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- when we attempt to re-interpret the message of the original author & we do an “end-around” straight to God, we are violating the authority given to the author by God Himself



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- Greek (Western) questions can't be answered by Hebrew (Eastern) authors



BETTER QUESTIONS LEAD TO BETTER ANSWERS

- this does not mean that some questions are silly and some are more intellectual in a way that puffs up, but that all of our questions can be ever more better informed as we learn and grow



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO EXIST?

- Does material, physical make-up constitute existence? e.g. company & chair
- In ANE thought, existence is *functional*, not merely material



ORDER VS CHAOS

CHAOS/
DISORDER

NON-
ORDER

ORDER

- These status' do not have a moral quality, but are status' of functionality or non-functionality



POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

**WHAT KIND OF CREATION
ACCOUNT IS THIS?**

- If Genesis 1 is not telling a story of material creation, then what kind of creation is this?
- house story vs. home story

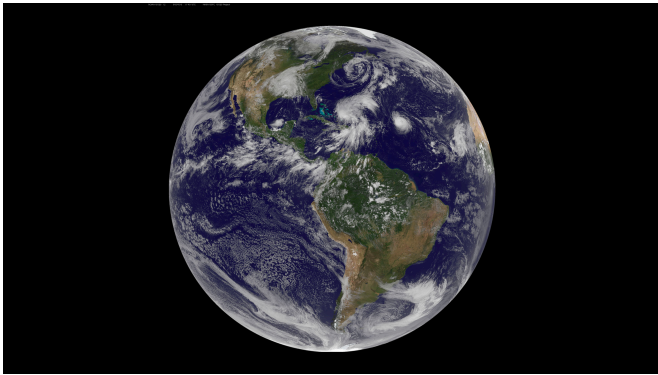


**WHAT IS GOD'S PURPOSE
IN CREATING THE EARTH?**



**GENESIS 1
AS POETRY**

- Chiasm
 - True learning doesn't happen through facts and supporting evidence, but through discovery of things buried in the story...it's engagement over regurgitation



- house story vs. home story
 - buying/building a new house and moving in but boxes are unpacked (non-order)
- Naming & separating is a creative process

DAYS 4-6

HASHEM INSTALLS FUNCTIONARIES

DAY 7

TEMPLE CORONATION &
DIVINE ENTHRONEMENT

DAY 7

GENESIS 2:1-3 (TLV)

1 SO THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH WERE COMPLETED
ALONG WITH THEIR ENTIRE ARRAY. 2 GOD COMPLETED
—ON THE SEVENTH DAY—HIS WORK THAT HE MADE,
AND HE CEASED—ON THE SEVENTH DAY—FROM ALL
HIS WORK THAT HE MADE. 3 THEN GOD BLESSED THE
SEVENTH DAY AND SANCTIFIED IT, FOR ON IT HE
CEASED FROM ALL HIS WORK THAT GOD CREATED FOR
THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING.

- Gen. 1:1 & Gen. 2:1 as literary brackets
- If Genesis 1 is a lab report, then day 7 seems to be out of place, nothing more than an add-on
- An ancient reader would instantly recognize what this story is...a temple text
- What is divine rest?
 - Rest is the result of chaos being ordered, stability being achieved, things have “settled down”
 - The God Who knows when to say, “Enough”
- Where does deity rest?
 - In a temple, and only in a temple

- Why is understanding & practicing the sabbath a key to understanding the whole mission and message of the Bible?



- We've said that Gen. 1 is not science. Neither is Gen. 2
 - If the science changes, the way we read the story does not
- Overarching assumption is that Gen. 2 is telling more about day 6 of Gen. 1
 - May be one possibility, but is it the only one?
 - We want to evaluate it
- Blind presuppositions
 - We all have presuppositions. They can be good or not so...either way, they must be explored & evaluated
 - Question everything, especially how you think about the things you think about
- How does Gen. 2 relate to Gen. 1
 - There are options

GENESIS 2:4 (TLV)

4 THESE ARE THE GENEALOGICAL RECORDS OF
THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH WHEN THEY
WERE CREATED, AT THE TIME
WHEN ADONAI ELOHIM MADE LAND AND SKY.

תולדה TOLDAH/TOLDOT

- DESCENDANTS, RESULTS, PROCEEDINGS, GENERATIONS, GENEALOGIES
 - ACCOUNT OF MEN AND THEIR DESCENDANTS
 - GENEALOGICAL LIST OF ONE'S DESCENDANTS
 - ONE'S CONTEMPORARIES
 - COURSE OF HISTORY (OF CREATION ETC)
- BEGETTING OR ACCOUNT OF HEAVEN

- occurs 11 times in Gen.
 - Usually a person's name and their genealogy
 - Author's literary mechanism of moving the story along/ Transitional statements
 - If it's transitional, then we can see (thru 11 occurrences) how the before relates to the after
- If Gen. 2 is the story of Adam & Eve, it is a retelling (recapitulation)
 - Are there other options?
 - Recursive
 - Sequel (default)
- Gen 1 is populations
- Opening for other people

OTHERS?

