

**Intro.** When you believe Darwinian evolution, there’s no need for God & many evolutionists also become atheists. To counter this thinking, it’s helpful to look at some of the leading theologians of the world & get their response. So I’ve found this 2-minute clip to address these matters from theological expert Tim Hawkins (show Atheist Church Songs). I think he picks it apart pretty well. As we continue our series on “Building a Foundation for Your Faith,” we look at Genesis 1 again for Part 2 of “A Panoramic View of Creation.”

Theme: Creation and evolution

Background: Moses recorded Genesis, a book about beginnings, around the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC

➤ I want you to consider several key truths flowing from Genesis 1 (also recap from last time):

1. **God exists & has always existed (1:1)**
  2. **All 3 Members of the Trinity were involved in creation (1:1-2; John 1:1)**
  3. **God created the heavens & the earth in 6 days (1:3-31)**
  4. **Everything that God created was good (1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31)**
    - One of the things I want you to see are the parallels of days 1-3 with 4-6 respectively—day 1 & 4 deal with light, days 2 & 5 deal with sky & sea & days 3 & 6 deal with land
  5. **Days 1 & 4 deal with God’s creating & making light (1:3-5, 14-19)**
    - a. **Day 1: God made light & separated it from the darkness (1:3-5)**
      - This light is general without definition
      - For those who claim you cannot have light without the sun, they not only argue against Genesis 1 but they also dismiss Revelation 21-22 which claims God & the Lamb are the light of eternity & there’s no need for a sun
    - b. **Day 4: God made the sun, moon & stars as light-bearers (1:14-19)**
      - The light-bearers were intended as “signs” or “marks” to indicate seasons, the passing of time—all the stars are named by their Creator (Psalm 147:4)
      - Some ancient peoples assumed the moon was the larger than the sun & accounted for the lack of heat & light because they thought it was much farther away & yet Moses calls the sun “the greater light”—not the “greatest” light, which would have seemed natural, but God revealed it to him, knowing there are far greater stars than our sun (the star Epsilon in the Auriga constellation has a diameter 3,000x our sun & a volume 27 billion x our sun, Phillips, 43)
- Illus: When an astronomer mentions something being 3.5 light years away, he is talking about distance, not time. Although everyone assumes the distance is equal to the time, that part of the equation hasn’t been proven (God could have created it & sped up the light for signs & seasons & then fixed the speed of it)
6. **Days 2 & 5 deal with God’s work in the sky & sea (1:6-8, 20-25)**
    - a. **Day 2: God separated the waters above & below the expanse (1:6-8)**
      - The “expanse” can be translated as “vault”—there’s a big space between the waters on the earth & the water (clouds) in the sky—though it may be describing water beyond the sky in the atmosphere, like a Canopy of Vapor around the earth (I’ll say more about the Canopy Theory when we get to the Flood)
    - b. **Day 5: God created sky & sea animals (1:20-23)**
      - Flying animals included birds with feathers & flying insects & flying dinosaurs like the Pteranodon (without feathers, but wings)—flying creatures have mostly hollow bones
      - Sea animals include the fish, eel, octopus, shark, starfish & more
      - “tannin” (1:21)—“great sea creatures” (cf. Job 7:12; Psalms 74:13; 148:7; Isaiah 27:1; 51:9; Jeremiah 51:34; Ezekiel 29:3; 32:2)
      - Elsewhere translated as “dragon,” “serpent,” or “monster”—probably like an elasmosaur (long neck) and a kronosaur (both over 50 ft) & mosasaur (10-50 feet); see also Behemoth (Job 40) & Leviathan (Job 41)

Illus: 1934 30-foot sea monster washed up on shore near Henry Island in British Columbia & 1974 pleiosaur-like creature in New Zealand (show pics)

- “according to their/its kind(s)” (1:21)—2x (cf. 1:11-12 [3x], 24-25 [5x])—“kind” is probably similar to the family or order classification today rather than genus or species
- plants & animals reproduce according to their kind, not a different kind of plant or animal

