



Genesis Chapter 1

Before we get started I think it's important that we lay down some guidelines as to how we will proceed with our study into the Torah. The first thing that I want everyone to know is that we will be reading every chapter, every verse, and every line, of the book of Genesis, and then right on into the other four books of the Torah. And once we've read each chapter separately... we'll then go back, and slow down, and make note of some of the things that we may have overlooked. So once again I hope you have your highlighters and your notebooks and your Bibles with you, and just in case you're in a place without your Bible, we'll be showing the Scripture on the screen so we can read it together.

Another thing that I'd like to mention is that I will for the most part be using the "English Standard Version" of the Bible. I do not speak 16th century "Old English" Shakspearian language... and I care far less about the pretty poetry of the language than I do the actual truth of scripture, and I think that it's fair to say, that most of us around the world do not speak 16th century "Old English" Shakspearian language any more today, and so because we want our young people, and everyone to clearly understand what is being said... we will for the most part... be using the English Standard Version that is translated in every day English. However... we will from time to time move to different versions of the Bible so that we can identify certain Hebrew words and definitions. Now... if you're using a King James Version or some other translation ... don't worry, you'll still be able to follow along with us just fine. So, with all of that out of the way... let's begin with Genesis chapter 1 verse one:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Gen 1:2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Gen 1:3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Gen 1:4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness.

Gen 1:5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Gen 1:6 And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

Gen 1:7 And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so.

Gen 1:8 And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

Gen 1:9 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place,

and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

Gen 1:10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:11 And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so.

Gen 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Gen 1:14 And 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,

Gen 1:15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so.

Gen 1:16 And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars.

Gen 1:17 And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

Gen 1:18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Gen 1:20 And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens."

Gen 1:21 So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

Gen 1:23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

Gen 1:24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so.

Gen 1:25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Gen 1:29 And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

Gen 1:30 And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything

that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

Gen 1:31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Now at first glance it seems that Genesis chapter 1 is pretty straightforward. But there are some foundational principles that we find in this chapter of Genesis that will continue to be true all throughout the Torah. You might call them the mechanics, or the foundational building blocks that our father in heaven uses all throughout his Torah. And so, we want to slow down right here at the beginning and make sure that we've got a good handle on these foundational principles, and these building blocks if you will.

One of the first foundational principles that we need to understand is "who God is". I would submit to you that very few Christians have ever seriously taken the time to sit down and ask themselves "who God is"? But if we stopped to think about it, there are really only two ways that we can know who God is. The first way we can know who God is... is by his name. And the second way that we can know who God is... is by his characteristics, and his attributes. And so we're going to examine these two ways that we can know who our God is as we move forward throughout the scripture.

But before we do... I'd like to talk about this ecumenical movement that the Roman Catholic Church is now calling for, and the idea that all gods are really the same. The Roman Catholic Church is now pushing a very liberal ecumenical idea (if you will) of who god is. And it is now being taught by not only the Roman Catholic Church, but several of her protestant daughter churches, as well, that all gods are the same, and that we all worship the same god. And we are now hearing more and more from the Roman Catholic church, and many of her so called "Protestant" daughter churches... that it really doesn't matter which God you worship. You can worship Krishna, or Brahma, or Buddha, or Allah, and it really doesn't matter because they're all the same god according to the Roman Catholic Church, and several of her daughter "Protestant" churches that have come full circle back under the umbrella of Catholicism.

Now the Roman Catholic church will argue that she is not claiming that we all worship the same god... but they are clearly alluding to this ecumenical idea in the hopes of drawing all of the religions of the world back under the umbrella of Catholicism. And we all know how many millions of Christians, and Jews were murdered at the hand of the Roman Catholic church when she ruled over the world back in the dark ages. And if you're not aware of this historical fact... please do your homework, and understand the historical facts of church history. A good place to start would to be with a documentary entitled "A Lamp In The Dark". You can find that documentary on Youtube, and we also have a link to it posted at our website at HolyIMPactMinistries.com in the "Church History" section of our website. This is an excellent video to use as a springboard into your own investigation. And again, it is entitled "A Lamp In The Dark". And just to make my point... I'd like to take you to a couple of news outlets before we get started.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/03/25/children-of-the-same-god-pope-francis-washes-the-feet-of-muslim-migrants/?utm_term=.beca81ec83a7