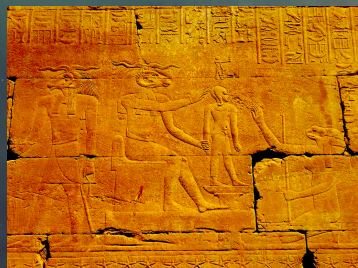
- GEN. 4:15– “WHOEVER SLAYS ME”
- GEN. 4:17– CAIN’S WIFE
- GEN. 4:17– CAIN BECOMES A CITY BUILDER

- Gen. 1 is cosmic identity
- Gen. 2 is human IDENTITY
- If Adam & Eve are not the first and only...then why are they important?
 - AH! Better questions lead to better answers
 - This is the whole point of the given text

GENESIS 2:7 (TLV)

7 THEN ADONAI ELOHIM FORMED THE MAN
OUT OF THE DUST FROM THE GROUND AND HE
BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS A BREATH OF
LIFE—SO THE MAN BECAME A LIVING BEING.

- Adam & Eve were real people in a real past
- Archetypes of what all humanity is from an Israelite perspective
 - This is who our God created us to be
- Adam (man) & Chavah (life)
 - Hebrew names given by a Hebrew author
 - “from/out of/of” not in the Hebrew



יָצַר YATSAR
TO FORM,
FASHION

- coronation scene where Knum is forming pharaoh to be pharaoh
 - Formed to be king...function & purpose

GENESIS 2:7 (TLV)

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LIFE—SO THE MAN BECAME A LIVING BEING.

- If this is a telling of identity, then the question has to be...what does it mean that we are dust?
- chemistry or craftsmanship?
 - Chemical makeup
 - Craftsmanship
 - PROBLEM...dust

GENESIS 3:19 (TLV)

BY THE SWEAT OF YOUR BROW WILL YOU EAT
FOOD, UNTIL YOU RETURN TO THE GROUND,
SINCE FROM IT WERE YOU TAKEN, FOR YOU
ARE DUST, AND TO DUST WILL YOU RETURN.”

- dust refers to immortality
- Were we created immortal?
- Romans 5:12 Tree of Life Version (TLV)
 - So then, just as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, in the same way death spread to all men because all sinned.
- Paul knows his Bible...Tree of Life
- Gen. 1 refrain...it was good (perfect?)
 - Tov is not a moral term, it is optimal functional
 - Gen. 2- not good that man be alone

PSALM 103:14 (TLV)

FOR HE KNOWS OUR FRAME (FORM). HE
REMEMBERS THAT WE ARE BUT DUST.

- form= yetzer
 - Yetzer hara & yetzer hatov
- “WE”
 - It’s not that Adam came into the world one way and we came in a different way
 - 1 Corinthians 15:48 Tree of Life Version (TLV)
 - 48 Like the one made of dust, so also are those made of dust; and like the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly.
- If there were people before Adam, and we are formed like Adam (identity, not biology) there is nothing to negate the possibility that Adam was born of a woman

GENESIS 2:8 (TLV)

THEN ADONAI ELOHIM PLANTED A GARDEN IN EDEN IN THE EAST, AND THERE HE PUT THE MAN WHOM HE HAD FORMED.

- gardens are royal spheres attached to sacred space
 - Temple mountain with water flowing from under the throne
 - Trees show the preeminence of the King
- Put (suwm)- to put, place, set, appoint, make

GENESIS 2:9 (TLV)

THEN ADONAI ELOHIM CAUSED TO SPROUT FROM THE GROUND EVERY TREE THAT WAS DESIRABLE TO LOOK AT AND GOOD FOR FOOD.

NOW THE TREE OF LIFE WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GARDEN, AND ALSO THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.

GENESIS 2:15 (TLV)

THEN ADONAI ELOHIM TOOK THE MAN AND GAVE HIM REST IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN IN ORDER TO CULTIVATE AND WATCH OVER IT.

- avad v'shamar- priestly roles

GENESIS 2:18 (TLV)

THEN ADONAI ELOHIM SAID, "IT IS NOT GOOD FOR THE MAN TO BE ALONE. LET ME MAKE A WELL-MATCHED HELPER FOR HIM."

- help-meet (ezer)
 - Appears in v. 20 also
 - Every other place this is found in Scripture is speaking of God

GENESIS 2:21-22 (TLV)

ADONAI ELOHIM CAUSED A DEEP SLEEP TO FALL ON THE MAN AND HE SLEPT; AND HE TOOK ONE OF HIS RIBS AND CLOSED UP THE FLESH IN ITS PLACE. 22 ADONAI ELOHIM BUILT THE RIB, WHICH HE HAD TAKEN FROM THE MAN, INTO A WOMAN. THEN HE BROUGHT HER TO THE MAN.

- deep sleep (tardemah)
 - Jonah in the boat
 - David & Saul
 - Cicera, Chever, Ya'el (Judges 4)
 - Abraham and the blood covenant
- Rib (tsela)
 - Never used anatomically
 - Architectural

GENESIS 2:24 (TLV)

THIS IS WHY A MAN LEAVES HIS FATHER AND HIS MOTHER AND CLINGS TO HIS WIFE; AND THEY BECOME ONE FLESH.

A rectangular image with a cosmic background featuring a blue and purple nebula and a portion of a planet. The text is centered in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**GOD HAS MADE US MORE
THAN WHAT
HE'S MADE US FROM**
