



## Portion:

### SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 1:1-6:8
- Isaiah 42:1-43:10
- John 1:1-4
- Job 38:1-4
- Colossians 1:16-22
- Hebrews 5:12-14
- Matthew 26:39, 42
- II Peter 3:8
- Exodus 20:8-11
- Hebrews 4:4, 9-10
- I Peter 1:15-16

## Title:

### THE MASTER'S PIECE & THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

- The Moment of Creation
- Y'Shua...In the Beginning
- In Him...All Things Created
- The Method of Creation
- And God Said...
- The Matter of Creation
- The Master's Piece
- The Crux of the Matter
- Man's Mess of Things
- Blaming Eve

*While doing life in general in today's society, it is eminently obvious that the Human race, by and large, does not view itself quite the same as it once did. We are now living in a casual, convenient, and global society, in which absolutes regarding intimacy between people, either of opposite or same gender, do not matter. Instead of deep, meaningful, and committed relationships,*

*casual and convenient partnerships are encouraged. If a relationship results in pregnancy, society regularly encourages the option of killing the unborn child, framed around “a woman’s choice” and addressed as “getting rid of it.” The notion abounds that there is no objective morality. That is challenged only when WE articulate the thought that moral absolutes do exist and from where they come!*

*The wickedness of society is on full display for all to see. And, it centers on attacking the truth that we have a Creator and what is the most important image and mandate of that Creator. “The two shall become one flesh” and “Be fruitful and multiply.”*

*How did we get here? A wise man once said, “Begin at the beginning.” Let’s remind ourselves of the intrinsic value of humanity by doing just that! Let’s go back to the beginning!*

#### **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

*In the **beginning**, **God created** the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Genesis 1:1-2*

***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 any thing made*

that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:1-4

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. "Where were you **when I laid the foundation** of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Job 38:1-4

**OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE**

Then God said, "**Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.**

And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So **God**

**created man in his own image, in the image of God** he created him; male and female he created them. And **God blessed them.**

And God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply** and fill the earth and **subdue it**, and **have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:26-28

# Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The scroll of the Torah is the oldest and most sacred of all Israel's Scriptures. The Torah consists of the five Books of Moses. The English name Genesis comes from the Greek translation of the first Hebrew word found in the Bible, B'reisheet, which means "in the beginning" in Hebrew. Genesis means "origins" in Greek, therefore the name for the first book of the Bible means "The Book of Origins." Genesis describes the origins of everything. It begins with the origins of the universe, focuses on the origins of man and then explores the origins of the nation of Israel. One might say that the Book of Genesis is a prophetic microcosm of the entire bible, both Old and New Testaments. As we study the first week's reading, we will learn a great deal about God, but even more about ourselves. After all, this is the story of our origins. When properly understood, the story of our origin helps us find our destination.
2. Genesis begins with the history of creation and all that is good and evil and holy.
3. God creates and then separates. In fact, the first super-pattern introduced in the Holy Scriptures is the idea of separation.
4. The first thing Yahweh separated was light from darkness. Later, through the prophet Isaiah, He promised He would turn the

darkness into light! And you are that light! (*See the end of "Portion in a Blurb" for details of all that God separated in "A Super Pattern Established in Genesis!"*)

5. What life in God's garden is like is introduced and mankind is given explicit instructions on what to do and not to do. Freely eat from all trees except from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
6. Against Yahweh's command, man, tempted by the enemy of our souls, chooses to know good and evil on his own terms, by eating from Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. *"For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, **knowing good and evil.**"* Genesis 3:5 NKJV
7. Yahweh did have a plan for us to "become like God", but on His own terms...*"For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to **discern both good and evil.**"* Hebrews 5:12-14 NKJV

8. It is the great deception which challenges mankind, even unto this very day, “my will vs. His will.” Y’shua made the ultimate declaration of the correct choice when He chose His father’s will over His own life. *“He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will... “Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.””* Matthew 26:39, 42 NKJV
9. The consequence of man’s disobedience (outright rebellion), as warned by Yahweh, is death: *“but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, **for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**”* Genesis 2:17 NKJV
10. How does death eventually come for mankind that very day? Adam and Eve, and subsequently all of mankind, are then prevented from reaching out and “still” eating from the tree of life. *“Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, **lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever**” — therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden*