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/christians-muslims-and-the-one-god>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/pope-francis-declares-evolution-and-big-bang-theory-are-right-and-god-isnt-a-magician-with-a-magic-9822514.html>

<https://lifehopeandtruth.com/prophecy/blog/whats-behind-pope-francis-ecumenical-efforts/>

Definition of “Ecumenical”:

https://www.google.com/search?q=ecumenical&rlz=1C1AVNG_enUS670US670&oq=ecumenical&aqs=chrome..69i57j69i60j69i65.208580604j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

The Roman Catholic Pope is indeed bringing back her so called “Protestant” churches, back under her power and authority. There have been several examples of this Roman Catholic ecumenical movement with men like “Kenneth Copeland, Joel Osteen, Rick Warren” and others who have all openly decided to bow the knee to the so called “Vicar of Christ” who thinks in his own mind... that he is the replacement of our Messiah on earth.

The question we need to ask ourselves is... are we all children of God according to the scripture? Let’s think about what our Messiah told the Scribes and the Pharisees of his time about who their father was. John 8:37-47:

Joh 8:37 I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you.

Joh 8:38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."

Joh 8:39 They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did,

Joh 8:40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did.

Joh 8:41 You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God."

Joh 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me.

Joh 8:43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word.

Joh 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Joh 8:45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.

Joh 8:46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me?

Joh 8:47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

Clearly... according to our Messiah these men were not of God. And we're clearly told in Genesis chapter 3 verse 15 that both the woman and the serpent would have offspring. Our Messiah made it more than clear when his disciples asked him why he spoke to the people in parables... he said in Matthew 13:11... and I quote *"To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given."* In Matthew 13:13 and 14 he says and I quote *"This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: ""You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive."*

You see the gospel is not for everyone, and not everyone is of God, but only those who hear the truth and abide in it. And that my friends is according to our Messiah, and his own red-letter words, that are written in our God breathed scriptures.

In John 14:6, our Messiah said "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

And so, before we go any farther in this study, I want everyone to know that this Roman Catholic inspired, ecumenical movement is nothing more than a demonically inspired doctrine of demons, that will lead to nothing more than today's modern-day Christians coming back into the bondage and the chains of Catholicism and her Roman Catholic Popery. This ecumenical movement has been contrived and demonically conceived to give the Roman Catholic Pope his power back so that he can rule and reign over not just the Christian... but all the religions of the world. Just as the scriptures have already told us my friends... there will be a one world religion... a beast... who will rule and reign over Gods people for a time, times and a half of a time. And we're watching it take place today in real time, with our own eyes.

Not only are the meanings of names of these other gods as different as night and day. But so too are the characteristics and the attributes of each of these other god's as different as night and day... and as we move through the book of Genesis we'll begin to see just how different all of these other pagan gods are when we compare them to the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

As for the Muslim who says that he worships the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob... we've already seen the differences between the characteristics and the attributes of the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob who gave have his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life... and the Muslim god "Allah", who cuts the heads

off of those how have come to his Son.

The characteristics and attributes of the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob would never condone chopping the heads off of Christians who follow after his only begotten son who was slain for the sins of the whole world. And so once again my friends I would submit to you... that even the Muslim knows... that we do not serve the same God, and if the Pope is not careful... he himself may wind up on the wrong end of their god. Surly he must know that he is indeed at the top of their beheading list, and not because he's a Christian because he's not... but because he's not a Muslim... and anyone who is not a Muslim is on their beheading list... even other Muslims who do not believe as they do... are on their beheading list... so surely one would think that Roman Catholic Pope of all people would be aware of these facts... but then again... maybe he's not. Kind of reminds me of John 8:47 *Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them... is that you are not of God.*"

Moving forward... as we venture into the Torah, we'll also be venturing into different Hebrew words. And it won't take us long to realize that the Hebrew language is very optically oriented. Even the original letters of the Hebrew alphabet were created to look like pictures of things, so that people would be able to remember what each letter stood for. Each letter of the Hebrew alphabet tells a story. And when these letters were used to form a word, the very meaning of each letter would assist them in understanding what the word meant. So, the Hebrew language and alphabet are uniquely different than the English language.

