



Kerrville Bible Church

## What We Teach – A Journey Through the KBC Doctrinal Statement

### Week 4 - “Creation” - September 26, 2021

What came first, the chicken or the egg? Show of hands...

The answer is, the chicken – fully grown.

Objectives for this morning:

1. Understand the basics of the Who, What, When, How, and Why of Creation.
2. Explore deeper the Why. What is God’s purpose in creating the universe and particularly man?
3. Illuminate other passages in scripture, in addition to Genesis, that inform us of creation.
4. Refute the false narratives of evolution, humanism, and theistic evolution.

**CREATION:** We teach that the opening chapters of Genesis present creation in six literal, 24-hour days (Genesis 1:31; Exodus 31:17); that God created the heavens and the earth (the universe and all it contains) out of nothing, and that Genesis 1-2 describe the special creation of male and female apart from any evolutionary process (Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7, 18-23). We teach that the age of the universe should be measured in thousands of years, not millions or billions. We reject the “gap theory” of creation as well as all theories involving theistic evolution.

We teach that angels are created spirit beings and are therefore not to be worshiped. Although they are a higher order of creation than man, they are created to serve and worship God (Luke 2:9-14; Hebrews 1:6-7, 14; 2:6-7; Revelation 5:11-14; 19:10; 22:9) and to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation (Hebrews 1:14).

We teach that the pinnacle of God’s creation was man, represented by the first two people, Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:27).

**Who:** God as Creator. “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). Exodus 3:14, He says, “I am that I am.” He’s the eternal one. He, the eternal one, was not always the creator, but at some point in eternity He became the creator.

**What:** All that exists. Hebrew language lacks a word for “universe”, but the use of “heavens and the earth” means everything in existence.

“You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you. (Nehemiah 9:6)

And He made everything fully mature. Adam was not formed from the dust of the earth by God into an embryo. He was made fully mature. When God presented Eve to Adam, Adam was looking at his fully formed wife.

If Adam had taken a saw and cut into a large tree, he would have counted rings in that tree which might show it was 400 years old, yet it would have been created only days ago.

**When:** About 6,000 years ago.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. "In the beginning" launches a previous non-existent reality: time. Time did not exist until God created it. At a certain point in eternity, God spoke the universe into existence, including time. Time, as well as space and matter, is a creature and servant of God, who made them.

Time is God's creature, just like any other created thing. And time provided the proper framework for creation, day one through day six. Time is not absolute, space is not absolute, and matter is not absolute. And time, and space, and matter as we know them will be uncreated. Before the material realm existed, before there was matter in space, there couldn't be time.

St. Augustine put it this way: "With the motion of creatures, time began to run its course. It is idle to look for time before creation as if time can be found before time. If there were no motion of either a spiritual or corporeal creature by which the future moving through the present would succeed the past, there would be no time at all. A creature could not move if it did not exist. We should therefore say that time began with creation rather than that creation began with time. Both are from God, for from Him and through Him and in Him are all things." So God created time, along with everything else. Verse 1 of Genesis chapter 1 states the general fact. Then verses 2 to 31 breaks it down into sequence.

Walk through the timeline of the OT to AD + 2,000 years.

Starting in Genesis 5 you get Adam, and then you start with Adam in Genesis 5 and you go to the flood and there is a repetitive sequence of generations - He lived so many years and he had a son, and he lived so many years and he had a son, he lived so many years and he had a son. If you add all of those up then you have six days from the creation of the universe to the creation of man, from the first man Adam to the flood you have 1,656 years; 1,656 years the flood comes. Genesis 11 gives you the chronology from the flood to Abraham.

That chronology starts out with the children of Noah – Shem, Ham, and Japheth - right on down to Abraham, that's 225 years. Six days, 1,656 years to the flood, plus another 225 years. So 1,881 years (Just under 2,000 if you want to remember it easily), and you're at Abraham.

