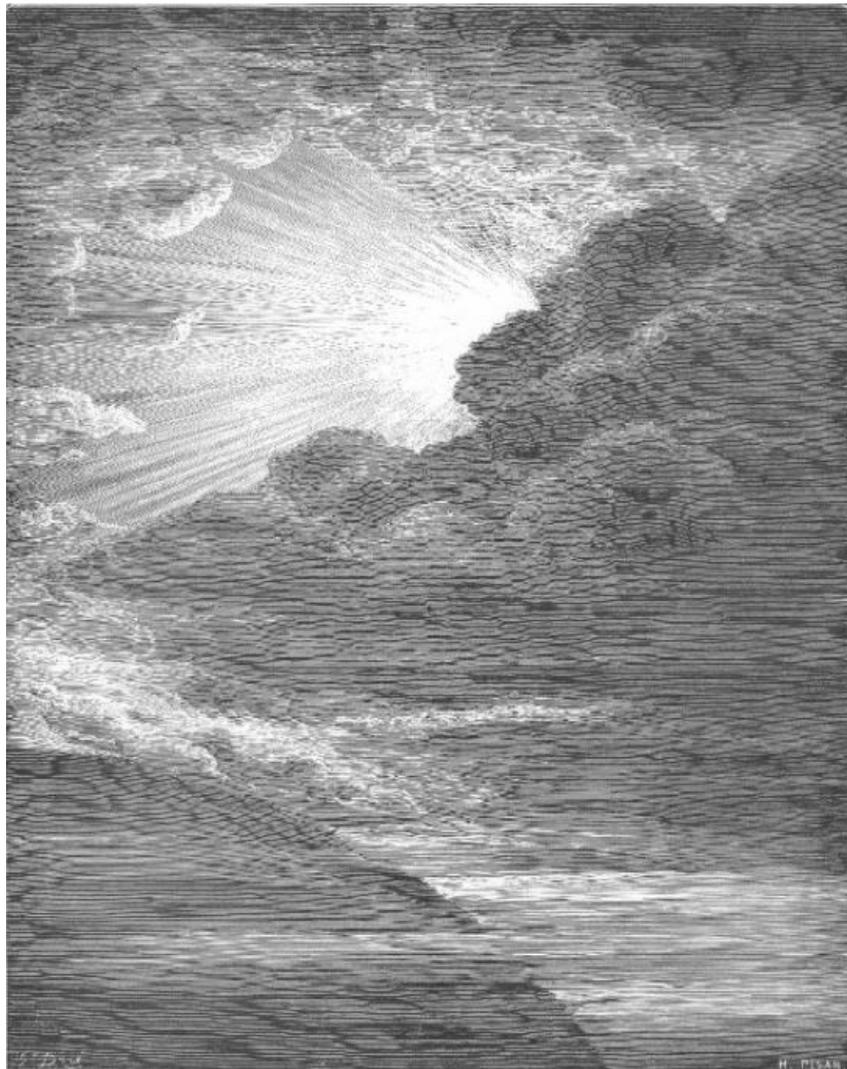


**5 Sunday School Lessons in
2 Versions for Older and
Younger Students**

Lesson One Creation



Creation
Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

Read Genesis 1:1 – 2:3. This is the story of how God created the world using the power of his word. God said, “Let there be,” and it was, and it was good. God is so powerful, that is all it took – his spoken word.

God tells of creation again in the Bible in Psalm 33:6-9.

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap: he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Another example of God using the power of his word is when Christ stilled the storm. This is recorded three times in Scripture: Matt 8:18,23-27; Mark 4:35-41 and Luke 8:22-25. Jesus had been teaching the multitude all day telling them parables. When evening came, he commanded his disciples to take a ship across the Sea of Galilee. Jesus fell asleep in the boat. While he was sleeping, a storm came up with high winds, and the waves broke over the boat, so that the ship was filled with water. Jesus’ disciples woke him saying, “Master, do you not care that we perish?” Jesus stood up and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, “Peace be still.” Immediately the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. The disciples said to one another, “What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

God again shows his power over nature when Jesus walked on the sea. This is recorded in Scripture three times: Matt 14:24-32, Mark 6:47-51 and John 6:17-21. At first the disciples believed Jesus was a ghost because by the laws of nature, people cannot walk on water.

