

CREATION AND (TEN) OF ITS CONCEPTS

1. God Created Genesis 1:1-2:3; Psalm 102:25; Hebrews 11:3

Major premise: The message of the Bible is religious in thrust, not scientific.

2. God Created All Things Good Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31
3. The Earth Was Relinquished to Humankind as a Gift Genesis 1:29-30; 2:9, 18
4. God Binds Himself to His Creation Psalm 46: 1-3; Psalm 91: 11-13
5. God Claims Ownership of all He has Fashioned Genesis 1:1; 1 Chronicles 29:10-14
6. God Owns His Own Psalm 24:1
7. Freedom Within Limits
8. Created in God's Image Genesis 1: 26-27; 5:1; 9:6; James 3:9
9. The Crown of God's Creation Genesis 1:26; Psalm 8: 3-8
10. Four Basic Responsibilities Given to Man by God
 - a. Called to replenish the earth Genesis 1:28
 - b. Called to subdue the earth Genesis 1:28
 - c. Called to dress, till and keep the Earth Genesis 2:15
 - d. Called to have dominion Genesis 1:28

All creation is linked with a Creator. A universe is fashioned in which there is plan, purpose, and direction. Behind this majestic venture stands an almighty CREATOR-GOD, who has the power to mold a world out of void and nothingness.

Picture 1 and its symbolism:

Hands lifting the earth out of mist – God created the heavens and the earth

Halo of white light circling the earth – God created all things good

Fingers opened on the right hand – God relinquished the earth to humankind as a gift.

White links attached to the arms and globe – God binds himself to his creation

Lettered banner flying on the earth – God claims ownership of all that God has made

Figure grasping staff – Humankind, too, is owned by God

Banner around figure – Fashioned by God and owned by God humankind has freedom within limits

Halo of light behind figure's head – Humankind is fashioned in the image and likeness of God

Figure holding crown in left hand – Human beings are the very crown of God's creation and have been given four basic responsibilities:

First jewel- to replenish the earth

Second jewel – to subdue the earth

Third jewel – to dress, till and keep the earth

Fourth jewel – to have dominion over the earth.

Some questions to ponder based on this material:

- Is self-interest good?
- Is the magnetic attraction between the sexes good?
- Can the Christian form a disdain for the world?
- How does the awareness of God's ownership of all God has created affect one's view of him/herself? How we treat/care for 'our' children?
- What is meant by the Christian concept that God restricts only because he loves?
- How does restraint serve to protect life from deterioration/decay?
- What are the implications of limited freedom for the contemporary desire to 'do your own thing'?
- Molded in the image of our Maker, what unique capacities do we have as a result of this truth?
- Do all people have dignity/worth in God's eyes, or is this position reserved only for a chosen few?
- Do we do either God or ourselves justice by thinking too little of ourselves?