When people were named by their parents they were often times given a name that represented who they were, or what they did. And at times we'll find that God takes it upon himself to change the names of certain people, because he wants their name to mean something else. The very name of our Father in Heaven has a very specific meaning as well... and so the name of our father in heaven is in no way shape or form to be confused with another man-made little "g" gods name. Our Father in Heaven tells us that we are not to worship him like these other little "g" gods that man has created. Let's turn to Deuteronomy 12:28-32:

Deu 12:28 Be careful to obey all these words that I command you, that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.

Deu 12:29 "When the LORD your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land,

Deu 12:30 take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, 'How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do the same.'

Deu 12:31 You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the LORD hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.

Deu 12:32 "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

Now within these verses I want us to pay special attention to verses 30 and 31. Our father clearly tells us not to be ensnared by the people of these other nations, and not to even inquire about their God's. And I want us to understand that commandment. Our father in heaven says do not inquire about their God's. He says don't even ask how these nations served their gods, and think that you're going to worship me in that way. Our father says in verse 31 and I quote "you shall not worship Yahovah your God in that way". Let there be no mistake about it my friends, our father in heaven will not tolerate us calling him by any other name other than his name, or worshiping him in any other way other than the way he tells us to worship him. Our father in heaven will not tolerate us worshiping him like the pagans worship their gods. And this is a direct commandment from our father in heaven. And this my friends is where too many would be Christians have gone wrong and missed the mark. We think that it's okay to worship him the way we want to worship him. We think it's okay to change his Sabbath, and to make up his Sons birthday, and to make up all of these pagan traditions, rituals, and myths of men, and to forget that our Messiah died on Passover day just like all four gospels tell us that he did. But our Father in Heaven forbids this kind of devilish pagan behavior. And I tell you the truth my friends... the time is soon coming when the sheep will be separated from the goats... and the luke warm will be spit out of our Fathers mouth. Let's turn to Exodus 20:1-3:

Exo 20:1 And God spoke all these words, saying,

Exo 20:2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Exo 20:3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

Exodus chapter 20 verse three tells us that we shall have no other gods before the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. So according to the Scripture, there are no other gods before our God. And that's not according to the Roman Catholic Church, or their pagan Pope, or some denominational charter of men, or some early church father, or some prestigious Bible commentator. This is according to God's breathed Scripture.

And so, with all of that being said... I want to take just a few moments here and talk about the name of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

The very first verse of Genesis uses the word "God" in most of our English translations, but the original Hebrew word used here is "Elohim". The first thing that we need to understand is that "Elohim" or "God" is not the name of our Father in Heaven. Our Father in Heaven wrote his name in his scriptures thousands of times over and over and over again... and we'll get to that as we move forward in our study into his Torah, but we're not actually introduced to the name of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob until later on in the Torah.

For now... in the book of Genesis... the word "Elohim" or "God" is how we are initially introduced to him. "Elohim" is a title, more like an office. I can be called "dad" or "pastor", or "grandpa", but these are not my name. These are offices that I hold. I'm a dad, and I'm a pastor,

and I'm a grandfather. I'm also a musician, a back-yard mechanic, and an outdoorsman... but none of these things are my name. And so, it is with "Elohim". "Elohim" is an office. We'll investigate this Hebrew word "Elohim" a little later on in our study, but for now it's important to understand that when we see the words "God", or "Elohim", in the book of Genesis... these words are used in general to refer to the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. And we'll get into all of the different offices and the actual name of God later on in our study into the Torah, so we'll come back to this when the time is appropriate.

