with a timeline of events:

- On *Day 3*, the dry land appeared as God gathered the waters together into one place and the land in another.
- In the *days of Noah*, the earth was flooded once again as the waters above the firmament rained down on the earth.
- Then during the *days of Eber*, God **divided the land**, perhaps with an earthquake, such that the waters were no longer gathered in just one place. This explains why Eber called his son **Peleg**, meaning **division**.

As we finish, can you remember what God saw after He called the dry land 'Earth' and the waters 'Seas'?

We will return to *Day 3* in Genesis in the next lesson, where we shall see the dry land become fruitful.

Activity: In the Pangaea outline below can you find and color North America? Can you pinpoint **Florida** where we are?



Lesson 7