Jesus’ first miracle, changing water into wine, is another example of God’s power over nature. In the Bible, in the second chapter of John, we learn that Jesus attended a wedding in Cana of Galilee with his disciples. His mother, Mary, was also at the wedding. During the wedding feast, the host ran out of wine. Mary came to Jesus and said, “They have no wine.” Then Mary went to the servants and said, “Whatever Jesus tells you to do, do it.” There were jugs that would be used to hold water for “purification” for washing of vessels and washing of hands. Because it was a wedding feast, the hosts would not want to run out of water for purification for the many guests. The hosts probably borrowed additional jugs from friends and relatives. In those days, the jugs came in three sizes. The smallest size held about 5 ¼ gallons to about 8 ½ gallons. The middle size held 10 ½ to 15 ¾ gallons. The largest size held 17 to 25 ½ gallons.¹

Jesus told the servants to fill the jugs with water, and they filled them to the brim. Jesus then told the servants to draw out some of the water and take it to the person in charge of the feast. When the head of the feast tasted the water, it was made wine. The head of the feast declared that the wine from the jugs was better than the wine that was served at the beginning of the feast.

¹The Life and Times of Jesus The Messiah, Ederseim. MacDonald Publishing Co. Page 165.

When people make wine, grapes can be turned into wine in as little as a week; but winemakers usually age the wine in bottles for months or even years. Most wines typically take a year or more before they reach retail shelves.²

As God, Jesus was not limited by the rules of science, the boundaries of nature, or the limits of time. Jesus took a process [making wine] that should have taken months or years and condensed it into moments.

The Bible is full of examples of God’s wonder and power. The recognition that God is the Creator of the world, is recorded many times in Scripture. Psalm 24 tells us that, “The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof; the world and those that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.” Psalm 95 reminds us, “For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth: the heights of the mountains is his also. The sea is his, for he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.”

Prayer: Lord help me always to remember that you are the Creator of the world and the heavens, and of all life. Help me to see your mighty hand when I see the stars, the mountains, the plains, and the oceans. Help me to see the beauty in the colors you painted the world and in the diversity of its life. Remind me that I am to be a good steward. Thank you for the greatest gift of all, the gift of your Son for the forgiveness of my sins, so that I may some day live in Heaven with you. Amen.

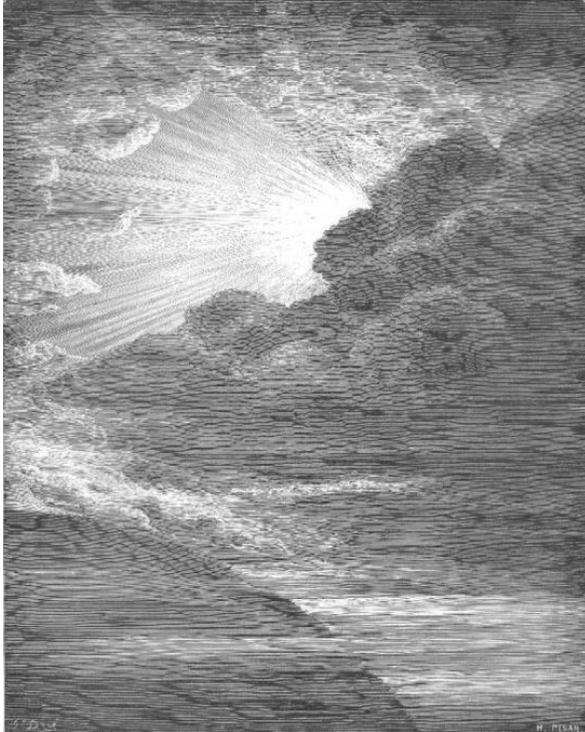
Gustave Doré – The Creation of Light



²winespector.com/articles/how-long-does-it-take-to-make-a-bottle-of-wine-57676

Creation

Gustave Doré – The Creation of Light



The first sentence in the Bible is “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” This was the beginning of the earth and the universe. It was not the beginning of God. God always was. God is eternal. God is without beginning and without end.

The earth was without form and void – it had no shape. Everything was wet and moist. It was very dark. The Spirit of God moved over the waters.

And God said, “Let there be light.” God saw that the light was good. God separated the light from the darkness. He called the light Day, and the Darkness night. There was evening and morning. This was the First Day of creation.

On the Second Day of creation, God separated the waters. Some of the waters went up into the heavens to become clouds. Most of

the water stayed below.

On Day Three, God called to the water, “Gather together.” At the sound of God’s voice, the waters moved. There were oceans and seas, lakes and rivers. Dry land appeared. God called the dry land Earth. At the sound of God’s voice, herbs and grass grew. There were trees with fruit and flowers too.

