

The Creative Majesty of God

Genesis 1:1-2:3



Notes and Music

What is the difference between playing notes and making music?
What is the difference between hearing notes and hearing music?
Hearing (and singing) the song of God...

Our context

Christians have divided based on Genesis 1
Youth earth: 10,000 years, plus or minus
Old earth: millions or billions of years
Often along denominational lines, even judging others as not being true Christians

Evangelical Free Church

“Significance of silence”: our shared belief statement is silent on areas where equally solid and biblical Christians have historically disagreed

Debate is okay. But... Never divide over the issue. Never let the issue dominate

Includes: age of universe, meaning and mode of baptism, order of salvation, “millennial” views, ...

Their context: Stories of Creation

Enuma Elish: about 2000 BC

Chaos of water was separated into 2 gods, whose union gave birth to other gods, who were loud, which prompted fighting.
They were killed.

One god eventually won and created humans from the remains of the other gods

Humans were created to serve the gods

Genesis 1:1-2:3

1:1-2 [In the beginning]

God created
Not yet ready for humanity [a chaotic wasteland]
Creation would take time
And God was ready to begin

1:3-5 [Day 1]

Days 1-3: darkness and deep are pushed back [not destroyed]
To bring light and land
To support animal flourishing
Days 4-6: God filled the space He had made
Day 7: God stopped His work of creating

1:6-8 [Day 2]

Water pushed back
Sky = heavens [place for birds, planets, God]
3 domains: sky, sea, dry land
Days 1-3: darkness and deep are pushed back [not destroyed]

1:9-13 [Day 3]

1:14-19 [Day 4]

1:20-23 [Day 5]

1:24-31 [Day 6]

2:1-3 [Day 7]

The Main Point

God made everything so that humanity would worship God by delighting in His life-giving creativity

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place... Psalm 8:3

His perfect design is life-giving in all ways

Looking intently
Study and learn
Experience His creation
and worship God!

by following His joy-giving instructions

Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands.
Psalm 112:1

God's commands are like the musical score of a masterpiece
We enter His joy when we live His ways

by living in His image and likeness → life-giving creativity

We are made in His image and likeness
We are to rule over and subdue creation
Join in the life-giving creative work of God!

Pray His blessing into existence
Open hearts to God
Bring healing and peace
Form space where life flourishes
Call forth praise to God



Make time to worship God

A soul that is singing His songs

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. **“When I consider the heavens...”** What parts of God’s creation move you to worship God? When and where will you make time to consider His creation?
2. **“Blessed are those...who find great delight in his commands.”** What parts of God’s design and instructions for our lives bring you delight? When and where will you make time to delight in His Word?
3. What parts of His design and instructions are currently hard for you to delight in? What would it look like to “fear the LORD”, meaning that you submit to all of His words, including the hard ones, believing them to be true and right and good?
4. What does it look like for you to **join in the life-giving creative work of God**? This can include forming space for the flourishing of life, calling forth praise to God, opening hearts to God and His ways, bringing healing and peace, all by the power of His Spirit living in us.

Conversation starters

What parts of the world or the universe do you delight in? Why?

What parts of the world make you grieve? Why?