Starting Genesis 12 with Abraham and go through the Old Testament historical books: Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, 1st and 2nd Samuel, 1st and 2nd Kings, 1st and 2nd Chronicles. Just proceed through those books and you have the chronology from Abraham to the Babylonian captivity. That stretch from Abraham to the Babylonian captivity would be 430 years in Egypt, 40 years in the wilderness, seven years conquering Canaan, 350 years of the judges, 110 years of the united kingdom under Saul, David and Solomon, 350 years under the

divided kingdom of Judah and Israel, 70 years of the Babylonian captivity, then you have the return and the rebuilding which is 140 years.

So from Abraham to the return and rebuilding of Jerusalem and the rebuilding of the nation of Israel you have about 1,500 or so years if you add all that up. Following the rebuilding and the restoration you're at the end now of the Old Testament. Then there are 400 years of silence. So you have about 2,000 years that we started out from - the creation to Abraham is about 2,000 years. From Abraham to the New Testament is about 2,000 years, and from the beginning of the New Testament to now is about 2,000 years.

Archbishop James Ussher, who lived from 1581 to 1656, added all the genealogical chronological records of Scripture and said that he felt the creation occurred in 4004 BC. Now, you know, the evolutionists just mock that, the world, the universe 6,000 years old? But he was no doubt very close to being accurate. Prior to Charles Darwin any educated man who suggested that mankind was over 6,000 years old was seen as a fool. All historical records fit into that 6,000 years. You can go back and study European history, you can go back and study the records, the Egyptian records, and they all go back no further than that.

**How:** Fiat ex nihilo, spoke into existence something from nothing. "Let there be" and there was.

Psalms 33:6 "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their hosts."

Hebrews 11:3 "By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible."

He did it all in six literal days. The Hebrew word used here for "day" is Yom and is used throughout the old testament. It always is used to express one 24 hour solar day, or the daylight portion of one day.

Deuteronomy 4:32 "Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and inquire from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything been done like this great thing, or has anything been heard like it?"

Why not six hours or six seconds? Because God created a pattern for us.

"For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy" (Exodus 20:11).

**Why:** First, because He wanted to. Second, For His glory. Finally, as a bride gift to His Son. He did it because He wanted to do it. In Revelation 4:11 it says, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created” (Revelation 4:11).

And He desired to do it for the very reason that eternally in His presence He will be praised and glorified for this immense display of creative power, which puts His majesty and His nature on display. In Isaiah 43 He says, “I did it for My glory...I did it for My glory.”

Psalms 19 says “The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.”

And within this creation He made man. And to take it one step beyond, He not only did it to display His glorious intelligence, massive power, wisdom, love of beauty and complexity, and yet order and systematization, but also in the creation He was given the opportunity by virtue of the creation of man to display something He would have not otherwise be able to display, and that is His grace and His mercy. And so He did it to put His glory on display, the glory of His creation, and the glory of His redemption.

Finally, God had a divine purpose before the world began and that that divine purpose was to take a bride, as it were, for His Son. God the Father desired to give to His Son an expression of love in a bride that would be a redeemed humanity to be given to His Son to love and adore and praise and glorify His Son forever and ever and ever and also to serve Him. That eternal purpose of God unfolded within the executive council that is God within the Trinity. We really want to understand this purpose this morning, so we’ll take the time to walk through it.

Speaking of Christ, in 1 Peter 1:20, it says, “He was foreknown [which means predetermined] before the foundation of the world but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you.” So Jesus, who has appeared in these last days for your sake, to die on the cross, to rise again, to be your Savior. Jesus, who has appeared in these days, was planned before the foundation of the world. So before Genesis 1, before day one of creation, before this creative week unfolded, redemption was already planned. In other words, God planned redemption before He created the race of people from whom He would draw the redeemed. His redemptive purpose came first.

Let’s follow that even deeper. Titus chapter 1 talks about the gospel in Titus 1:1-2. “Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of truth which is according to godliness, in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago.”

Paul says for the faith of those chosen of God. That's salvation faith for the elect. The knowledge of the truth according to godliness, the hope of eternal life, so he's talking about the gospel. The gospel involves saving faith, it involves the election, it involves the knowledge of the truth, it involves godliness, it involves the promise and the hope of eternal life.

