

## “The Simplicity of Biblical Creation”

Gen. 1:1

Jan. 26, 2025

### Gen 1:1

#### 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- Creation is a theological issue, not a scientific issue.
- You must decide, when you open the first page of Scripture, how will you handle it. Is it literal? Is it figurative? Is it myth? Is it symbolic?
- Are you going to believe the Bible at its face value?
- You have to ask yourself this question: If creation was done in 6 literal 24 hour days, nothing more and nothing less, how could God have communicated it any better? What could He have possibly said?
- There is nothing lacking in Gen. 1 & 2 that would warrant an insertion of more information.
- Evolution, or even a hint of it, is found nowhere in Ge. 1 & 2 or for that matter in the entire Bible.
- God gave us all that we need to believe how He created the universe and it is all very clear.
- No one was there.

**No one x nothing = everything**

“Genesis 1:1 is unique in all literature, science, and philosophy. Every other system of cosmogony, whether in ancient religious myths or modern scientific models, starts with eternal matter or energy in some form, from which other entities were supposedly gradually derived by some process. Only the Book of Genesis even attempts to account for the ultimate origin of matter, space, and time;”

- Henry Morris

“Essentially, mankind has only two choices. Either we have evolved out of the slime and can be explained only in a materialistic sense, meaning that we are made of nothing but the material, or we have been made on a heavenly pattern.”

- Douglas Kelly

"Those are ultimately the only two options: We can either believe what Genesis says, or not. If Gen 1:1 is true, then the universe and everything in it was created by a loving and personal God, and His purposes are clearly revealed to us in Scripture. Further, if the Genesis account is true, then we bear the stamp of God and are loved by Him—and *because* we are made in His image, human beings have a dignity, value, and obligation that transcends that of all other creatures. Moreover, if Genesis is true, then we not only have God's own answers to the questions of what we are here for and how we got where we are, but we also have the promise of salvation from our sin."

- John MacArthur

"Therefore, if Genesis is untrue, we might as well assume that no God exists at all. That is precisely the assumption behind modern evolutionary theory. If true, it means that impersonal matter is the ultimate reality. Human personality and human intelligence are simply meaningless accidents produced at random by the natural processes of evolution. We have no moral accountability to any higher Being. All morality—indeed, all truth itself—is ultimately relative. In fact, truth, falsehood, goodness, and evil are all merely theoretical notions with no real meaning or significance. Nothing really matters in the vast immensity of an infinite, impersonal universe."

- John MacArthur

"There are a lot of people who call themselves Christians who believe that Genesis is an inadequate presentation of what happened, and we have to marry it with scientific discovery in order to get to the truth..... Get past that notion, and you will free yourself from needless doubts and endless confusion. Get past the idea that science makes any contribution to an understanding of creation. It makes none. Now this may shock you. There is no such thing as the **science of creation**. There is no such thing... Why? Because there is no scientific way to explain creation. It was not a natural event...it was a brief series of monumental supernatural events that cannot be explained by science. All science is based on observation and no one observed creation."

- John MacArthur

### Gen 1:1

**1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.**

The universe is made up of time, space, and matter. All 3 of these are contained in verse 1.

**"In the beginning"** – that's time.

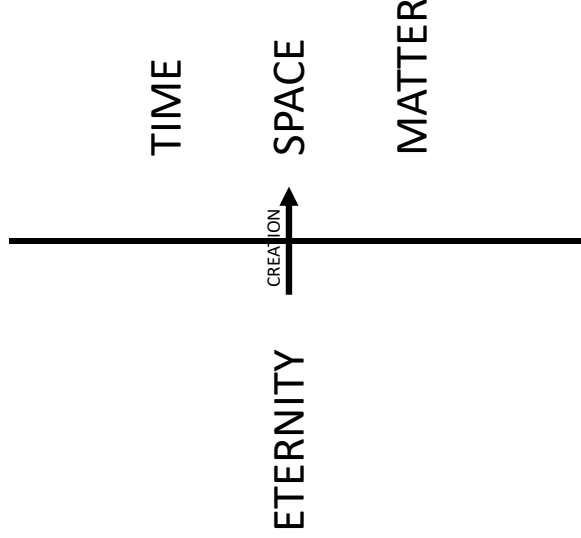
## Tycab

"*bereishyt* "

- **Meaning:** first in place, in time, in order, in rank.
- Tells us nothing as to when the "beginning" was. There is no specific time given. This is just the "first."
- This is the beginning of time.

### John 1:1-3

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
- So we are moving from the existence of eternity to the existence of time.



### Gen 1:1

**1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.**

## Myhla

"*Elohim*"

- **Meaning:** God, the supreme, the mighty One. Emphasizes that He is the infinite, all-powerful Creator.
- Masculine plural form. God is a "He" and He is plural in His majesty and Being (Trinity??)
- God existed before "the beginning."
- So where did God come from?
- God created time, space, and matter. So He exists outside of those.
- God therefore did not have a beginning. If He had a beginning, He would have an ending. We live in a realm that things have to have beginnings. Eternity is different.
- God is the uncaused cause of everything.
- Someone or something has to be eternal. It is either God or matter.
- **Note:** Moses doesn't address the existence of God. Why?