*of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, **to guard the way to the tree of life.***” Genesis 3:22-24 NKJV

11. What does this mean? As promised, Adam and Eve both die before reaching 1000 years old, in Yahweh’s reckoning of time, before the day they sinned is ended. *“But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”* II Peter 3:8 from Psalm 90:4 NKJV
12. And when you study the genealogy of Adam, no man ever reaches 1000 years old. They all die in the “first day” of life.
13. Next we see the murder of Able (the second born) by his brother Cain (the first born). Cain spills Able’s blood (man’s blood) in the earth and it will take man’s blood to redeem the earth.
14. Able is then redeemed, in a sense, by the birth of a third brother, Seth. *“And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, “For God has **appointed another seed for me** instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.””* Genesis 4:25 NKJV
15. The rest of Adam’s geology, up to Noah and the flood, are then enumerated.
16. The portion ends with the depiction of the wickedness that has overtaken mankind, the judgment that is coming, and a declaration about Noah. *“So the LORD said, “I will destroy man*

*whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.” But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.” Genesis 6:7-8 NKJV*

17. **A Super Pattern Established in Genesis!** The need for separation as a Super Pattern in the Bible. Separation means holy, set-part, or sanctified! (Day 1 is Good, Day 2 is ????, Day 3 is Good, Day 4 is Good, Day 5 is Good, Days 6 is Good, Day 7 is...Holy!)

(1) DAY 1 (Genesis 1:3-5) Light from darkness—**Good**

(2) DAY 2 (Genesis 1:6-8) Waters above and below the dome—

A. NOTE: this is the one thing God does not call “good” at the time, He just says, “and it was so” in v. 7 (*He does later call all 6 days ‘supremely good’*) and isn’t it interesting that the **dome is exactly what collapses** in the FLOOD!?! *“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and **the windows of heaven were opened.**”* Genesis 7:11 NKJV

(3) DAY 3 (Genesis 1:9-13) Land from sea, and and all the foods from the earth—**Good**



(4) DAY 4 (Genesis 1:14-19) Lights in the sky to govern day and night, and to mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years —

**Good**

(5) DAY 5 (Genesis 1:20-23) Sea animals and birds—**Good**

(6) DAY 6 (Genesis 1:24-31) Every kind of land creature and

man and woman in His image—**Good**—“*God saw*

*everything he had made: it was **supremely good**. There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.*” Genesis 1:3

A. NOTE: DAY 6 WAS GOOD BUT, IT WAS NOT GOOD FOR MAN TO BE ALONE! (In the detailed account of the creation of man in Genesis 2, it shows how it was **not good** for man to be alone, so he fashioned woman out of man—that is His IMAGE)

1) **[MAN ALONE? NOT GOOD! WOMAN FROM MAN? NOT GOOD! MAN UNITED WITH WOMAN?**

**GOOD!]** “*And the LORD God said, “ It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”*” Genesis 2:18 NKJV

2) **[Woman is separated from man— however that is not**

**good either until they BECOME ONE AGAIN!]** “*So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. **But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.** And the LORD*

*God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: “**This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh;** She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.” Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, **and they shall become one flesh.**” Genesis 2:20-24 NKJV*

(7) DAY 7 (Genesis 2:1-3) **\*THE Sabbath? Not just good — holy! This is a universal theme that runs from Genesis to revelation**

A. **[Separation of good and holy]** *“Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. **Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it,** because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.” Genesis 2:1-3 NKJV*

B. The Sabbath remains HOLY! EXODUS & HEBREWS

1) *“**Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but **the seventh***

**day is the Sabbath of the LORD** your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, **and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.**” Exodus 20:8-11 NKJV

