

HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

Origins – Part 2

Creation: Forming the World

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies entitled Origins. Our topic today: Creation: Forming the World.

New Scripture Song: “Behold, Bless the LORD” Psalm 134

Prayer

- 1) The bold declaration of our Creator
 - a) Isaiah 45:18
 - b) Genesis 1:1
 - c) Some suggest the concept of theistic evolution. They recognize a Creator God but suggest He worked through the natural processes of evolution to create the world. Do these texts allow for such a view?
- 2) The power of God’s Word
 - a) Psalm 33:6,9
 - b) 2 Cor 4:6
 - c) Isaiah 55:11
 - d) 2 Peter 3:5
 - e) John 1:1-4, 14 (Matthew 19:4-6)
 - f) How do you respond to this revelation about the power of God’s Word?
- 3) The inspired testimony of Moses
 - a) Genesis 1:1-2
 - b) Genesis 1:3-5
 - i) Was light created on the first day of our planet’s creation or did our Creator simply bring light to our dark planet?
 - ii) How could there be day and night before the creation of the sun? Did Moses just make a mistake here, or is God doing something beyond our comprehension?
 - c) Genesis 1:6-8
 - i) Today we would probably speak of atmosphere and outer space rather than firmament.
 - ii) Some critics argue the term firmament is sometimes used to describe a thin sheet of metal and that ancient Hebrews actually believed there was a hard surface above the earth.
 - iii) How would you respond to this criticism?
 - d) Genesis 1:9-13
 - i) How does this description of God’s creation of a livable environment challenge the evolutionary concept of a single plant ancestor?
 - ii) What lessons have you learned from nature about the character of our Creator?
- 4) Discussion questions
 - a) How can we learn to be content to live without all of the answers regarding the origin of life?
 - b) How can we connect with those who disagree with the Biblical explanation regarding the origin of life?
 - i) Does that sound like an environment suitable for life?
 - ii) What about Isaiah 45:18? “to be inhabited.”