

Study notes for Genesis 1:1 - 2:3

- Why do you think a study of Creation is important?
- Why do you think many people refuse to believe that the Creation is literal?
- What do you think God wants us to learn about Himself, the world, or ourselves from each of the following repeated phrases? “**And God said, ‘Let ...’ And it was so.**” and “**It was good**” (each created thing) and “**it was very good**” (all creation)
- The apostle John began his gospel account with, “**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... Through him all things were made.**” (John 1:1, 3). Where does the Word of God appear in the Creation account?
- Where do you see the Holy Spirit’s involvement in Creation?
- Read Psalm 19:1 and Romans 1:20. What are these passages telling us about Creation?
- In **Genesis 1:1** the word **created** means “made from nothing.” Why is that an important revelation?
- What purposes or commands did God give to ...
 - the sun and moon (see 1:16–18)?
 - the animals (see 1:22, 26)?
 - men and women (see 1:28)?
 - plants (see 1:29–30)?
- What can we learn about our world from the purposes God assigned to each part of His creation?
- How does Genesis 1 help us refute the following beliefs?
 - The material world, and especially the human body, is evil. Only spirit or soul is good (see 1:31).
 - Everything came about by chance (see 1:3).
 - The sun, moon, and stars determine a person’s destiny (see 1:14–18).
 - God is a spirit or force that permeates the world. Mother Earth is divine.
 - Only male humans are created in God’s image (see 1:27).
- What does it mean that God made the seventh day “holy”?
- Using a concordance, find references to the Sabbath and rest in the New Testament. How is Christ’s work like the Creation (see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Hebrews 10:11–14)? How has Christ affected the meaning of Sabbath-rest?