One of the most popular arguments that we continuously hear... has to do with the question of when creation began. Just like there are all kinds of doctrines, and theologies, and philosophies out there concerning most of Scripture... there are also all kinds of doctrines, and theologies, and philosophies out there concerning when creation began. Now contrary to popular belief, there are scientists out there who are good God-fearing, Bible believing, Messiah following Christians, who do believe in the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob and his only begotten son Yeshua Jesus our Messiah. And so, if you were to ask one of these Bible believing astrophysicists when creation began... he would most likely tell you that creation began when God said "let there be light". And it was at this moment in time... that many atheists believe what they call "the Big Bang" actually took place. And we could get into the dynamics of modern-day science, but were not here to prove the validation of modern day science, we're here to prove the truth of God's word. However... it would be safe to say that science is indeed slowly catching up to what we find in the scripture.

Even men like Steven Hawking are now coming full circle back to the idea that there is a master designer. The probability of all of life being created out of chaos is much much much less believable, than the probability of life being created by an intelligent designer. All of life is dependent on other life. The honey bee cannot exist without the flower, the flower cannot exist without the soil, and the soil cannot grow things without the fertilization of other plants that die and give the soil the nitrogen, and nutrients it needs to grow things, and on and on it goes right on down to the micro biological aspects of nature... all... which do what they do, because God commanded it to be so. The Sun, Moon, and the stars keep their stations down to the second... why? Because an explosion happened out of nothingness? Out of Chaos came order?

Think about it my friends... the probability of all of creation being able to remanufacture itself, and sustain itself, and multiply and be fruitful all because of a firecracker that went off in some void of nothingness is on its face... nonsensical. All one has to do is to look around at the complexity of life... to know and understand that there is without a doubt... an intelligent designer at work in all of our lives. Psalms 19:1-6:

Psa 19:1 To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Psa 19:2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

Psa 19:3 There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

Psa 19:4 Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In

them he has set a tent for the sun,

Psa 19:5 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber; and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Psa 19:6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

You see my friends... it is because of creation... that man cannot deny the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Romans 1:18-21:

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Rom 1:19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

Rom 1:20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

Rom 1:21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

One of the unique characteristics of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob is his Ruach Hakodesh, also known as his Holy Spirit. When we are baptized in both the water and the spirit, a normal man, then becomes a new five-dimensional creature. Aside from length, width, depth, and time... Another dimension is added to man, and that fifth dimension is his Ruach Hakodesh that dwells within every believer who has picked up their crosses and has made the conscience decision to follow after the only begotten son of God. And once again we find that science is slowly catching up to the fact that the spirit or conscience of man does indeed add another dimension to a human being. And there have been all kinds of scientific tests done on people who have died, and then come back from the dead and even though they were dead for the last 15 minutes, they could explain in detail what the doctor was doing and what was being said during their conversation, and what was going on in the room above them. And you can go online and do a whole study on what science knows about what happens after death. And so once again... science is beginning to catch up to the truth of God's word. Man is indeed both physical, and spiritual, which is one of the attributes that makes him the very image of God.

Another fundamental building block that we find in Genesis chapter 1 is how long a day is according to Scripture. According to the generations of the Hebrew people found in our Scripture the Earth is said to be nearing 6000 years old. But science, and its carbon dating tells us that the world is around 15 billion years old. And so, you often times here people scoffing at the idea of a 6000-year-old earth. But does the book of Genesis really tell us that the Earth is only 6000 years old? People often times have a difficult time understanding how God could have created the heavens and the earth in six days, and how the earth could possibly only be 6000 years old, but I would submit to you my friends that the book of Genesis does not tell us that the earth is only 6000 years old.

If we look closely at the text, we find in Genesis 1:1 that it is written and I quote “in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” In verse two it tells us that the earth was without form and void and darkness was over the face of the deep. It wasn’t until verse three on the first day... that God said, “let there be light”. So, the question then becomes how much time had passed from between “the beginning” ... found in Genesis 1:1, and when God said, “let there be light” on the first day, in verse three?

