

MAN: THE DRAMA BEGINS

GENESIS 2:1-7

The passage is, of course, a marvelous assertive summary that God had now completed His work of ***CREATING*** and ***MAKING*** all things.

We must realize that the present processes of ***CONSERVATION*** and ***ENTROPY*** are not processes of ***CREATING*** and ***MAKING***, and therefore it is fruitless for man to attempt to understand the origin of all things apart from divine revelation of the past processes.

GOD RESTED

- This completion of God's work of creation is also stressed in the New Testament. **HEB. 4:1-4**
- The Scripture does not say, "God is resting (as in ongoing snoozing) on the seventh day."
- But rather, "God *rested (finished, not doing what He was doing before)* on the seventh day."
- **EXODUS 31:17** even says that "*on the seventh day He rested, and was refreshed.*" Because the work of Redemption was coming!

THE SABBATH REST

- This day of “*REST*” of every seventh day was for man’s benefit (**MARK 2:27**), and was obviously intended as a permanent human institution.
- The literal Sabbath day was incorporated in the Mosaic covenant with Israel in a very special way AND IS ONLY FOR ISRAEL. **EXODUS 31:16-17**
- The Sabbath rest and worship, not on the specific day “Saturday,” but the spiritual/physical rest of one day a week, will continue eternally. **ISAIAH 66:23**

NO CONTRADICTION

The second chapter of Genesis describes in greater detail the events of the sixth day of creation, especially of the formation of the man and woman.

- It does not in any respect contradict the account in the first chapter, but instead is complementary to it.
- The section from **GENESIS 2:4b** through **GENESIS 5:1** was probably written originally by Adam himself and in effect represents his own perspective on the creation—or **20/20 HINDSIGHT**. 😊

SOME HEAVENLY HISTORY v. 4-5

- ***History/Generations*** or ***Beginnings*** (Heb. ***Toledoth***) is the word from which “Genesis” gets its name.
- ***Verse 5: “had grown.”*** This statement clearly teaches the fact of functioning maturity or creation of apparent age; hence the appearance of millions/billions of years of age to the human.
- Even the original hydrologic cycle was drastically different from that of our present one after the Flood; today’s is seen in ***ECC. 1:6-7; ISA. 55:10; JOB 28:24-26.***

WHAT IS MAN MADE OF? v. 7

This verse tells not of the creation of man as in **GENESIS 1:27**, but is simply the account of the formation and energizing of his body.

- God used the “dust of the ground,” as Paul also said in **1 COR. 15:47**, to make man’s body; a phrase conveying the thought of good old dirt— the basic chemical elements of carbon, sulfur, phosphorus, nitrogen, oxygen, and calcium.

THE BREATH OF LIFE

This statement may seem at first to be anthropomorphic—human attributes applied to God—picturing God as blowing air into the inert figure He had just molded, kind of like a blow-up toy.

- The “*breath of life*” is shared in common with animals (**GENESIS 7:22**). “*Breath*” is the same word (Hebrew *ruach*) as “*spirit*” or “*wind*.”
- So, at this point man became a “living consciousness soul.”

DOES GENESIS 2 CONTRADICT GENESIS 1?

If God takes a day of rest, how much more do we mere mortals need to take a Sabbath day?

- In **GENESIS 1 and 2**, many liberal modern scholars have seen this as an error in the Bible.
- Not so . . . the text here is already preparing us for what the results of man's disobedience will be, *even as the Garden is being made*.

***THE THORNS AND THISTLES ARE COMING.
THE GOOD NEWS IS SO IS GOD'S GRACE!***