But notice this: God's whole saving purpose, His whole saving purpose, was something God, who cannot lie, promised – when? Long ages ago. The Greek says before time began. Now, when did time begin? When did time begin? On day one. So before day one, God had already planned the gospel. And there was an element of the gospel that was a promise he promised long ages ago. God promised that He would choose some, that He would grant them faith, that He would give them the knowledge of the truth, that He would produce in them godliness, that He would grant them eternal life. God promised that before day one.

The question is: To whom did He promise it?

Well, He didn't promise it to any human being. We weren't even created until day six. He didn't promise it to angels. Angels were created at the same time everything else was created. We don't know exactly or precisely when, but he certainly didn't promise salvation to angels because angels don't experience salvation. The angels who sinned and fell out of heaven fell forever and there is no salvation for angels. So to whom did God make a promise of salvation before time began?

2 Timothy 1:9-10 "...who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our savior Jesus Christ..."

So before time began, God made a promise. He made a promise that He was going to redeem some creatures that He would make, and He was going to redeem them by means of Christ Jesus. He must have been discussing then with the second member of the Trinity the necessity of an incarnation, the necessity of an entrance into the world, the necessity of a sacrifice for sin, and all of those purposes of redemption. It was all planned before time began. Verse 10 says: "But it was revealed by the appearing of the Savior Jesus Christ" or "Christ Jesus." Now, this is before Genesis 1. This is before time began, before the earth was given its foundations, before there was any creation, in the councils of God.

The plan was there was going to be a redeemed humanity who would be created and redeemed, brought to glory by means of the incarnation and the sacrifice of the second member of the Trinity.

We know further in the New Testament that they would be redeemed by the work of the third member of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, who would convict their hearts of sin and righteousness

and judgment, who would illuminate their minds to understand the truth, who would regenerate them and grant them the new birth, and of course at that particular point they would be transferred from death to life, they would become one of God's own. Those who would experience all of that are those whom God chose before the foundations of the earth, before time began.

Ephesians chapter 1, verse 3, talks about the purposes of God. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ." Why? "Just as he chose us in Him before" – what? Foundation of the world. So the whole divine decree unfolded before time began, before anything was ever created. And this was in the council of the Trinity. Verse 4 says He predestined us. He did it simply because of His own Will.

The Father said, "I'm going to create and redeem some people. I'm going to give them to the Son as a love gift." Throughout the book of John, Jesus refers to every believer as those whom the Father has given me. Jesus in John 6 says, "No man comes to me except the Father draws him." Jesus says, "All that the Father gives to me will come to me and I will lose none of them." In John 17, Jesus prays, "I pray, Father, that all that you have given me will be brought to glory to see our glory." Jesus refers to believers then as those whom the Father has given Him, and that begins to shape this plan.

The Father then desires to show His love to the Son. It is a supreme love. It is the love that only God knows.

The love that is so great that it longs to give, and God determines that the way to express that love is to create and redeem humans and then bring them to glory, and when they're brought to glory, they are made like Christ. Philippians tells us in chapter 3 that we'll be conformed to His glory, to the very body of His glory. 1 John 3 says we'll be like Him for we see Him as He is. And so the Father is going to make us literally reflections, replicas, of Jesus Christ, who will radiate His glory, and we will praise Him and honor Him and glorify Him forever and ever and ever and serve Him as well. That is the Father's love gift to the Son.

This gets personal in Revelation chapter 13 and Revelation chapter 17 where twice – in both cases, it says the same thing. It refers to believers as those whose names have been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life. Those whose names have been written from the foundation of the world in the book life, and again it takes us back before the foundation of the world.

The Trinity, the triune God in perfect communion with Himself, has been planning this. It took place long before day six with the creation of man. It took place before there was any time. It took place before there was any creation. There was a plan before it was ever carried out, and God, in complete contrast to humanistic evolution, is saying, "Everything else is impersonal to me. Everything else burns. Everything else perishes. Nothing that I've created lasts. The whole universe will be uncreated."