- 2) HEBREWS—“For He **has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day** in this way: “And **God rested on the seventh day** from all His works”;... **There remains** therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself **also ceased from his works as God did from His.**” Hebrews 4:4, 9-10 NKJV
- C. AND WE TOO ARE CALLED TO BE SEPARATED (HOLY)!  
Therefore **be holy**....“but as He who called you is holy, **you also be holy** in all your conduct, because it is written, “**Be holy, for I am holy.**”” I Peter 1:15-16 NKJV (From Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2: 20:7,26)

## THE MOMENT OF CREATION

### 1. Wrap your mind around this!

#### A. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...

##### Genesis 1:1

- (1) Wrap your mind around this fact. Outside of our 24 hour space continuum, prior to the moment of creation, no time existed, no space, and no matter.
- (2) Yahweh, decided to divinely speak these three elements into existence in order for there to have been a “beginning.”
- (3) At that very instant, God placed into motion the existence of time, matter and space.
- (4) None of them could exist independently of each other.
- (5) If He were to have created matter and no space, where would He have put it?
- (6) If He were to have created matter and space, but not time, when would He have put it?
- (7) I surmise that Your view of creation **directly** impacts your view of the entirety of Scripture.
- (8) If you adjust, change, alter, add, or remove, any part of the description Yahweh provided Moses, as an account of creation, you will have the propensity to do that with other portions of Scripture!

## THE METHOD OF CREATION

### 2. **And God said!**

- A. “The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. **Then God said**, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. **Then God said**, “Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. **And God called** the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. **Then God said**, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. **And God called** the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. **Then God said**, “Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth”; and it was so. And the earth

brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the third day. **Then God said,** “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the fourth day. **Then God said,** “Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **And God blessed them, saying,** “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” So the evening and the morning

were the fifth day. **Then God said**, “Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind”; and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **Then God said**, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, **and God said** to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” **And God said**, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food”; and it was so. Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.

So the evening and the morning were the sixth day." Genesis 1:2-31 NKJV

- (1) Do you see a pattern?
- (2) Is God's method of creation not obvious?
- (3) By simply "**saying**," or more properly stated, Yahweh spoke creation into existence.
- (4) This presents a problem to science and skeptics alike.
- (5) How could an immaterial sovereign being speak anything into existence, from nothing, to just add a degree or two of complexity?
- (6) This is what Theologians call "**Divine Fiat**."
- (7) In the Book of Job, Job has a back and forth discussion with his friends. Then, he has a moment when he believes he's entitled to some answers from God. Yahweh responds by asking Job sixty-four questions throughout a lengthy discussion.
- (8) The very first one was this: *"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding."* Job 38:4
- (9) This is the same question we should ask anyone who wants to tamper with the record of the creation account.
- (10) "What about science?" you ask. What about it? Science has nothing to do with creation. How so? Creation is not



being repeated, It is also not being observed, and it cannot be tested. Are those three qualifications not a part of the scientific process?

(11) Darwin took creation from where it belonged (Theology) and brought it into the realm of human knowledge. He did not do humanity any service in doing so!

(12) Well, what about fossils? You might ask. What about them? Here is a definition for fossils—*Dead stuff!* They do not provide us with any information about creation either.

## THE MATTER OF CREATION: THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

### 3. **Let us make man in our image!**

A. Then God said, "**Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.** And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."** And God said, "**Behold, I have given you every plant**

**yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.**

Genesis 1:26-29

- 1) In reducing creation to nothing more than the result of a random explosion, some billions of years ago, something else happened. God's Master's Piece was reduced to something with no intrinsic value. We have been reduced to biological protoplasm, brain gas, just fizzing around bumping into each other, with no other motive for our existence than enjoyment driven by instant gratification.

**B. The Crux of the Matter of God's creation was to create a being in His Own image!**

- (1) What does it mean to have been created in His image and after His likeness?
  - (a) **Our Nature**—We possess a capacity for rationality, moral awareness, creativity and free will.
  - (b) **Our Task**—God gave us the task to rule and to be stewards of over ALL of creation.
  - (c) **Our Innate Desire for Relationship**—We have a God-given desire for fruitful, meaningful and positive relationships.

