

CREATION: COMPLETED

GENESIS 1:26-31

- The world was now fully prepared for its human inhabitants who would be given dominion over it— **dominion, not destruction.**
- God did not need 4.6 billion years to prepare the earth for man, as theistic evolutionists seem to think.
- In **verse 26** God speaks, as it were, to Himself: “And God said, ‘Let **US** make man in **OUR** image, after **OUR** likeness.’” What’s up with that?

A TRIUNE BOARD MEETING

Thus God—*ELOHIM*—could only have been speaking to Himself; one member of the uni-plural Godhead was addressing another—the Trinity talking.

- This fascinating type of exchange within the Godhead appears in a number of other places in the Bible: **PSALM 2:7; ISAIAH 48:16; MATTHEW 11.**
- The divine councils centering on man had first taken place long before **GENESIS 1:** *“In the beginning.”*

MAN IS NOT AN ANIMAL

Man's physical structure and mental ability would be far more complex than that of the animals, yet it would be of the same basic essence and elements.

- Therefore God "***MADE** man*" (Hebrew **ASAH**) physically out of the existing elements; yet "***CREATED***" (**BARA**) "man in our image."
- Something in man was not only quantitatively greater, but qualitatively distinctive, something not possessed in any degree by the animals.

SO, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

The term is used to define that aspect of man which is like God—*“the likeness of God”*—as an eternal spirit, as well as possessed of esthetic, moral, spiritual attributes.

- Moral consciousness, knowledge of right and wrong.
- The ability to think abstractly, an understanding of beauty and emotion.
- Above all, the capacity for worshiping and loving God—an eternal consciousness and awareness.

MADE, CREATED . . . WHO CARES?

Triune God, as is clearly seen in Jesus/Immanuel, can:

- See (**GENESIS 16:13**); Hear (**PSALM 94:9**)
- Smell (**GENESIS 8:21**); Touch (**GENESIS 32:32**)
- Speak (**2 PETER 1:18**)

So it is true that, physically as well as spiritually, man was both ***MADE*** and ***CREATED*** in the image and likeness of God the Son.

- Man is also a trinity of body, soul, and spirit.

GOD UNIQUELY BLESSES MANKIND

- 1.** The first command and blessing given to Adam and Eve was to *“be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”* Yep, God invented sex and made it good!
- 2.** The second blessing is the primeval commission to man to ***subdue*** and take ***dominion*** as man’s basic enterprises relative to the earth.

Science and technology, research and development, theory and application, are ways of expressing these two concepts.

Man is Earth’s steward. Grade: D-

GOD AND VEGGIE BURGERS

After giving man his commission, God told him of the provision for his most essential need—that of food.

- God tells Adam, *“I have given you every herb.”* So both men and animals were originally vegetarians and herbivorous—*Adam, just go pick it!*
- This is not an endorsement of pot smoking as Al Gore once said! God categorically said that *“practicing”* drug abuse is a good way to end up in eternal damnation. **GALATIANS 5:19-21**

IT'S ALL GOOD v. 31

- No struggle for existence, no disease, no pollution, no physical calamities (earthquakes, floods, etc.), no imbalance or lack of harmony, no disorder, no sin and, above all, no death!
- It was all “***very good***” at the end of the *sixth day*. The remainder of the 66 books tell us about what God planned to do all along, is doing now, and will do in the future to save mankind and restore the world He created to “***very good***”!