

Creation: The Biblical Witness

Bill Barrick
Equipping Class

1. Genesis 1:1 = part of Day 1. A coherent account — see Exodus 20:8–11.
2. Genesis 1:1, “God” is the third word in the Hebrew text and the subject of the first verb (“created”). Creation is about God, by God, for God, and witnessed by God.
3. Genesis 1:2 is a parenthetical explanation of the state of “the earth” when God created it — no room for a “gap theory.”
4. Genesis 1:2, “without form and void” — Days 1–3 *Forming* & Days 4–6 *Filling* — not the Framework Hypothesis!
5. Genesis 1:3 — God spoke light into existence (cp. Psalm 33:6 “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth their host.” 33:9 “For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.”) — God’s light (cp. Revelation 21:23; 22:5; and John 1:1–5).
6. Genesis 1:5 — definition of “day” = “evening and morning”
7. Genesis 1:7, 9, 11, 15, 24, 30 — “And it was so” (cp. 2 Kings 15:12) — “It happened just that way!”
8. Genesis 1:27 — tricolon (poetic), threefold use of *bara’* (“created”), “image of God,” and “male and female” — detail provided in 2:4–25.
9. Literary observations: many literary devices (repetition, triplets, inclusios, etc.), but soundly historical narrative; patterned as a genealogy (cf. *toledot* as the structure of Genesis).
10. The order of creation testifies to God being in complete control and providing everything that each day of creation required for the sustaining of life and for the divine program for human beings as His vice-regents.