## 7. Days 3 & 6 deal with God’s work on the land (1:9-13, 26-31)

### a. Day 3: God formed the land & caused various plants to grow (1:9-13)

- God forming the land may mean one massive supercontinent blob or it could mean that with connecting land bridges & such with the various “seas” surrounding it
- “fruit trees bearing fruit” (1:11)—trees with already-mature fruit was how God created things— with the appearance of age (chickens came before eggs)—trees may have looked 100 years old & yet was just created; Adam was old enough to name animals & reproduce with Eve (such instantaneous creations are miracles, as seen in Jesus turning water into wine, bypassing the fermentation process)

### b. Day 6: God made land animals of various kinds & mankind (1:24-31)

- Land animals included “cattle” as various domesticated animals, creeping things would include snakes, lizards, etc. & beasts of the earth all the other animals, but the focus here is on “kinds” not every species—dogs, cats, dinosaurs, etc. but not every species of each one
- Good rule of thumb for kinds is if two things can breed together (two types of dogs), then they are of the same created kind (Purdom & Hodge in Ham, *Answers*, Book 3, 40)
- I’ll say more about mankind next time

## 8. The Bible & Darwinian evolution cannot both be true.

- Darwinian evolution—teaching by Charles Darwin claiming matter gave birth to living organisms through natural selection and the survival of the fittest

Illus: The evolutionist’s holy trinity is matter, time & chance (Ankerberg & Weldon in MacArthur, 35)

Illus: The naturalist’s formula for the origin of the universe: “Nobody times nothing equals everything” (MacArthur, 31)

- Macro-evolution—change from species to species (non-living to living, single-cell to multi-cell to fish to reptiles to birds to mammals)
- Micro-evolution—change within a species to adapt to one’s environment (peppered-moth of England)
- Law of Cause & Effect—nothing just happens by itself (but evolution teaches that)
- Basic Problems with Evolutionary Theory:
  - a. Origin of the universe—argues for eternal matter
  - b. Non-living matter to living organisms—how did that happen?
  - c. Highly developed cells/DNA—life should not be orderly but chaotic
  - d. Mutations—while they occur, they never improve life but worsen

Illus: Scientists began experimenting with fruit flies in 1910 & have observed thousands of mutations, either harmful or harmless, but none of them result in a more successful fruit fly (MacArthur, 136)

- e. Flatness problem—Big Bang should have sent particles everywhere but the universe is basically flat
- f. Missing antimatter—if matter is created from energy, an equal portion of antimatter should exist, but there are only trace amounts in comparison
- g. Much, much more!—like sedimentary rock deposits in ocean floor point to an earth a few million years old at best; the presence of helium in radioactive rocks which diffuses rapidly & shouldn’t be present in an old earth; rapidly decaying magnetic field pointing to a 20,000 year old earth; soft tissue in fossils claimed to be 65 million years old (T. Rex in Monana); C-14 in fossils, coal & diamonds which should have decayed after 1 million years; very little salt in the sea, which should be far saltier at the current rate

Illus: If evolution wase true & you had mutations & survival of the fittest & such, why do we look like we do? Why not have the speed of a cheetah, the strength of a gorilla, the ability to fly like an eagle &

swim with gills to breathe underwater and have hair like a bear? We are weak & mostly hairless (some more than others), so we cover up by making & buying clothes. If we are just evolved animals, then there's no need to wear clothes, because they are expensive, but even atheistic naturalists have a sense of decency about them (except for natural parks)

➤ **So What? Trust the God of creation, preservation & redemption!** He who created the world also preserves the world. Due to the fall of man into sin, He also worked to redeem the world through coming into the world to live a sinless life, perform miracles where the supernatural suspended the natural laws, give His life on a cross for our sins & rise victorious over death. That God is worth trusting!

**Conc.** When you think about God's descriptions of the stars, He only uses a few words. But when you think about what He says about the Tabernacle & the various sacrifices, He devotes chapters & books to the subject. Why? Because God is far more interested in people than He is in planets, more interested in souls than in stars (Phillips, 44). But when you get right down to it, Genesis deals with the heart of the issue—authority. Is the Bible trustworthy or not? Is God as its Author trustworthy or not? If so, then He is supremely & exclusively authoritative on all matters about which He writes (Morris, *The Book of Beginnings*, 12)—the big question you must ask yourself in this battle between the Bible & Darwinian evolution is this: Am I going to trust God's revelation of how things came into being or am I going to trust man's reason on how things came into being?