### Ps 14:1

4 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

### Heb 11:6

6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

“Without God there can be no beginning. There is no becoming with God. God can not not be. He must exist. His being is eternally necessary. He is dependent on nothing for His existence. If God dies we’re done. We disappear.

... God is the uncaused cause of everything. We need an eternal, self-existent, independent being who Himself is not an effect.”

- R C Sproul

Henry Morris explains that “this one verse refutes all of man’s false philosophies concerning the origin and meaning of the world:

It refutes **atheism**, because the universe was created by God. It refutes **pantheism**, for God is transcendent to that which He created.

It refutes **polytheism**, for one God created all things.

It refutes **materialism**, for matter had a beginning.

It refutes **dualism**, because God was alone when He created.

It refutes **humanism**, because God, not man, is the ultimate reality.

It refutes **evolutionism**, because God created all things.

### Gen 1:1

**1** *In the beginning God created the **heavens** and the earth.*  
“the heavens” – that’s space.

# mymvH

“*hshamayim*”

- **Meaning:** the sky, that which is lofty, where celestial bodies are.

- “Heavens” is plural:

- 1<sup>st</sup> heaven – atmosphere around the earth.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> heaven – outer space.

### Ps 115:16

16 The heavens are the heavens of the Lord,

But the earth He has given to the sons of men.

All three persons of the Trinity participated in creation:

**The Father** - Ge. 1:1-31; Isa. 40:21-28; Isa. 43:1, 7; Isa. 45:12, 18; 48:13; 51:13; Acts 14:15; 17:24

**The Son** - John 1:3; Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:3; Rev. 3:14+

**The Spirit** - Ge. 1:2; Job 26:13; 33:4; Ps. 104:30; Isa. 42:5

### Gen 1:1

**1** *In the beginning God **created** the heavens and the earth.*

## Arb

“*bara*”

- **Meaning:** to create, to bring about, make, produce.

• Only used of God, never of man.

• It is what God does. A work that only God can do.

• It can be used to create from nothing, as used here in Gen. 1:1, or it can be used to create from something.

• The word also contains the meanings of shaping, forming, and transforming.

• “*ex nihilo*” – out of nothing. Latin for “from nothing.”

### Rom 4:17

17 who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.

### Heb 11:3

3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

### Rom 11:36

36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

## WHAT IS A LIGHT-YEAR?

A **light-year** is the distance that light travels in one year. It serves as a unit of measurement in astronomy to express vast cosmic distances.

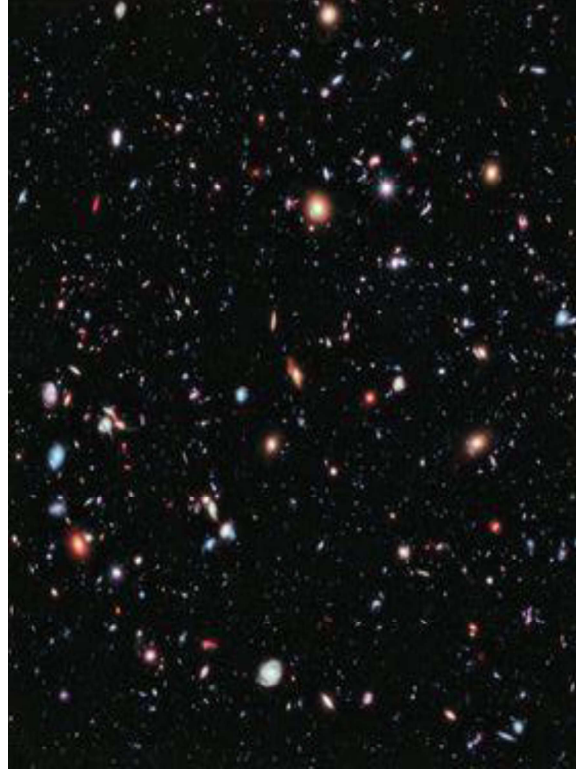
Since light is the fastest known entity, traveling at about 299,792 kilometers (or 186,282 miles) per second, the **light-year** provides a useful way to comprehend and discuss the immense scales and distances within the universe.