Only one component in the physical universe lasts forever and that is man. For only man in the end mattered to God ultimately. Everything else was only created to provide a world for man which would cause man to praise and thank and glorify God.

2 Peter 3:3-13 "Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!"

Colossians 1:15-17 "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."

### **\*Why does it matter?**

Simply put, you either believe scripture or you don't.

If you don't believe Genesis 1, when do you start believing God's word? Do you believe in the virgin birth? That Christ was raised from the dead? That God will one day uncreate all that exists in a fervent heat and make the new heavens and a new earth?

**\*I choose to believe in Evolution. So what's the problem with that?** – Attempts to remove God not just as Creator, but as Lawgiver and Judge. Evolution is impossible due to what we now know about DNA and genetic code.

There are two lies in particular that provide the basic paradigm for modern culture. Two lies. Lie number one is that life is random. That is that the way things are is just the way they kind of happened with nobody planning and nobody carrying it off, it just sort of evolved that way. Life is random. There is no purpose to it. There is no reason for it. There is no sovereign unfolding plan being carried out by a designing and powerful creator. Life is just random. To put it another way, the universe, as it exists, was not created by God, nor is God the authority over this creation. It's just a matter of chance, random chance.

Second lie. First one: Life is random. Second lie: Truth is relative. Truth is relative. The Bible is not the Word of God. The Bible does not give us the truth about right and wrong, life and death, morality and immorality in the past and the future. There is no authority beyond yourself. Life is random. Truth is relative.

Now those two lies are so established in our society that people hate the Christian worldview, which opposes those lies. We don't believe life is random. We believe the universe as it is right now was created by God and is sustained by God and ruled by God. We do not believe that truth is relative. We believe truth is absolute and it is absolutely revealed on the pages of scripture, which is the revelation of God.

To say that life as we know it, the universe as we know it, is the work of the creator God who is its sovereign and its sustainer and who, as he began it, will bring it to its end, is to go against the grain of our culture, to say that truth is absolute and the truth is as revealed in the Bible is to generate the hostility of the society around us. Two great ideologies rule. No creator and no moral law. And that dispossess man of any accountability.

These two lies go together. Evolutionists who reject the idea of a creator God, therefore reject the idea of the Bible as an authoritative document written by that creator God.

A.E. Wilder Smith, a brilliant scientist who has done some literally ground-breaking work on this subject, and who is a staunch creationist, wrote, "The necessary information to build man does not reside in the few elements it takes to compose him."



Science has tried to tell us that evolution is a process called “mutation,” that living organisms have the capacity to mutate – simply means to change. But you need to understand this: mutations do not change the nature or the kind of any living organism. They don’t make it anything other than it is. What mutations involve – and this is important – is always a loss of existing information. There is never a gain of information. Mutations never add new genetic information; mutations therefore do not work toward an upward evolutionary process. Mutations are not a mechanism for upward evolutionary process.

Dr. Werner Gitt, a director and professor at the German Federal Institute of Physics and Technology, answered this question: Can new information originate in a living organism through mutations? And this is his response, and I quote: “Mutations can only cause changes in existing information. There can be no increase in information, and in general the result of mutations is injurious. New blueprints for new functions or new organs cannot arise. Mutations cannot be the source of new information.” End quote.

**\*I believe God created the heavens and the earth, but He used evolution to do it. What is the problem with that?**

This view is called Theistic Evolution –

Genesis 1 is just as true as Exodus 20, which gives us the Ten Commandments. It’s just as true as Isaiah 53, which describes the suffering servant who would be the Messiah and bear our iniquities. It’s just as true as Matthew chapter 1, which indicates that Jesus was to be born of Mary and to be the savior of the world. It’s just as true as John chapter 3 which says you must be born again. It’s just as true as any other and every other part of scripture.

God’s creation was perfect with no death or suffering. No survival of the fittest because nothing was inferior and nothing died.

Unfortunately, as in Darwin’s day, much of the church has accepted millions of years and evolution as fact, without ever considering the underlying assumptions or how the acceptance of these assumptions undermines the biblical text and the gospel.

