

Grace OPC High School Sunday Class Teaching Notes			
Year:	1 of 4		Date: 11/01/2003
Quarter:	1 of 4	Theology	
Lesson Title:	Creation – part 2		
Lesson Purpose:	To Examine the Doctrine of Creation and Defend it Biblically.		

## 1. Introduction

What did we see last week about creation?

- God created the heaven and earth, that is, all things visible and invisible, out of nothing by speaking them into existence.
- The world had a beginning. The world is not self-existent (or eternal), and did not evolve or arrive by chance. Further, God and world are not one.
- God created the spiritual world, consisting of Angels.
- God created the world out of nothing by speaking it into existence.
- God created the world in six days of ordinary length.
- God declared that His creation was very good. The material world was not evil.
- God created the world for the manifestation of His own glory. God did not create the world for the happiness of man but created man for Himself. God does aim at promoting the welfare of man and tunes their hearts to praise Him.

Having a Christian worldview depends upon us believing that the Bible is God's word which says that God created heavens and the earth, and all things therein. God said, "Let there be..." – and there is. To create something out of nothing is the power of creativity in the absolute sense. Unlike God, man must create things out of preexisting material. Not even "nothing" can resist the command of God.

## 2. God created Man, Male and Female

When God created man he made them male and female, and gave them these attributes: a body, and reasonable and immortal souls.

**Genesis 1:27** So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

**Genesis 2:21-22** 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.

**Ecclesiastes 12:7** Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

God created male and female so that man would not be alone, and to propagate (multiply) the human race.

**Genesis 1:28** 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."

**Genesis 2:18** And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

God has made all the nations from the first male and female.

**Acts 17:26** "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings..."

**Genesis 10**

When God created them man male and female, He called them "mankind."

**Genesis 5:2** He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created.

## 3. The Image of God

The Image of God is His likeness. The Bible clearly states that God made man after His own image in knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness.

**Gen 1:26** And God said, "let Us make man in Our image, after our likeness."

Man had perfect knowledge of God, of his will, and works, so far as was necessary to make him happy, and fit to obey God.

**Col 3:10** "...and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him..."

Adam had an inherent righteousness; which consisted in a perfect agreement of all the powers and faculties of his soul to the pure nature of God, and the moral law written upon his heart,

**Eccl. 7:29** Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many schemes."

**Eph 4:24** "...and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

- o A.A. Hodge states in his commentary: Man was created like God as to the perfection and integrity of his nature. This includes *(a)* Knowledge (Col. 3:10), or a capacity for the right apprehension of spiritual things. This is restored when the sinner is regenerated, in the grace of spiritual illumination. *(b)* Righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24), the perfect moral condition of the soul, and eminently of the character of the governing affections and will.

#### 4. The Soul (or spirit) of Man

God made the soul of man out of nothing by breathing the breath of life into him. One of the theories of modern science is that man evolved over time from a lower form of life. Man did not emerge from some lower form of life but was created by an immediate divine act of God in which matter and spirit were fused together and given existence as a living soul. There was no lower species of man before God made Adam.

**Genesis 2:7** And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

God formed man from the dust of the ground.

**Genesis 3:19** "In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."

#### 5. Man from his beginning knew the law of God

When God created man He wrote the law of God on their hearts.

**Romans 2:14-15** "...for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, <sup>15</sup> who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)..."

God set man's will only towards good, but it was a free will and capable of sinning.

**Genesis 3:6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

**Eccl. 7:29** Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, But they have sought out many schemes."

God commanded Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil under the threat of death.

**Genesis 2:16-17** And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; "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 3:6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

## 6. God gave man dominion over the earth

Man had princely power over all the inferior creatures of the earth. He could use them as he pleased for God's glory.

**Genesis 1:26-28** 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." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 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."

**Genesis 2:19-20** Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. 20 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.

**Romans 11:36** For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

**1 Corinthians 10:31** Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

## 3. Conclusions

- Man was created immediately by God, and last of the creatures.
- That God created one human pair, from whom the entire race in all its varieties has descended by generation, is a fundamental truth of the Christian revelation.
- God created man in his own image, possessing reasonable and immortal souls, and was given knowledge, righteousness and true holiness.
- God furnished Adam with sufficient knowledge for his guidance-God wrote the law on his heart and gave him clear command to obey under the threat of death.
- That Adam, although created holy and capable of obedience, was at the same time capable of falling, is evident from the event. This appears to have been the moral condition in which both angels and men were created.