

Scripture on Creation

"In the beginning God created heaven and earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, with a divine wind sweeping over the waters.

God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. God saw that light was good, and God divided light from darkness. God called light 'day', and darkness he called 'night'. Evening came and morning came: the first day.

God said, 'Let there be a vault through the middle of the waters to divide the waters in two.' And so it was. God made the vault, and it divided the waters under the vault from the waters above the vault. God called the vault 'heaven'. Evening came and morning came: the second day.

God said, 'Let the waters under heaven come together into a single mass, and let dry land appear.' And so it was. God called the dry land 'earth' and the mass of waters 'seas', and God saw that it was good.

God said, 'Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees on earth, bearing fruit with their seed inside, each corresponding to its own species.' And so it was. The earth produced vegetation: the various kinds of seed-bearing plants and the fruit trees with seed inside, each corresponding to its own species. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the third day.

God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to divide day from night, and let them indicate festivals, days and years. Let them be lights in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth.' And so it was. God made the two great lights: the greater light to govern the day, the smaller light to govern the night, and the stars. God set them in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth, to govern the day and the night and to divide light from darkness. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the fourth day.

God said, 'Let the waters be alive with a swarm of living creatures, and let birds wing their way above the earth across the vault of heaven.' And so it was. God created great sea-monsters and all the creatures that glide and teem in the waters in their own species, and winged birds in their own species. God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters

of the seas; and let the birds multiply on land.' Evening came and morning came: the fifth day.

God said, 'Let the earth produce every kind of living creature in its own species: cattle, creeping things and wild animals of all kinds.' And so it was. God made wild animals in their own species, and cattle in theirs, and every creature that crawls along the earth in its own species. God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild animals and all the creatures that creep along the ground.'

God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all the living creatures that move on earth.' God also said, 'Look, to you I give all the seed-bearing plants everywhere on the surface of the earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this will be your food. And to all the wild animals, all the birds of heaven and all the living creatures that creep along the ground, I give all the foliage of the plants as their food.' And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day." **(Genesis 1:1-31)**

"God shaped man from the soil of the ground and blew the breath of life into his nostrils, and man became a living being." **(Genesis 2:7)**

"God took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden to cultivate and take care of it." **(Genesis 2:15)**

"God said, 'It is not right that the man should be alone. I shall make him a helper.'" **(Genesis 2:18)**

"they are placed in your hands." **(Genesis 9:2)**

"I am now establishing my covenant with you and with your descendants to come, and with every living creature that was with you." **(Genesis 9:9-10)**

"Strike the rock, and water will come out for the people to drink." **(Exodus 17:6)**

"You will leave [the gleanings of your harvest] for the poor and the stranger" **(Leviticus 23:22)**

"for the land belongs to me; and you are only strangers and guests of mine." **(Leviticus 25:23)**

"...you shall provide for the redemption of the land" **(Leviticus 25:24)**

"Do not defile the land which you live in and where I live"
(Numbers 35:34)

"If, when out walking, you come across a bird's nest, in a tree or on the ground, with chicks or eggs and the mother bird sitting on the chicks or the eggs, you must not take the mother as well as the chicks." **(Deuteronomy 22:6)**

"You have only to ask the cattle, for them to instruct you, and the birds of the sky, for them to inform you. The creeping things of earth will give you lessons, and the fish of the sea provide you an explanation: there is not one such creature but will know that the hand of God has arranged things like this! In his hand is the soul of every living thing and the breath of every human being!" **(Job 12:7-10)**

"How countless are your works, O Lord, all of them made so wisely! The earth is full of your creatures. Then there is the sea, with its vast expanses teeming with countless creatures, creatures both great and small" **(Psalms 104:24-25)**

"Next, I shall remind you of the works of the Lord, and tell of what I have seen. By the words of the Lord his works come into being and all creation obeys his will. The shining sun looks down on all things, and the work of the Lord is full of his glory." **(Ecclesiasticus 42:15-16)**

"The earth is mourning, pining away, the pick of earth's people are withering away. The earth is defiled by the feet of its inhabitants, for they have transgressed the laws, violated the decree, broken the everlasting covenant." **(Isaiah 24:4-5)**

"Who was it measured the water of the sea in the hollow of his hand and calculated the heavens to the nearest inch, gauged the dust of the earth to the nearest bushel, weighed the mountains in scales, the hills in a balance? Who directed the spirit of God, what counsellor could have instructed him? Whom has he consulted to enlighten him, to instruct him in the path of judgement, to teach

him knowledge and show him how to understand? See the nations are like a drop in a bucket, they count as a grain of dust on the scales. See coasts and islands weigh no more than fine powder. The Lebanon is not enough for the burning fires nor its animals enough for the burnt offering. All the nations are as nothing before him, for him they count as nothingness and emptiness. To whom can you compare God? What image can you contrive of him?

The craftsman casts an idol, a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts silver chains for it. Someone too poor to afford a sacrifice chooses a piece of wood that will not rot; he then seeks out a skilled craftsman to set up an idol that will not totter. Did you not know? Had you not heard? Was it not told you from the beginning? Have you not understood how the earth was set on its foundations? He who sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, the inhabitants of which are like grasshoppers, stretches out the heavens like a cloth, spreads them out like a tent to live in." **(Isaiah 40:12-22)**

"I shall turn the desert into a lake, and dry ground into springs of water."
(Isaiah 41:18)

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?" **(Isaiah 58:6)**

"When that day comes I shall make a treaty for them with the wild animals, with the birds of heaven and the creeping things of the earth. I shall break the bow and the sword and warfare, and banish them from the country, and I will let them sleep secure. I shall betroth you in uprightness and justice and faithful love and tenderness. **(Hosea 2:20-21)**

"Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you who have so little faith." **(Matthew 6:26-30)**

"Think how the flowers grow; they never have to spin or weave; yet I assure you, not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of them." **(Luke 12:27)**

"For this is how God loved the world: he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." **(John 3:16)**

"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me! Let anyone who believes in me come and drink!" **(John 7:37-38)**

"ever since the creation of the world, the invisible existence of God and his everlasting power have been clearly seen by the mind's understanding of created things." **(Romans 1:20)**

"We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus for the good works which God has already designated to make up our way of life." **(Ephesians 2:10)**

"My dear friends, let us love one another, since love is from God and everyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. Whoever fails to love, does not know God, because God is love. This is the revelation of God's love for us, that God sent his only Son into the world that we might have life through him. Love consists in this: it is not we who loved God, but God loved us and sent his Son to expiate our sins. My dear friends, if God loved us so much, we too should love one another." **(I John 4:7-11)**

"Then the angel showed me the river of life, rising from the throne of God" **(Revelation 22:1)**