

# GOD'S GOOD WAY IN CREATING ALL THINGS

GENESIS 1:2-5



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was **with** God, and the Word **was** God. **He was in the beginning** with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.” (John 1:1-5)*

*“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.... But according to His promise we are looking for **new heavens and a new earth**, in which righteousness dwells.” (1 Peter 3:10, 13)*

When we are confronted with the holiness of God **as Creator**, that truth should move us to **worship** Him as **our** Creator.

*“Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power; **for You created all things**, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.” (Rev. 4:11)*

*“For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods, in whose hand are the depths of the earth, the peaks of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for it was He who made it, and His hands formed the dry land. Come, let **us** worship and bow down, let **us** kneel before the Lord **our** Maker. For He is **our** God, and **we are** the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.” (Ps. 95:3-7)*

Moses' account is meant to showcase the power of God in His sovereign will to create **what** was **good to Him** and **in the way** that was also good to Him.

In God's account of creation, Moses takes us through the **details** of what God wants us to know about the six **literal days** of God's activity to make a **habitable** world for our good and His glory.

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of "*God's Spirit*" (Gen. 1:1-2)

"*Earth*" (*eres*): a mass of matter which is yet to be shaped by the Lord, and which is devoid of light or any other distinguishable feature.



# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of "*God's Spirit*" (Gen. 1:1-2)

Three clauses describing the **original** condition of earth in God's process of creation:

1. Formless and void
2. Darkness was over the surface of the deep
3. The spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of "God's Spirit" (Gen. 1:1-2)

Formless (*tohu*) = wilderness or wasteland

Void (*bohu*) = emptiness or wasteland

**barren, lifeless, desolate, uninhabitable** wasteland

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of "*God's Spirit*" (Gen. 1:1-2)

"The essential meaning, therefore, is: 'In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth [or space and matter], and the matter so created was at first unformed and uninhabited.'" *(Henry Morris)*

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of “*God's Spirit*” (Gen. 1:1-2)

### *Rachaph*

- *moving over* (NASB)
- *hovering over* (ESV and others)
- In this verb form it can be understood as hover or brood, as in a hen or eagle covering, or a spreading over her chicks

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of "God Said": The **first words** of creation! (Gen. 1:3)

Here is the pattern establishing God's sovereign **authority** as Creator:

God **said**, God **saw**, God **called**, and **it was so**.

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of "God Said": The **first words** of creation! (Gen. 1:3)

1. Announcement: *God said*
2. Command: *let there be*
3. Fulfillment: *it was so*
4. Execution: e.g., *light*
5. Approval: *saw...good*
6. Subsequent word: *God called*
7. Day number

*(Gordon Wenham)*

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of "God Said": The **first words** of creation! (Gen. 1:3)

Every detail is important and serves to build on **God's emphasis** that creation itself was designed to **worship** God and **reflect** God's glory.

*"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands." (Ps. 19:1)*

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of "God Said": The **first words** of creation! (Gen. 1:3)

“Creation is an act of God alone, by which, for His own glory, He brings into existence everything in the universe, things that had no existence prior to His creative word.” *(John Frame)*



# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of “God Said”: The **first words** of creation! (Gen. 1:3)

*“By the **word** of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the **breath** of His mouth all their host.... For He **spoke**, and it was done; He **commanded**, and it stood still.”* (Ps. 33: 6, 9)

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of "God Said": The **first words** of creation! (Gen. 1:3)

Much of the point of "*God said*" is that creation responded in **instantaneous obedience** to the Creator's **command**.

*"Then God said, 'let there be light'; and there was light."*

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of "God Saw" (Gen. 1:4)

“Could it have been a mass of glowing matter that was later shaped into the sun? Or (as seems more likely) could it have been a disembodied light, an ethereal temporary brilliance decreed by God to illuminate His creation until permanent lights were set in place? The nature of this light is not described. We are simply told that light existed because God told it to exist.” *(John MacArthur)*

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

The Good of "God Called" (Gen. 1:5)

**God named what He created.**

**Day** and **night** marked the boundaries God set for what He then called evening, morning, and **one day**.

# I. God's Good Way: Day One


## The Good of "God Called" (Gen. 1:5)

“Indeed, nothing in Scripture itself would ever lead anyone to think that the world is billions of years old or that the days of creation were long eras. Instead, by defining the days of creation according to the light cycle that separates day from night, Scripture states as explicitly as possible that the days of creation were equal in length to normal solar days.

# I. God's Good Way: Day One

## The Good of "God Called" (Gen. 1:5)

“And part of the wonder of creation is the ease and speed with which God formed something so unimaginably vast, complex, intricate, and beautiful... what the biblical account aims to stress is the infinite majesty and power of the Almighty One who accomplished so much, so perfectly, in so short a time, with nothing more than His Word.” *(John MacArthur)*

A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth, looking up at the stars. The Milky Way is visible as a bright, colorful band of stars stretching across the sky. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with a focus on the vastness of the universe.

GRACE CHURCH  
WILLIAMSBURG