God simply says in the beginning that he created the heavens and the earth, but he does not say that he created the heavens and the earth on day one. It says he created light, and that the light was good on day one, but he does not say that he created the heavens and the earth on day one. So, the question then becomes how long was the heavens and the earth sitting there without form and void before God actually created light on the first day? And the answer to that question is... we’re not told. We simply have no idea how much time had passed from the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth... and the first day, when God decided to create light. And so therefore, it could very well be that the Earth itself is 15 billion years old. Nowhere in the book of Genesis are we told any different. So, the truth is that our atheist friends really don’t have an argument to argue... and neither do we.

Now with that being said... we often hear brothers and sisters proudly proclaiming that the Bible says that to God one day is like 1000 years, and a 1000 years is as one day. But is the Scripture talking about a literal thousand years, or is that simply an idiom that means that God lives in a place without time? The truth is, that only God knows. All we know for sure is that God lives outside of time and space as we know it.

Another thing we need to understand is when does a day begin? As followers of the Torah we know that according to the Scripture a day begins at sundown, and starts at sundown. In today’s Babylonian world, we say that the day ends at midnight, and starts a second after midnight, because we keep time by our mechanical clocks and watches. We count our days by a mechanical watch, or a mechanical clock, but originally the Hebrew people counted their days by the sun moon and the stars. And where did the Hebrew people get that idea? They got it from Genesis chapter 1 verse five:

Gen 1:5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And so once again we have a very fundamental dynamic that is known all throughout the Scripture that we need to be aware of. A day, does not start at midnight as we think it does. A day starts when the sun goes down according to Scripture, evening comes first, then morning, not morning and then evening as we think a day begins and ends.

Now this next fundamental building block is a little bit more difficult to understand... so this is where we need to fasten our seatbelts and put on our thinking caps. In verse three we are told

“and God said let there be light, and there was light”. The word light in verse three comes from the Hebrew word “ore”, and the Hebrew word “ore” does not mean “light” as in the sun, or lamp, or something that gives off light. The word “ore” means to become, or to exist, it means enlightenment. It does not mean light is in a light that comes out of a flashlight or from the sun.

When we get farther down to verse 14... it says, *“and God said let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night”*, we find the Hebrew word translated as light here... is the Hebrew word “maor”, and the Hebrew word “maor” does mean a luminary light, like the light that comes from the sun or from a lamp or a flashlight. Going back to versus three and four, we see that this “light” is more of an intelligent enlightenment that God creates, and he says that this enlightenment is good... Which implies that the darkness was not good. Otherwise God would not have had to create light. So, in other words when God created “ore” he created illumination and enlightenment, understanding. This illumination and enlightenment was needed in order to create life. There had to be intelligence, or illumination within the creation that God was about to create. Then after he created illumination and enlightenment, and understanding, we find a few verses down in verse 14 that he creates real light in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. These two Hebrew words “ore” and “maor” are very different in their meaning. In the book of Revelation, we are told that when the new Jerusalem comes down out of heaven and is planted on the new Earth, that there will be no more “maor” or light that shines from the sun. We’re told that we will live by the “light” of God. Revelation 21:23-24:

Rev 21:23 And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Rev 21:24 By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it,

Rev 21:25 and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

So once again we can see that there is a difference between these two kinds of light. This kind of light that we see in the book of Revelation does not come from the sun above either, but rather this kind of light comes from the son of God, and the Scripture tells us that there will be no night in the new Jerusalem because the light of the Lamb will always shine there. And so, it’s important for us to see that our father equates a luminary light with spiritual light, and darkness with spiritual blindness. This is why the light is good, and the darkness is not. And this is just another foundational principle that we will see all throughout the 66 books of our Bibles. Let’s turn to 1st Thessalonians 5:1-6:

1Th 5:1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you.

