

## Genesis One for Poets

### In the beginning God...

The “Think Tube”: Getting the meaning out.

(Deut. 29:29)

Another challenge: Read Genesis one as if you have never read it or heard it before.

Origins

Worldviews

Witnesses: Gen 1:1-2; John 1:1-3; Hebrews 11:1-3

**The Bible always assumes, and never argues, God’s existence!**

If something has a beginning, it must have...?

Time: Gen 1:5b “And there was evening, and there was morning -- the first day.”

Eccl. 3:1-15, esp. v. 11; Gal. 4:4-5; Psalm 31:14-15a; 2 Peter 3:8

**Time is part of creation; God exists separate from time (in the eternal present).**

So is time absolute or relative?

1905/1915 Albert Einstein shakes up the scientific world. (The twins paradox).

For discussion:

Describe how God has revealed everything we need to know.

What makes the theory of evolution so dangerous?

Creation/evolution: What should be taught in schools?

Macro v. micro evolution: What is the difference?

Are creation scientists using the wrong strategy?

What about the role of creation (Christian) apologetics?

How are reason and logic different?

How does one respond to (a) radioactive dating methods; to (b) the fossil record?

What else is on your mind?!

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### In the beginning God created...

“And God said...” *ex nihilo*

### The Six Days of Creation

#### Days 1, 2, 3: Days of Forming

Day 1 Gen. 1:3-5

The nature of light: Particles or waves?

The speed of light

Electromagnetic radiation

Color and color vision

1 John 1:5 “God is Light...”

What about sound? (If a tree falls in the forest...)

Day 2 Gen. 1:6-8

The sky (And why is the sky blue? Why are clouds white?)

Day 3 Gen. 1:9-13

Dry land (Only one continent to begin with?)

Vegetation (Give us this day our daily bread...)

#### Days 4, 5, 6: Days of Filling

Day 4 Gen. 1:14-19

Our sun - an “average” star

Our moon - phases (Why?); Apollo 8 mission to the moon (Dec. 24, 1968)

Day 5 Gen. 1:20-23

Birds, Birds, Birds (fish, too!)

Day 6 Gen. 1:24-27

Man was created in God’s image

“subdue” the earth

**Deut. 29:29** The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever.

Discuss how God has revealed everything we need to know.

Discuss questions you'd like to ask God about His "secret things."

**Gen. 1:1-2** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

**John 1:1-3** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

**Heb. 11:1-3** Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

**Psalms 31:14-15a** But I trust in you, O LORD; I say "You are my God." My times are in your hands.

**Eccl. 3:11** He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

God's beautiful but tantalizing world is too big for us, yet its satisfactions are too small. Since we were made for eternity, the things of time cannot fully and permanently satisfy. (Concordia Self-Study Bible)

**Gal. 4:4-5** But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

**2 Peter 3:8** With the LORD a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.