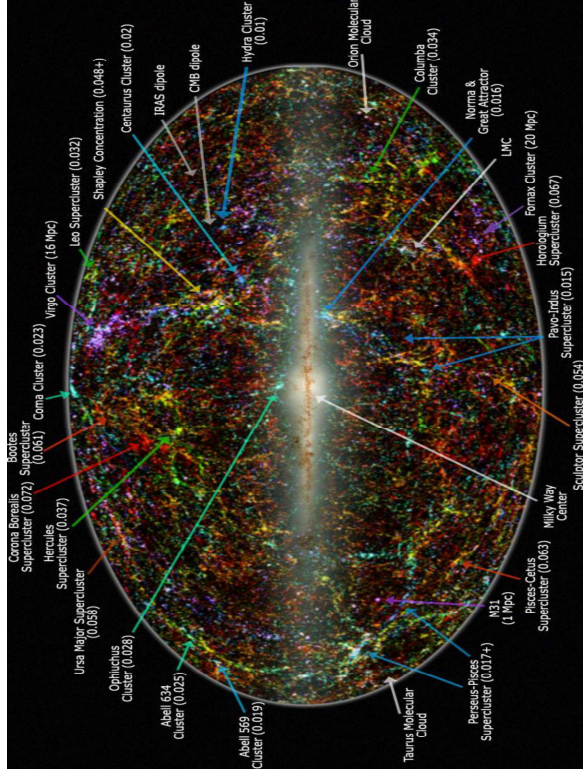
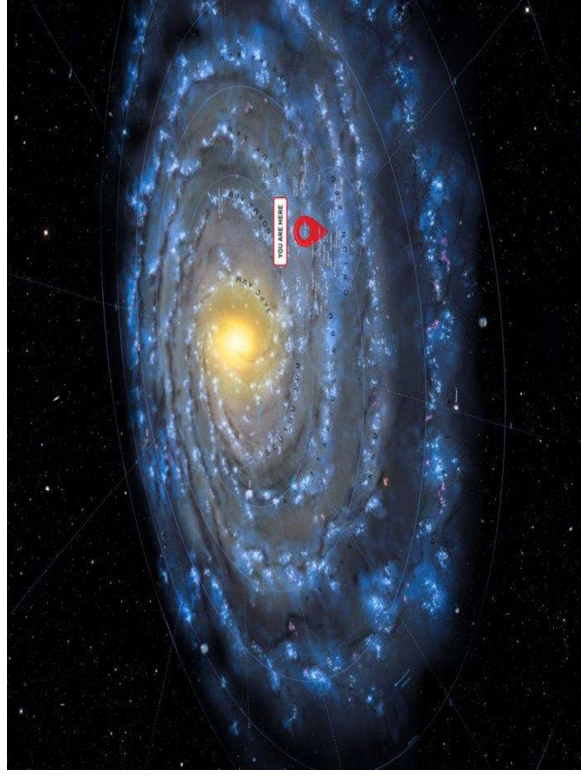
Light takes 8 minutes to travel from the Sun to the Earth

0,000,01581 light-years





**Space fact:**  
 In the observable universe there are an estimated 2 trillion (2,000,000,000,000) galaxies.



100,000 light years

The known universe, 1922

93 billion light years

The known universe, Now



## Gen. 1:1

**1** *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

. . . *the earth.*” – that’s matter.

# Xra

“*erets*

- **Meaning:** to be firm, land, earth.
- **Note:** matter is created. It has not eternally existed.

## Ps 8

1 O Lord, our Lord,  
How majestic is Your name in all the earth,  
Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!  
2 From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength  
Because of Your adversaries,  
To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.  
3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,  
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;  
4 What is man that You take thought of him,  
And the son of man that You care for him?  
5 Yet You have made him a little lower than God,  
And You crown him with glory and majesty!  
6 You make him to rule over the works of Your hands;  
You have put all things under his feet,  
7 All sheep and oxen,  
And also the beasts of the field,  
8 The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea,  
Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.  
9 O Lord, our Lord,  
How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

## The Fine tuning of the planet earth by God:

1. The **earth’s mass** is just right to provide 1. gravity for a life-sustaining atmosphere of oxygen, nitrogen, and water, 2. a protective magnetic field from the sun’s solar radiation, and 3. a stable rotation to moderate daily temperatures across the whole earth’s surface.
2. The **earth’s distance** from sun is just right to have 1. a surface temperature to sustain life without all water eventually freezing to ice or boiling completely away, 2. an annual cycle of moderate seasons based on the tilt of the earth’s axis, and 3. the right kind and amount sunlight necessary for abundant photosynthesis.
3. The **sun’s mass** and age are just right to provide 1. a stable orbit for the earth around the sun, 2. a consistent emission of ultraviolet (UV) light to provide a protective layer of ozone in earth’s atmosphere, and 3. enough infrared (IR) light to maintain a hospitable temperature on earth.
4. Our one and only **moon’s mass** and distance to earth are just right to 1. stabilize the earth’s axial tilt and seasonal temperature variations, and 2. to enable modest ocean tides, preventing these waters from becoming stagnant and lifeless, or violent and destructive. No other planet in our solar system has exactly one moon. Mercury and Venus have none. Jupiter and Saturn each have over 50 moons.
5. The **largest planets** in our solar system, especially Jupiter and Saturn, are necessary to block comets and asteroids from bombarding earth with frequent extinction-level events. These large planets are just the right size and in just the right place to allow life on earth to flourish.

## Application

1. What you do with the Bible depends on what you do with the first sentence of Genesis.
2. Trust the text as it was given. God does not need your help.
3. Eternity, in which God exists, knows no birth or death.
4. Faith is required, regardless what your view of origins is. Creation is a series of supernatural events.
5. The staggering immensity of the universe and the detail of planet earth reveals the power of God and His ability to care for us.