1Th 5:2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

1Th 5:3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

1Th 5:4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

1Th 5:5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

1Th 5:6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

Here again we see that Paul is talking about us not being of the darkness in verse 4, which means that we are not spiritually blind as the world is. Paul says that we are all children of the light, children of the day... which means that we will be spiritually awake and watching. Paul says that we are not of the night or of the darkness, so let us not sleep as others do. He's not talking about physically sleeping... he's talking about spiritually sleeping. And so once again we see this foundational building block from the book of Genesis being played out in the New Testament, just as it is all throughout all of the scripture.

If we go back to verse four and we take a closer look at the word "darkness", we find that it is taken from the Hebrew word "Choshek" which means obscurity, or ignorance. This word is not the opposite of day. In Hebrew night is "layil" which is the opposite of day... and is an entirely different word than "choshek".

So, what was this illumination and enlightenment that God created in verses three and four? It could have been the very essence of God that we call the "Shekinah glory", of God. We read about the "Shekinah glory" of God in several places in the Scripture, (even though the word "shekinah" is not actually used in the scripture, it's meaning is) and this kind of illumination is the kind of illumination that we can see with our spiritual eyes and it will come from God himself rather than any kind of luminous object like the sun above us today that we see with our physical human eyes.

I find it interesting that there will be no darkness in the new heaven and the new earth. What we need to remember is that light is always equated with goodness in the Scripture, and darkness is always equated with wickedness, and so we should not be surprised that there will be no darkness in his coming kingdom.

And so the light has this kind of duality if you will to it... There is a spiritual light that gives us enlightenment and understanding... and then there is the physical light that we can see with our physical eyes... and there is also a kind of "duality" mentioned throughout the Scriptures concerning other things that we need to make note of. We human beings are a perfect example of the "duality" that we find in the Scripture. We are created beings that God created out of the dust of the earth. We are part of the physical world. We have height, width, and depth, and we are subject to time... But we also have an invisible property known as the "soul" or "spirit". So, to be completely honest, there is a duality to each one of us. Just like there is a physical light, and a spiritual light that we just talked about that are both found in the first chapter of the book of Genesis. So too is man both physical and spiritual at the same time. Good and evil are both spiritual, not physical attributes. But they are often times likened to light and darkness in our physical world.

In verse 27 we are told that God created humankind in his own image. And so, if this is true then the idea that we evolved, or mutated from a fish or a lizard into human beings cannot possibly be true. So just to be clear... there is no two ways about it. We either believe what our Father in Heaven tells us in his God breathed scriptures... or we choose to believe the wisdom of man who can't seem to see past the end of his nose (just some food for thought).

And so, what does it mean to be made in the image of God? Once again, we have to ask ourselves how do we know God? Again, we know him one of two ways. First by his name and second by his attributes. Now we know that we don't have all the attributes of God, but we do have some of them... just like a young man may have some of the attributes of his father but never really has all of the attributes of his father. So, it's important to try and grasp some of these foundational building blocks right off the bat here in the first chapter of the book of Genesis because we're going to see them being played out all throughout the scripture in both the "Old" and the "New Testaments".

As we'll soon see all throughout the scripture, what happens in Heaven, (in the spiritual world) is often times made manifest on the Earth. When God told Moses how to build the tabernacle in the wilderness he told him to make it just like the one that he showed him on the mountain... in other words... just like the tabernacle that was already in Heaven. Much of what we see from our Father in Heaven is a type and a shadow of Heavenly things. Take into consideration Hebrews 9:22-24:

Heb 9:22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Heb 9:23 Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Heb 9:24 For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

Just as our Father in Heaven created the Aaronic Priesthood. Only those who were in the bloodline of Aaron could be a High Priest here on earth... but our Messiah was a High Priest in the order of Melkisedek. A higher priesthood than the priesthood of Aaron. Once again showing us the duality of things not yet seen. And so it is that man himself is a walking duality. We have a spiritual side which is our spirit, and our soul which makes up who we really are that comes from the breath of God... and we have a physical side, which is our physical body, and it's brain, heart, and flesh, which will return to the dust of the earth. And so I want us to keep these things in mind as we move forward next week into chapter two... of the book of Genesis!