- (d) **In regards to “Our Nature”**—God provided us with the capacity to rationalize right from wrong. It is from this very fact that He instituted laws for His creation to live by. Our capacity to inhabit planet earth is based on our human bodies’ need to obey God’s physical laws. Would it then not make sense for us to have a need to obey God’s moral laws as well?
- (e) **In regards to “Our Task”**— We were given authority over ALL of creation, an authority Adam and Eve promptly surrendered to the enemy (Satan) by their disobedience. Adam and Eve were given the capacity to procreate and they were **charged** with the task to do so.
- (f) **In regards to “Our desire for relationships”**—When God created Adam, He said, “It is not good for man to be alone.” It was the only time where God said “it is not good” during His creation account. We were created for relationships, with both our fellow humans and our Heavenly Father.

## MAN MADE A MESS OF THINGS

### 4. Blaming Eve?

- A. Even if you have not been a Christian for very long, without a doubt, you are aware of the reason creation finds itself in the

situation it is in. The common notion in Christianity is that Eve ushered in sin by falling for the lure the enemy presented. What does the Biblical account reveal?

B. And **the LORD God commanded the man**, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**" Genesis 2:16-17

- (1) It is a fact that Eve first took the fruit and ate of it.
- (2) However, it is also a fact that Eve was not yet created when the command to "not eat" of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was given to Adam!
- (3) She did not hear this command first-hand, so it would seem she must have learned of it from Adam.
- (4) Isn't Adam, then, responsible for the actions of Eve, being that he was given direct commands from Yahweh?
- (5) Adam knew that Eve eating from the forbidden tree of knowledge of good and evil would bring death.
- (6) However, instead of stopping her, he too decided to eat after she did?
- (7) Based on his actions, Adam "willingly" gave his life for his bride. The same way Jesus also "willingly" gave His life for His!

(8) Cunningly, the enemy will use this tactic, time and time again, against all believers. Not having directly heard the commands from Yahweh (or read them yet!) and not holding to an inerrant view of the Scriptures, has ushered in all sorts of faulty positions and beliefs in regards to, not just the creation account, but so many other Biblical topics.

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

### 5. A few books to consider...

A. **In His book, “Battle for the beginning”, John McArthur writes:**

- (1) “Evolution was invented in order to eliminate the God of Genesis and oust the Law giver and obliterate the inviability of His moral law. Evolution is the latest means fallen sinners have devised to suppress our innate knowledge of God and the Biblical testimony to Him, and that we are accountable to Him.”
- (2) Little does the evolutionist know that they have competition in the arena of thoughts from within their own realm, not just from those with a creationist view.

B. **In his book, “the devil’s delusion” David Berlinski writes:**

(3) “Has anyone provided proof of God’s inexistence? Not even close. Has quantum cosmology explained the emergence of the universe or why it is here? Not even close. Have our sciences explained why our universe seems to be fine-tuned to allow for the existence of life? Not even close. Are physicists and biologists willing to believe in anything so long as it is not religious thought? Close enough. Has rationalism and moral thought provided us with an understanding of what is good, what is right, and what is moral? Not close enough. Has secularism in the terrible 20th century been a force for good? Not even close, to being close. Is there a narrow and oppressive orthodoxy in the sciences? Close enough. Does anything in the sciences or their philosophy justify the claim that religious belief is irrational? Not even in the ball park. Is scientific atheism a frivolous exercise in intellectual contempt? Dead on.” —**David Berlinski, The Devil's Delusion: Atheism and Its Scientific Pretensions**

**C. The Crux of the matter of creation is what the Apostle Paul points to in Colossians 1:16-22:**

(1) “For by **Him all things were created**, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through

Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, **in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him.**

Colossians 1:16-22

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. How does a view of anything other than a literal six days of creation affect your view of Scripture?**
- 2. Do you believe God used evolutionary processes to achieve creation?**
- 3. What is the significance behind the first miracle Jesus performed?**
- 4. How does an old earth view of creation undermine the authority of scripture?**

5. Does evolution exist?
6. Pro-choice supporters proclaim, “their-body-their choice,” and that a fetus is not a human life. Explain how this view is wrong in its entirety.