

Reading God's Creation Account Scientifically

Review:

God wrote the Creation Account.

Moses cited Him as the source. *Toledoth* (account, generations) Genesis 2:4

God gave this to Adam and his descendants. Romans 10:17 Faith comes from hearing. . .

God knows science better than anyone – He created the universe.

God is a better communicator than anyone – He invented language.

God does not lie or deceive - He tells the truth about creation details.

We can read the Creation Account scientifically.

Genesis 1:1 In a beginning God created the spaces and the land.

What can we learn about time, space, and matter in this verse? (Not review)

<https://einstein.stanford.edu/SPACETIME/spacetime2.html> “What are space and time?

Do they exist absolutely, or only relative to matter?

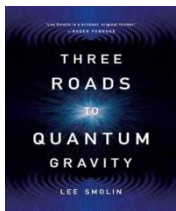
Do they constitute the fixed background or stage upon which the drama of life is played out — or do they themselves also take part in the action?

Such questions are as old as philosophy itself.”

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spacetime> “In physics, spacetime is a mathematical model that combines the three dimensions of space and one dimension of time into a single four-dimensional manifold.”

Until the 20th century, it was assumed that the three-dimensional geometry of the universe (its spatial expression in terms of coordinates, distances, and directions) was independent of one-dimensional time.

The physicist Albert Einstein helped develop the idea of spacetime as part of his theory of relativity.”



“This book is about the simplest of all questions to ask: ‘What are time and space?’

This is also one of the hardest questions to answer. . .”

“ . . . somewhere in our thinking there is at least one, and possibly several, wrong assumptions.

At the very least, these assumptions involve our concept of space and time.”

(Pages 1-10)

Biblical Response: In a beginning (of time) God created the spaces and the land (matter).

According to this verse, what are time, space, and matter? Does the Bible agree with ‘spacetime’?

The Bible says the spaces and land were created. Both spaces and land are physical substances.

Time (beginning) was not created. It is NOT a physical substance. Time started when spaces and land were created. The “spacetime model” does not agree with the Creation Account. God disagrees with Einstein.

The Bible suggests that science needs correction and advancement here!

Back to Review:

The land was formless, lifeless, and dark across the surfaces of its vast depth, but God’s Spirit eagerly moved across the watery surfaces.

God said, “Let there be light,” and there was Light! God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light and the dark.

God defined ‘day’ as a period of light. He defined ‘night’ as a period of dark.

There was evening and there was morning, one day.

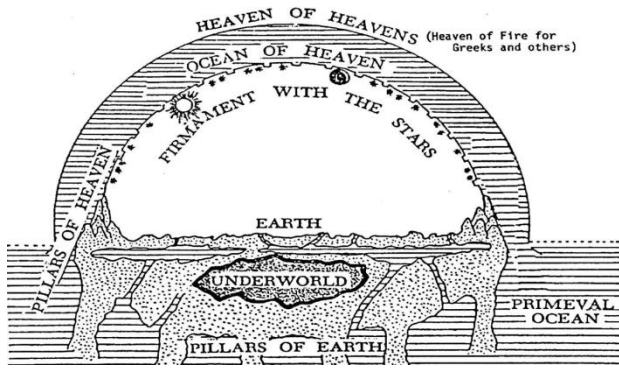
DAY 2

God said, “Let there be an expanse within the waters. Let it separate waters from waters.”

God made the expanse and separated the waters under the expanse from the waters above the expanse. And it was as designed. God defined ‘spaces’ as the expanse. There was evening, and there was morning, a second day.

Isaiah 42:5 ESV Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens (spaces) and stretched them out (expanse), who spread out (separated) the earth (land, waters) and what comes from it (Earth, stars, etc.), who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:

Isaiah 40:21-22 ESV Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;



A Problem: Genesis 1:6 KJV And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

Some scientists and theologians say that the Bible borrowed the 'firmament' from ancient Greek cosmology. It is the fixed shell above the flat earth on which the stars are fastened and rotate around the earth. This cosmology is archaic and proven wrong. Is this accusation right?

The translators of the Septuagint knew Greek cosmology. In Greek cosmology the fixed dome expanse that contained the stars was the *stereoma*. Thus, this should be a good translation

of the Hebrew word *raqia* (expanse where God would place the stars). Unfortunately, this translation then linked the Bible with Greek cosmology and a fixed dome.

When the Bible was translated into Latin with a similar cosmology, the Latin word *firmamentum* was used. This word was kept in the KJV English translation.

Raqia (Expanse)

"The word *raqia* implies something that has been spread out or stretched out; it is the noun form of the verb *raqa*, which means, 'to spread out or stretch out.'"

<https://www.fulcrum7.com/apologetics/2019/2/2/raqia-expanse-of-the-heavens-or-solid-structure>

Raqia never means a fixed dome with stars attached.

Scientific Questions for Day 2:

How far was space stretched out on day 2?

In the Big Bang, space was immensely expanded (by an explosion, not stretched) at such a fast rate that it would have been the size of our current universe in 24 hours if it had continued at the original speed.

Compare and contrast the Big Bang and God's Expanse:

Similar

- All matter of the universe in one location
- All moved apart rapidly
- Space expanded

Different

- Temperature (Hot vs. Not hot)
- Time (Billions of years vs. One day)
- Explosion or Stretching out.
- Space expands differently (Stretchy pieces, stretchy nothingness)

What is space? What are spaces?

- They were created
- Stretched out
- Opposite of land

Most scientists see space as the vacuum or void. If space is stretchy pieces, are meters the right measure?

DAY 3

God said, "Let the waters under the spaces be collected into one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was as designed.

God defined 'land' as the dry ground and 'seas' as the gathered waters. God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let the land sprout grass, plants with seeds, and trees with fruit and seeds. Each seed reproducing its own family on the land."

The land responded with grass, plants with seeds, and trees with fruit and seeds. Each seed reproducing its own family.

God saw that it was good. There was evening, and there was morning, a third day.

Questions and comments:

- Nothing was created. Everything was made from existing materials (spaces and land).
- What are plants? Are they alive in the same sense as animals?
- What are 'kinds' or 'families'?