

# In the Beginning

*A Study Through the Book of Genesis*



## Lesson 4: Chapter 1:24-31

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

### I. The Sixth Day of Creation

#### A. God Creates the Animals (*verses 24 & 25*)

*<sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> 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.*

1. God created land animals in three categories:
  - a. Cattle (livestock)
  - b. Creeping things (insects, reptiles, amphibians, worms, and small mammals)
  - c. Beasts of the earth (wild animals such as lions, tigers, bears, elephants, etc.)
2. God created these "according to their kind." These are still grouped together "according to their kind" and continue to be reproduced as such.

#### B. God Creates Man (*verses 26 & 27*)

*<sup>26</sup> 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." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

1. Let "Us" make man...
  - a. "Us" is a reference to the Holy Trinity – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
  - b. This is an indication of a more personal creation as God included all three parts of the Trinity in the creation of man.
2. In Our "image"
  - a. Notice, God did not say that man was made "according to it's kind." Man was a special creation.
  - b. Man was made in the image and likeness of the fullness of God:
    1. Man was made to resemble God, as a counterpart
    2. Man was made in the image and likeness of God's character and Nature
    3. We were made to have a relationship with God
3. God made man to have dominion over His creation:
  - a. Dominion – from the Hebrew word *rdh* (*ra-dah with a roll of the tongue at the beginning*) means to rule over, to have authority over – man is to have authority over God's creation.

- b. Only man has been given dominion This helps us to understand that God made man with purpose
- 4. God created man as male and female:
  - a. The Bible specifically addresses gender here in the account of the creation of man.
  - b. This stresses a matter of importance in the creation of humans. Gender specific designations were assigned by God at creation.
  - c. The Hebrew words for male (*zakar*) and female (*neqeba*) reference a sexual distinction and designation. These distinctions are for procreation reasons and will be discussed again as God institutes marriage.

C. God's Instructions to Mankind (*verses 28-30*)

<sup>28</sup> 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."

<sup>29</sup> 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.

<sup>30</sup> 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.

- 1. God blessed man – God knew that His creation was just as it should be.
- 2. God instructed mankind to be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth.
- 3. God instructed man to subdue the earth – to bring it all under their control
- 4. God instructed man to have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.
- 5. God instructed man that the herb and the fruit of the trees that yields seed would be food for themselves.
- 6. God also gave the herbs for food for the animals.

D. It Was All Good (*verse 31*)

<sup>31</sup> Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

- 1. All of God's creation was as it should be.