

The Creation

GENESIS 1 (GW)

1In the beginning God created heaven and earth.

2The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep water. The Spirit of God was hovering over the water.

3Then God said, "Let there be light!" So there was light. 4God saw the light was good. So God separated the light from the darkness. 5God named the light day, and the darkness he named night. There was evening, then morning—the first day.

6Then God said, "Let there be a horizon in the middle of the water in order to separate the water." 7So God made the horizon and separated the water above and below the horizon. And so it was. 8God named what was above the horizon sky. There was evening, then morning—a second day.

9Then God said, "Let the water under the sky come together in one area, and let the dry land appear." And so it was. 10God named the dry land earth. The water which came together he named sea. God saw that it was good. 11Then God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: plants bearing seeds, each according to its own type, and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds, each according to its own type." And so it was. 12The earth produced vegetation: plants bearing seeds, each according to its own type, and trees bearing fruit with seeds, each according to its own type. God saw that they were good. 13There was evening, then morning—a third day.

14Then God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to separate the day from the night. They will be signs and will mark religious festivals, days, and years. 15They will be lights in the sky to shine on the earth." And so it was. 16God made the two bright lights: the larger light to rule the day and the smaller light to rule the night. He also made the stars. 17God put them in the sky to give light to the earth, 18to dominate the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. 19There was evening, then morning—a fourth day.

20Then God said, "Let the water swarm with swimming creatures, and let birds fly through the sky over the earth." 21So God created the large sea creatures, every type of creature that swims around in the water and every type of flying bird. God saw that they were good. 22God blessed them and said, "Be fertile, increase in number, fill the sea, and let there be many birds on the earth." 23There was evening, then morning—a fifth day.

24Then God said, "Let the earth produce every type of living creature: every type of domestic animal, crawling animal, and wild animal." And so it was. 25God made every type of wild animal, every type of domestic animal, and every type of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw that they were good.

26Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness. Let them rule the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the domestic animals all over the earth, and all the animals that crawl on the earth."

27So God created humans in his image.

In the image of God he created them.

He created them male and female.

28God blessed them and said, "Be fertile, increase in number, fill the earth, and be its master. Rule the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that crawl on the earth."

29God said, "I have given you every plant with seeds on the face of the earth and every tree that has fruit with seeds. This will be your food. 30I have given all green plants as food to every land animal, every bird in the sky, and every animal that crawls on the earth—every living, breathing animal." And so it was.

31And God saw everything that he had made and that it was very good. There was evening, then morning—the sixth day.

Genesis 2: 1Heaven and earth and everything in them were finished. 2By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing. On the seventh day he stopped the work he had been doing. 3Then God blessed the seventh day and set it apart as holy, because on that day he stopped all his work of creation.