

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church  
Date: September 29, 2021  
Class: Genesis—From Paradise to Prison

### REPETITION: THE KEY TO LEARNING

There are four phrases that God repeats over and over in Genesis 1:1-2:3.

1. Phrase #1: “and” or “then God said” *followed by* “and it was so.”

The phrase “and” or “then God said” is repeated nine times (verses 3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26, 29)

The phrase “and it was so” appears seven times (verses 3, 7, 9, 11, 15, 24, 30)

- Psalm 33:6, 8-9
- Psalm 148:1-5
- Hebrews 11:3

2. Phrase #2: “according to their various kinds.”

This phrase is repeated ten times in **verses 11, 12** (twice), **21** (twice), **24** (twice), **25** (three times)

A. The Bible teaches that each basic category of life (each “kind”) appeared \_\_\_\_\_, without descending from an ancestor of a different sort. See 1 Cor. 15:39-41. Much variation within a category (or “kind”) is expected, but each “kind” possessed genetic limits in its variability, and thus exhibited “stasis” = the tendency of types of organisms to remain unchanged over time; static or stationary with respect to evolutionary process.

B. Evolution is the idea that all of life has descended from a common ancestor thru a process of modification over time (lots of time). All life descended from a single-celled organism which arose spontaneously from non-living chemicals. Changes occurred through natural processes, including mutation, natural selection, and genetic recombination.

PROBLEM: the fossil record gives \_\_\_\_\_ to this concept/theory. If evolution did happen, one would expect to find an abundance of \_\_\_\_\_ forms. The reality is, there are \_\_\_\_\_.

1) Catastrophism, Uniformitarianism, and now \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.

2) \_\_\_\_\_ - evolution  
Large hypothetical changes which occur in an individual or in a population of organisms which produce an entirely new category or novel trait.

3) Punctuated equilibrium  
Macro evolution on a rapid pace. This idea is invoked to explain and allow for evolution in the absence of fossil transitional forms.

3. Phrase #3: “And there was evening, and there was morning; the \_\_\_\_\_ day.”

The phrase is repeated six times (verses 3, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31).

A. Prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century . . .

B. In the later 18<sup>th</sup> century (late 1700’s) . . .

- C. Ever since, the length of the “days” of creation has been a major controversy in biblical interpretation among evangelicals for over 150 years. Many have sought to \_\_\_\_\_ the term in light of the naturalistic presuppositions of recent evolutionary theory.
- D. Those who argue that the word “day” means “a long geologic age of millions of years” point out that the Hebrew word **yom** (יֹם) can have a number of meanings, only one of which is a day of 24-hours. And its true, the word “day” can have a variety of meanings.
- E. The immediate context and usage elsewhere in other contexts determine which of these is intended by the writer. The word “day” appears 2,301 times in the OT and almost always means a literal 24-hour earth-rotation day.

NOTE: Use of “day” outside of Genesis:

- 1) “Day” with a number **410 times** (in plural or singular) - always means an ordinary day.
- 2) “Evening” and “Morning” without “day” **38 times** - always means an ordinary day.
- 3) “Evening” or “Morning” together with “day” **23 times** each - always means an ordinary day.
- 4) “Night” with “Day” **52 times** – always means an ordinary day.

NOTE: Exo. 20:7-11 & 31:12-17 clearly define how **yom** (יֹם) is to be understood in Gen. 1.

F. But what about 2 Peter 3:8?

#### 4. Phrase #4: “And God saw that it was good.”

This phrase appears six times (verses 4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25). But the 6-day creation week ends with the summary evaluation found in verse 31. Six times before, God saw that what He had made was “good”. But now that it was complete, with every part in perfect harmony with every other part, all perfectly formed & filled with an abundance of inhabitants; God saw that was all “very good”.

This one verse is sufficient to refute any attempt to harmonize the Genesis account of creation with the accepted system of geologic ages and it’s teaching of millions (even billions) of years for the age of the earth. Fossils, billions of them imbedded in the sedimentary rock layers all over the earth, speak of pain, death, killing, disease, thorns, struggle, suffering, and extinction. How do you interpret the fossil record?

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ the Genesis Record and \_\_\_\_\_ naturalism = natural causes along are sufficient to explain everything that exists.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ the Genesis Record (chs. 1-11) as \_\_\_\_\_ history, as the divinely revealed history of creation (1-2), corruption (3-5), catastrophe (6-9), & confusion (10-11).
- C. Try to \_\_\_\_\_ the Genesis Record of creation with the accepted system of geologic ages and it’s teaching of millions of years for the age of the earth.

The latter (Point “C”) will not work:

- 1) Death “entered into the world” when sin came in through man (see Romans 5:12).
- 2) Do you believe God’s Word? If the Genesis Record is not historically trustworthy, then neither is the rest of the Bible, included its testimony about \_\_\_\_\_ (see John 5:46-47).