

The Present Truth: Let there be light.

A study on Genesis 1:1-5

Voice of Elijah

Genesis 1:1- “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

This is the beginning of the creation of the heaven and the earth, and all the host of them. The scope of the creation includes:

- “Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with **all their host**, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the **host of heaven worshippeth thee.**” {Nehemiah 9:6}
- “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and **invisible**, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or **powers**: all things were created by him, and for him:” {Colossians 1:16}
- “Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights. Praise ye him, **all his angels**: praise ye him, all his **hosts**. Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light. Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.” {Psalm 148:1-5}
- “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the **host of them.**” {Genesis 2:1}

V2: “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.”

‘without form, and void’:

- At the beginning of the first day of creation, **the foundation of the earth was not laid**. “It was without form and void.” For God laid the foundation of the earth on the third day **after** the heavens (including angels) were made.
- “By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.” “For He spake, and it was;” “He commanded, and it stood fast.” Psalm 33:6, 9. He “**laid the foundations** of the earth, that it should not be removed forever.” Psalm 104:5. {Patriarchs and Prophets 44.1}
- “Where wast thou when **I laid the foundations of the earth?** declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; **When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?**” {Job 38:4-7} *Who are the morning stars? It includes angels.*

V2: “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.”

‘without form, and void’:

- **“As the earth came forth from the hand of its Maker, it was exceedingly beautiful.** Its surface was diversified with mountains, hills, and plains, interspersed with noble rivers and lovely lakes; but the hills and mountains were not abrupt and rugged, abounding in terrific steeps and frightful chasms, as they now do; the sharp, ragged edges of earth's rocky framework were buried beneath the fruitful soil, which everywhere produced a luxuriant growth of verdure. There were no loathsome swamps or barren deserts. Graceful shrubs and delicate flowers greeted the eye at every turn. The heights were crowned with trees more majestic than any that now exist. The air, untainted by foul miasma, was clear and healthful. The entire landscape outvied in beauty the decorated grounds of the proudest palace. **The angelic host viewed the scene with delight, and rejoiced** at the wonderful works of God.” {Patriarchs and Prophets 44.2}

V2: “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.”

‘darkness’:

- “Then spake Solomon, The LORD said that he would dwell in the **thick darkness.**” {1 Kings 8:12}
- “He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were **dark waters** and thick clouds of the skies.” {Psalm 18:11}
- “Clouds and **darkness** are round about him: righteousness and **judgment** are the habitation of his throne.” {Psalm 97:2}.
- The darkness that is round about God is synonymous with his unsearchable judgment. And God’s way is even above the searching eyes of the highest angel! “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! **how unsearchable are his judgments,** and his ways past finding out!” {Romans 11:33}
- Although God surrounds Himself with darkness, there is no darkness in Him. For it is written: “...that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.” {1 John 1:5}
- God is light, and in Him is no darkness. The “darkness” (the unsearchable judgments of God) apart from His creation and apart from the Night existed before His work of creation. “Night” came into existence only after the creation of light on the first day. The darkness of God is said to be His dwelling place: Thus, “**darkness** was upon **the face of the deep...**”

V2: “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.”

‘the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters’:

- Unlike the darkness, **the spirit of God** was **moving upon** the face of the **waters**. And Christ was that spirit of God.
- “Now the Lord is that **Spirit...**” {2 Corinthians 3:17}
- “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that **the Spirit of God** dwell in you. Now if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.” {Romans 8:9-10}
- “But when they saw **him walking upon** the **seas**, they supposed it had been a **spirit**, and cried out...” {Mark 6:49}

V2: “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.”

‘the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters’:

- “Which alone **spreadeth** out the heavens, and **treadeth upon** the waves of the **sea.**” {Job 9:6}
- “In the beginning, God was revealed in all the works of creation. It was **Christ** that **spread** the heavens, and **laid** the foundations of the earth. It was His hand that **hung** the worlds in space, and **fashioned** the flowers of the field. “His strength **setteth** fast the mountains.” “The sea is His, and He **made** it.” Psalm 65:6; 95:5. It was He that **filled** the earth with beauty, and the air with song. And upon all things in earth, and air, and sky, He **wrote** the message of the Father's love.” {Desire of Ages 20.1}
- “And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was **upon** the **waters** of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?” {Daniel 12:6}
- “And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot **upon** the **sea**, and his left foot on the earth...” {Revelation 10:2}

V3: “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

‘Let there be light’:

- “When ‘the earth was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep,’ ‘the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be **light**; and there was **light**.’ Genesis 1:2, 3. *So in the **night** of **spiritual darkness**,* God's word goes forth, ‘Let there be **light**.’” {Christ Object Lessons Page 415.1, emphasis added}
- The light created by God on the first day was not physical in nature such as the lights emitted by the Sun, Moon, or stars. Physical lights were created on the fourth day when God said: “Let there be **lights**...” (**plural**) {Genesis 1:14}
- This light created by God on the first day was **spiritual** in nature. “The holy beings from *the world of **light***” (**singular**) were created.
- “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into **an angel of light**.” {2 Corinthians 11:14}
- “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, **son of the morning**! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations.” {Isaiah 14:12}
- “Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights. Praise ye him, all **his angels**: praise ye him, all **his hosts**. Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light. Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.” {Psalm 148:1-5}
- “And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels **spirits**, and his ministers a flame of fire.” {Hebrews 1:7}

V3: “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

‘Let there be light’:

- SPIRITUAL light (“holy beings from the world of light”) **precedes** PHYSICAL light (Sun, Moon & Stars) in the order of creation.
- But one in a certain place testified, saying, “What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little **lower** than the angels...” {Hebrews 2:6-7}. Just as angels precedes men in their order of creation and stature.
- “But seek ye **first** the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.” {Matthew 6:33}. Just as the spiritual kingdom of God precedes the physical kingdom of God.
- *Spiritual preceding physical is a theme consistently found in the scriptures. God is highlighting the importance of the spiritual over that of the physical.*

V3: “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

‘Let there be light’:

- “In the work of creation, when **the dawn of the first day** broke, and the heavens and the earth, by the **call** of infinite power, came out of darkness; responsive to the rising light, **‘the morning stars** sang together, and all **the sons of God shouted for joy.**” {The Signs of Times, January 8, 1880}
- “Christ was the Son of God; He had been one with Him **before the angels were called** into existence. He had ever stood at the right hand of the Father; His supremacy, so full of blessing to all who came under its benignant control, had not heretofore been questioned.” {Patriarchs and Prophets 38.3}
- “At **the first dawn of day**, the priests **sounded** a long, shrill blast upon their silver trumpets, and the answering trumpets, and the **glad shouts** of the people from their booths, echoing over hill and valley, welcomed the festal day.” {Desire of Ages 448.5}
- In B.C. 4004, the first day of a week-long feast, all the holy beings of the world of light were called into existence.

V4-5, Part 1: “And God saw the light, that it was good”

‘it was good’:

- “God called the light good.” (Genesis 2:17) He gave a knowledge of good to His creation. He did not call the darkness anything because he did not want His creatures to have the knowledge of evil. He forbade His creatures to obtain a knowledge of evil.
- Though the great Creator surrounds Himself with darkness, it was not His will for His creatures to surround themselves with darkness. Though God has the knowledge of good and evil, it was not His will for Adam and Eve to obtain the same knowledge of good and evil.
- Just like God sends the flood to destroy the antediluvian world (time of Noah), He did not command Noah to lift the sword to take the life of a single man. *There are things that are the prerogative of God and only God.*

V4-5, Part 2: “And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.”

‘the darkness he called Night’:

- The spiritual darkness that came after the creation of the holy beings in the world of light, God calls Night. Although God surrounds Himself with darkness, His darkness is not Night. But if the same darkness finds itself in His creation then that, He calls Night (spiritual). For example: it is not a transgression for God to send the flood, but it would be a transgression if Noah killed a man.
- When God shall fully eradicate the heaven and the earth from sin, there shall be no more Night, both physical and spiritual:
- “And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be **no night** there.” {Revelation 21:25}
- “And there shall be **no night** there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.” {Revelation 22:5}

V4-5, Part 2: “And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.”

‘the darkness he called Night’:

- Further examples of Night (spiritual):
- “Ye are all the children of **light**, and the children of the **day**: we are not of the **night**, nor of **darkness**.” {1 Thessalonians 5:5}
- “The **night** is far spent, the **day** is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of **darkness**, and let us put on the armour of **light**.” {Romans 13:12}
- By turning away (hiding, concealing, separating) from light, which is good, God's creatures receive darkness which is evil. *Ie. Cain, Judas*

V4-5, Part 3: “God divided the light from the darkness.”

‘divided’:

- It is in the following way, **spiritual light** is divided from **spiritual darkness**, and the spiritual **Day** is separated from the spiritual **Night**:
- “In surprise and confusion at the exposure of his purpose, Judas rose hastily to leave the room. “Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.... He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.” **Night** it was to the traitor as he turned away from Christ into the outer **darkness**. {Desire of Ages 654.3}
- “**Light** comes to the soul through God’s word, through His servants, or by the direct agency of His Spirit; but when one ray of **light** is disregarded, there is a partial benumbing of the **spiritual perceptions**, and the second revealing of **light** is less clearly discerned. So the **darkness** increases, until it is **night** in the soul.” {Desire of Ages 322.2}
- “And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife **hid** themselves **from the presence** of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.” {Genesis 3:8}

V4-5, Part 3: “God divided the light from the darkness.”

‘divided’:

- “But your iniquities have **separated** between you and your God, and your sins have **hid** his face from you, that he will not hear.” {Isaiah 59:2}
- “Turning to the priests and elders, Christ fixed upon them His searching glance. The words He spoke they would never forget as long as life should last. They were as the sharp arrows of the Almighty. With dignity He said: You come out against Me with swords and staves as you would against a thief or a robber. **Day by day** I sat teaching in the temple. You had every opportunity of laying hands upon Me, and you did nothing. The **night** is better suited to your work. “This is your hour, and the power of **darkness**.” {Desire of Ages 697.1}
- “Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the **day**, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the **light** of this world.” {John 11:9}

V4-5, Part 3: “God divided the light from the darkness.”

‘divided’:

- On the first day of creation, Lucifer, the exalted seraph, the covering cherub cherished **darkness** in his heart. God permitted Lucifer to separate from Himself and the heavenly hosts to carry out his secret mission. Thus, darkness found its way in the creation of God. *Hence God called it night from day one.*
- “**Leaving** his place in the immediate **presence** of the Father, Lucifer went forth to diffuse the **spirit** of discontent among the angels. He worked with **mysterious secrecy**, and for a time **concealed** his real purpose under an appearance of reverence for God.” {Patriarchs and Prophets 37.1}
- “I form the **light**, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.” {Isaiah 45:7}
- “Thus he deceived angels... and the **night** of woe settled down upon the world.” {Desire of Ages 21.3}