On the Fourth Day, God said let there be light in the heavens to separate the day and the night. God made the sun to shine by day, and the moon and the stars to shine at night. God made the sun, the moon and the stars to give signs for the seasons – to establish spring, summer, fall and winter.

On the Fifth Day, God looked at the sea, and the lakes and the rivers. With the sound of his voice, he created all the living creatures that live in water. The smallest fish, to the great whales appeared at God’s command. There were turtles and corals and sponges, clams and oysters and starfish. Eels and squid, and an octopus too were created with the power of God’s voice.

On the Sixth Day, God looked at the dry land. With the power of his voice, he created all types of birds – mighty hawks and eagles, small humming birds, sea gulls, storks and flamingos, pigeons and peacocks, swans and ducks and geese.

It was on the Sixth Day that God made all the small creatures that creep upon the earth – ants and spiders, beetles and bees, moths and butterflies.

On the Sixth Day, God made all the animals that live on dry land – bears and lions, cattle and oxen, otters and beavers, mice and rats.

The last to be made on the Sixth Day was a man named Adam, and a woman named Eve. God gave Adam and Eve a beautiful garden called the Garden of Eden to live in.

On the Seventh Day, God called his work of creation done. God rested on the Seventh Day. God looked over all he had created and called it “good.” It was God’s way of saying it was perfect – finished just the way he wanted it.

Prayer: Dear Lord God, thank you for making the world. Help me to see the beauty in what you made – the colors of the sunset, the sparkle of the sun on the water, the majestic mountain tops, the graceful flight of birds. Help me to respect and take care of the world you made and the animals who live in it. Thank you for loving me and watching over me. Amen.



The Garden of Eden. Oil painting by Jan Brueghel, The Elder, 1630
Photographed by Jan Snellinck II. Source: Wikimedia Commons.

Creation

It was the beginning of time. Creation had not yet begun.
Everything was dark. There was no sun.
Nothing had shape. Nothing had form.
The darkness was deep like a terrible storm.

Across the face of the waters, the Spirit of God moved.
He thought the darkness could be improved.
With his voice he said, "Let there be light."
It was on Day One God made Day and Night.

God separated the waters on the Second Day.
Some went to the sky, most water on earth did stay.
On Day Two everything was moist and wet;
but God had more plans, do not fret.

It was on Day Three that God spoke once more.
He created the sea, and the land and the shore.
"Gather together," at God's word the waters moved.
When dry land appeared, God approved.

And God used his voice for another command.
For the dry land called Earth, his plan was grand.
At the sound of his voice, herbs and grass grew.
There were trees with fruit and flowers too.

It was on Day Four that God made the sun.
His work on the heavens had just begun.
He made the moon and the stars for the night.
Stars spread through the universe until all was right.

It was on the Fifth Day God looked at the sea.
He had an idea of all that could be.
With the sound of his voice, he made turtles and fish,
great whales, and eels. All you could wish.

It was on the Sixth Day God looked at the land.
He made animals and birds. He had it all planned.
The man named Adam and the woman Eve came last.
The days of Creation were now past.

On the Seventh Day God called the work done.
He looked at the world shining in the light of the sun.
He called his work "good." (That means perfect and best.)
The Seventh Day was a day of rest.

Important Words to Remember

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

These are the first words of the Bible, God's holy Scripture. This is how God's sacred book begins:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

The world we live in – the mighty oceans, the soaring mountains, the sun and the stars – all that we see was created by an all-powerful God.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

Created by God through the power of his word. God said, "Let there be," and seas, dry land, plants, birds, fish, all of creation came into existence.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

The world we live in, and all the life within – plants, animals and people – were purposely designed and created by God.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

God the Son (Jesus the Christ), was with God the Father at creation. Another name for Jesus is the Word. Scripture tells us: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him; and without him was not anything made that was made." John 1: 1-3

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

God the Holy Spirit was there in the beginning at Creation. Scripture tells us: "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Gen 1:2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

The heavens and the earth were created by the Triune God – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1

Praise be to God the Creator. Amen.

Review

1. What did God use to create the world – the seas, the dry land, the fish and the animals? (Hint: God used the power of his _____.)
2. Who was at Creation with God the Father – who along with God the Father created the world?
3. God called his Creation good. What did God mean when he said “good”?
4. What is the first sentence in the Bible?

Suggested Coloring Activity

The Creation Story coloring page below can be downloaded for free from www.MaryMarthaMama.com. The website grants permission for this coloring page to be photocopied for Sunday School class use.