For example, consider what happens when you attempt to add evolution into the Bible. Adam and Eve are no longer the first humans, and original sin goes out the window. This does irreparable damage to the biblical redemption narrative. The Bible says that death came into the world because of man’s sin (Romans 5:12) and that all of creation labors under a curse because of sin (Romans 8:22). Scripture also says that Christ is the last Adam, come to redeem us from the sin brought into the world through the first man, Adam (1 Corinthians 15:22, 45). If Adam were a mythical figure, which is what evolution demands, even in a Christianized form,

the entire parallel between the two Adams and the kinsman redeemer concept is destroyed. By advocating evolution, theistic evolutionists are undermining the very tenets of Christianity. Those Christians who reject evolution but accept millions of years have an equivalent problem. Jesus, when explaining marriage to the Sadducees, referred to Adam and Eve as existing from the beginning of creation (Mark 10:6). According to those who accept millions of years, Adam and Eve only existed after billions and millions of years of death: this makes Jesus either ignorant or a liar. Further, when God finished his creation he called everything very good (Genesis 1:31). In order for the millions of years to be true, God would have to be calling the fossil record, which records disease, death, violence, and suffering, very good. That is inconsistent with the character of God revealed throughout the rest of Scripture. God tells us in Genesis exactly how he created the world, and even the order of events doesn't match the evolutionary tale. In addition, one of the things that drives evolution is death. But the Bible teaches that death was introduced into the perfect world as a result of Adam's sin. When Christians try to reinterpret God's infallible Word based on the ideas of fallible men, it undermines the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Next, there is absolutely zero in the Bible that says anything other than God created. There is nothing to be found that remotely hints at a process, a drawn out time, or any other method than speaking into existence something from nothing in six literal solar days.

Gap Theory – Tohu and bohu. Gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2

Apologetics:

- Moon dust. Before man reached the moon, it was assumed by some scientists who were committed to the paradigm involving a moon probably 3.5 billion years old that there would therefore be a very thick layer of dust on the moon. One writer, R.A. Littleton, an astronomer and consultant to the U.S. Space Program wrote this: "The lunar surface is exposed to direct sunlight, and strong ultra-violet light and x-rays can destroy the surface layers of exposed rock, and reduce them to dust at the rate of a few ten-thousandths of an inch per year. But even this minute amount could during the age of the moon be sufficient to form a layer over it several miles deep." And so his theory was that the moon was several miles deep in dust. Now we are told that astronaut Neil Armstrong read about this, and was very concerned that when he stepped out of the spaceship he might sink forever into a suffocating morass of deep dust. On the other hand, he found very little dust at all. If the calculations indicating the rate of dust accumulation were accurate, there was not a billion years' worth of dust; there wasn't even a million years' worth of dust. There was,

in fact, only a few thousand years' worth of dust, if dust is formed in that way by ultra-violet light from the sun.

- Meteorites
- Bombardier Beetle
- World population. Henry Morris wrote something called *Biblical Cosmology and Modern Science*. And chapter six is on the subject of world population and the Bible chronology. And with painstaking detail and the aid of mathematical equations, he shows how the world population is an indication of the age of the earth. In a later work called *Scientific Creationism*, he shows that an extremely conservative average population growth of one-half a percent per year, which is a fourth of our present rate, but let's, for the benefit of the doubt, split it down to just a fourth, and say that the population grows at a half percent a year. That would add up to the present population of the earth in only four thousand years. And according to biblical chronology, that's right because four thousand years ago was the Flood. He writes, "It begins to be glaringly evident that the human race cannot be very old. The traditional biblical chronology is infinitely more realistic than is the millions of years history of mankind assumed by the evolutionists." He says, "If they were right, and there were millions of years, the population of the earth now would be ten to the five thousandth power. And if we eventually were able to colonize all the other worlds in the universe, and to build space cities everywhere in the inter-stellar spaces, it can be shown that a maximum of no more than ten to the one hundredth power people could be crammed into the entire known universe."