

OT History for Juniors: Lesson 1, "CREATION"

I. THE BEGINNING

- A. Before there was anything, before there was this world, before there was space, before there was time, in the beginning, there was God.**
1. God has no beginning. He was always there.
 2. But everything else has a beginning.
 3. And who was there at the beginning? Nobody except God, which is why *only God* can tell us how the world came to be. Read Job 38:4
 4. This is very important to remember: there will be people who will tell you that the world was not made by God, but the answer to them is this, "*Were you there?*"
- B. It was always God's plan to make a world, a beautiful world, a world which would show how great He is in His power and in His wisdom.**
1. And, so in the beginning, God made the world just as He had planned.
 2. Now, if you are going to make something you need stuff to make it from. For example, if you are going to make a cake you need flour, and butter and sugar, etc.
 3. But God did not have anything because there was nothing. He did not need anything. All He had to do was SPEAK. "By the Word of His power" (Q&A 4). Your words have no power, if you say, Let there be cake, there is no cake! But God's word is powerful.
 4. And so the first chapter in the Bible tells us that God made the world, and how He made the world. God made the world in a specific order over a time period of six days.

II. THE FIRST WEEK

- A. Day 1: in the beginning there was simply darkness. Thick darkness. And God said, "Let there be light."**
1. Suddenly, as soon as God spoke, there was light, beautiful bright light. Now there was light and darkness.
 2. God separated the light from the darkness and He called the light DAY and He called the darkness NIGHT
- B. Day 2: after the first day of light and the first night of darkness, God spoke again. Let there be a firmament.**
1. This firmament means something stretched out and it means that God stretched out the heavens and made what we call SKY.
 2. So, God stretched out the heavens or sky and the evening and the morning were the 2nd Day.
- C. Day: 3 after the second day of light and the second night of darkness, God spoke again, Let there be land, sea and plants.**
1. Before this there was one great deep [body of water], a huge sea, but God said, "Let the waters be gathered together in one place and let dry land appear."
 2. As soon as God spoke, the waters of the world moved, and dry land appeared, so dry that you could walk on it, but there were no people yet to walk on it.
 3. Then God spoke again and He said, "Let there be all kinds of plants, trees, herbs, grass, flowers, and let them grow and have seeds." And it was so!
 4. So, on the third day the dry ground was covered with beautiful plants.
- D. Day 4: remember that God made light on the first day? Now He made lights to bring light to the earth. God spoke again, "Let there be ..." and there was!**
1. He made many kinds of lights but really three kinds, the SUN for the day, the MOON and the STARS for the night. Now the sky was filled with beautiful lights which warmed the earth and gave it light so the plants could grow.
 2. These lights were to be signs, so that we could measure time by watching the sunrise and sunset, and the movement of the moon, stars and planets.
 3. So, the evening and the morning were the 4th Day.
- E. Day 5: So, far God has made light, day and night, the land and sea, plants and the sun, moon and stars. Now He begins to create different kinds of animal life.**
1. The sea and the sky were empty. There was no sound in the whole world. There were only plants; and plants do not make sounds. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth ..."
 2. Two kinds of creatures came forth from the sea: fish and birds. Suddenly the sea was full of swimming fish, big fish, little fish of all colours and shapes, and the sky was filled with birds, singing, flying, chirping.
 3. And the evening and the morning were the 5th Day. [*Pause: why do you think God is making the world in this way, so beautiful, so filled with life? Well, first, He wants to show how great He is. By speaking He makes a*

good world. Second, He is preparing a beautiful home for His greatest creation, MAN. But, there is no man yet].

F. Day 6: there are fish in the sea and birds in the sky but no living things on the land except plants. And God said, “Let the earth bring forth the living creature ...”

1. Suddenly, the earth was full of animals, little animals, big animals, furry animals, scaly animals, all of them different. There were big elephants and tiny mice, little creeping things ...
2. And then God paused He looked at everything He had made but there was one more thing to make, and this time He did not just say, “Let there be ...”
3. He talked with Himself: “Let us make man in our image ...” Man was a special creature of God.

III. MAN’S CREATION

A. There are differences between the creation of all things and the creation of man.

1. God took special care when making man. When He made the sun He simply said, “Let there be ...” But when He made man He formed man carefully from the dust of the ground.
2. God gathered up some dust and made a man from it, and then He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, so man lived. Man is more than body. He also has a soul, that part which will exist forever.
3. And God made man in His image so that in a special way man was like God. He did not look like God. God is invisible. He was not as powerful or as glorious as God. Only God is God. Man is always only man, but in a special way man could love God and serve God perfectly.
4. After God made man He called him ADAM and He brought all the animals to Adam to give them names. This showed that God gave Adam power over them. If you can name something you rule over it. That is why your parents gave you names.

B. But Adam was not complete. He needed a help meet, a helper and a friend who could be with him, so God made Eve.

1. And God took special care in making Eve. He did not just say, ‘Let there be Eve’
2. God put Adam into a deep sleep and while Adam slept God took from Adam a rib from his body and made that rib into another beautiful person like Adam but different, and God brought that person to Adam.
3. Adam was delighted with the help meet. He called her WOMAN and EVE. Why those names?

IV. THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK

A. After six days of making [review the six days] God rested.

1. Does this mean that He was tired? No.
2. It means that He looked at His work of creation and He took pleasure in it because it was very good.
3. And He blessed Adam and Eve and He gave unto them a day of rest, a day when they could worship Him.
4. We have still a day of rest, the day we call Sunday, when we do not work, but we go to church to worship God.

B. Adam and Eve loved God and they served Him.

1. They looked after the Garden and they walked and talked with God, and their life in the beautiful Garden of Eden was perfect.
2. They lived as the king and queen of the earthly creation and their calling was to use everything God made to bring praise to God who had made them and gave them all good things to enjoy.
3. But, next week, we will see that they did not do that for long.