

And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. (Gen 1:1-5)

Introduction

In the Beginning!

Were you there in the beginning? Well, that depends upon what you mean by the BEGINNING. We were all present at the beginning of this day, the beginning of the year, the beginning of our lives at birth, etc....

But I make reference to the BEGINNING of all things as we know them – SPACE, TIME, LIGHT, ENERGY, and LIFE!

Before the beginning, there was only God and the Council of Heaven – Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

God envisioned you and me before He planned the world. He designed the world especially for you and me. The Hebrew word for 'GOD' in verse one is ELOHIM. Elohim is a special case word in the Hebrew language. It is, to describe it most simply, a singular-plural word meaning more than one-in-one. This more than one in one was the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Gen 1:1 All Three Persons of the Godhead were present and the active agents of CREATION: Father – the Great Architect of the Universe; Son – the Great Engineer and Builder; and the Holy Ghost – The Great Essence of Light and Life. Who was the primary actor in Creation?

It was the Lord Jesus Christ! He was the Executive Person at Creation! *In the beginning was the Word* (Christ), *and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.* (John 1:1-4)

The First Night and Day!

We humans choose to refer to the two parts of a whole day as "Day and Night." This may result from our desire and preference to light over darkness; but that is not the way

the Bible defines a day: "And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. <u>And</u> the evening and the morning were the first day."

God does not speak in confused tones. He has a reason from describing a day as evening and morning. Because of this description of day in the Torah (1st five books of the Bible) the Hebrews began every day at sunset. The Sabbath begins at sunset and ends at sunset the next day, for example.

Before God began His Creative Process, there was no space, or time, or matter. God existed beyond these elements in the Divine Presence of the Trinity. In full council, they decided upon all that God would create, and they agreed to the sequence and the role of each Person of the Trinity in that process. The whole plan was first created, as are all great undertakings, in the Mind of God. God conceived, and God produced. There was one particular aspect of Creation that was troubling God could create Mankind to be perfect in obedience, or He could create them to have discretion between good and evil. He desired that mankind would be capable of both receiving, and giving, in love. If Man were to possess the capacity for love, He must be free to make choices. So God opted to create Mankind as free agents. There would be a problem with that choice since Man will always sin when free to decide. God is perfect in love, but also perfect in justice. He can brook no sin in His Heaven. So God must also provide a means of redemption for the Man He would create. Knowing that Adam would sin, God would provide a willing Substitute for the sin of men if they would accept that Substitute. That Substitute role was willingly accepted by the Lord Jesus Christ in His Pre-Incarnate state.

God began Creation by establishing a space (a heaven) for the Universe. This space was separate and apart from His Divine Presence in Heaven. The space was veiled in deep and stifling darkness. He created, at the same time, a glob of matter to occupy a small corner of the space He had created. That glob of matter was the earth. It was dark and formless. "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep." Moreover, it was empty of all life. There was no light to even view that emptiness. God's Creation began in darkness (night) but would end in glorious LIGHT! "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness." Yes, Light is Good, and Darkness – not so much so. Light reveals good things, and exposes evil and dangerous paths as well. Light gives life, and Light is never deceitful. Light is one of the characteristics that come from God! But darkness exists where God has not moved and before light came on earth. The Holy Ghost moved upon the dark countenance of the earth as a precursor to further Creation. God does not labor in darkness, and neither should we.

It is impossible to actually divide light from darkness for darkness cannot mix with Light. The smallest candle will scatter the darkness before it in a large area. This is because darkness is simply the absence of Light, and is therefore the favored environment for sin and wickedness to prevail. But God is Light, and He scatters the darkness. Though it is impossible to divide light from darkness, God can do all things, and that is exactly what He did! He created the earth as a revolving globe. When the portion of the earth that revolves away from the light source has made its circuit, it is shadowed in its OWN darkness. The world is darkness compared to the Children of Light in Christ.

"And God said, Let there be light!" God spoke Light into existence. It was not a gradual illumination, but an abrupt one which scattered the darkness as the sands of the dune are driven by the desert winds. It was the first time the Universe had ever seen light, but there was no one there to witness the Light but the Triune God.

"And God saw the light, that it was good!" Yes, Light is always good. Without the Light of the Sun, there would be no energy on earth to warm and feed its inhabitants. Light is essential. There is only one good quality about darkness – it enhances our ability to sleep and rest as God intended it. Unfortunately, too many sleep the light-filled day away and get into all kinds of mischief at night. Sin LOVES darkness!

"And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." As you can see, the Hebrews have a biblical justification for beginning their days at sunset. This first day is the most important day of all, for without the first day, there could never have followed the other six days of the week. There could never have been a Day of Passover, or a Day of Atonement! There could never have been an "Acceptable Day of the Lord" without that first Day; and there could never been a Lord's Day, or Last Day, for the consummation of all things – no Day of Redemption, or Day of Judgment; no day when the glory of the Lord should fill the heavens at the sound of the trumpet. There would be no Easter Day, or Christmas Day. No, without the First Day, no other days are possible.

Do you not believe that we should thank the Lord for that first Day, and every other that He has given us under the sun? Of course, it need not even be said that even BEFORE that First Day, the Lord had you and me in mind. He knew us before the worlds were made. He knew you would be here at this time and moment because He already made plans for you; and whatever the Lord conceives, He will act upon. He is still in the act of Creation. What part of God's Creation is most important to you and me? The most important Creation of God of all others is this: *Create in me a clean heart*, *O God; and renew a right spirit within me*. (Psalms 51:10)

The Day will soon come when there will be another First Day beyond this veil of tears and sorrow: 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, <u>Behold, I make all things new</u>. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. (Rev 21:3-6)

Has your heart been made NEW in Christ, friend?