

## Lesson 1 – Genesis 1:1-2:3

NIV

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** 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. **3** And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. **4** God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. **6** And God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.” **7** So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. **8** God called the expanse “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. **9** And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. **10** God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good. **11** Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. **12** The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. **13** And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day. **14** And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, **15** and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. **16** God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. **17** God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, **18** to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. **20** And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.” **21** So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **22** God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” **23** And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day. **24** And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so.

**25** God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

**26** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” **27** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

**28** God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

**29** Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

**30** And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

**31** God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

**2:1** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. **2** By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. **3** And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was empty, a formless mass cloaked in darkness. And the Spirit of God was hovering over its surface. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** And God saw that it was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness.

**5** God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." Together these made up one day.

**6** And God said, "Let there be space between the waters, to separate water from water." **7** And so it was. God made this space to separate the waters above from the waters below. **8** And God called the space "sky." This happened on the second day.

**9** And God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky be gathered into one place so dry ground may appear." And so it was. **10** God named the dry ground "land" and the water "seas." And God saw that it was good.

**11** Then God said, "Let the land burst forth with every sort of grass and seed-bearing plant. And let there be trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. The seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And so it was. **12** The land was filled with seed-bearing plants and trees, and their seeds produced plants and trees of like kind. And God saw that it was good.

**13** This all happened on the third day.

**14** And God said, "Let bright lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. They will be signs to mark off the seasons, the days, and the years.

**15** Let their light shine down upon the earth." And so it was. **16** For God made two great lights, the sun and the moon, to shine down upon the earth. The greater one, the sun, presides during the day; the lesser one, the moon, presides through the night. He also made the stars.

**17** God set these lights in the heavens to light the earth, **18** to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

**19** This all happened on the fourth day.

**20** And God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." **21** So God created great sea creatures and every sort of fish and every kind of bird. And God saw that it was good. **22** Then God blessed them, saying, "Let the fish multiply and fill the oceans. Let the birds increase and fill the earth." **23** This all happened on the fifth day.

**24** And God said, "Let the earth bring forth every kind of animal—livestock, small animals, and wildlife." And so it was. **25** God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to reproduce more of its own kind. And God saw that it was good.

**26** Then God said, "Let us make people in our image, to be like ourselves. They will be masters over all life—the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the livestock, wild animals, and small animals."

**27** So God created people in his own image; God patterned them after himself; male and female he created them.

**28** God blessed them and told them, "Multiply and fill the earth and subdue it. Be masters over the fish and birds and all the animals." **29** And God said, "Look! I have given you the seed-bearing plants throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. **30** And I have given all the grasses and other green plants to the animals and birds for their food." And so it was.

**31** Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was excellent in every way. This all happened on the sixth day.

**2:1** So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. **2** On the seventh day, having finished his task, God rested from all his work. **3** And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from his work of creation.