Creative God - Genesis 1

Powers of Ten video (9 min) Powers of Ten[™] (1977) This video shows creation from the smallest cell to the edge of the galaxies.

That's a pretty good video considering it was created in 1977. So, hats off to the creator of it. But an even bigger hats off to the Creator of the universe who created everything the video talked about. Well...that's assuming that you believe that God is the Creator. But let's just see what other options we have out there. Let's keep an open mind, right?

I did some research...I Googled it...and I found out about the Big Bang Theory. It seems to be the most popular alternative to creation. Now, the worst thing about Googling the Big Bang Theory is that the first thing that pops up is some stupid TV show of the same name. And now my computer thinks I want to watch videos of that show. Well, I don't.

But the actual theory that is the Big Bang basically says that everything was created from nothing when it got really hot and blew up and it continues to expand today. So, that's an option for how we all got here. Nothing plus nobody blew up and now we have blood cells and trees and the sun and moon and dogs and squids. Honestly, I don't think I have enough faith to believe that nothing...got hot...and blew up. But a lot of people do believe that.

Call me old-fashioned. Call me naïve. I prefer to believe that the God of the Bible spoke it all into existence. Now, I can't prove that any more than scientists can prove the Big Bang Theory but the Bible says it and the Bible has proven itself true from the Old Testament and into the New Testament and into my life and so much so that I have no problem believing in a literal God literally speaking a literal universe into creation in six literal days.

Let's turn to the very first book of the Bible and to the very first chapter of that book to see just that. **Genesis 1** and we will start at **verse 26**. I bet you have read this chapter before and so we are going to start at the point that God created mankind. The problem with preaching or studying on the first few chapters of Genesis is it is just so deep. I remember years ago when I was an adult Sunday School teacher at another church, we went through the book of Genesis and it took us six weeks just to get through the first phrase, "In the beginning, God…"

The purpose of today's study is just to show you the creativity of God, not to explain everything and answer all our questions. So, let's look at **Genesis 1, verses 26-31**.

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." ²⁹Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Now, the first problem I have with this passage is right off the bat where it says that God made us to rule over the fish in the sea. I love to fish but I have rarely ever felt like I was ruling over the fish. I'm pretty sure that most of the time the fish see my lure and laugh at me and swim the other direction.

But what this word means is to have dominion over. We are the top of the food chain, so to speak, and as such we have a responsibility to treat all animals, birds and fish and everything underneath us with a sense of stewardship, not being wasteful or cruel.

See, God is all about order. **1 Corinthians 14:33** states: "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace." He designed the world to run orderly. Jesus said He only did what the Father told Him to do. (John 5:19) And God created man first then the woman with the idea that in the home, the man is the head of the house. (Eph. 5) The children obey their parents (Eph. 6) and humans are to rule over the animals. There is always order. There is a design to everything.

When you build a house or any building, you come up with a plan first, right? You at least draw it out and you have an idea of what's going to go where and what goes first and where will the lights be and where is the plumbing going to come in and where will the windows be. There is some kind of order. Now, imagine that from the smallest atom in a tiny blood cell to the farthest reaches of the universe. **Psalm 147** says that God knows how many stars there are and even has names for all of them. **Luke 12:7** says He knows how many hairs are on our heads. Not that impressive on my head but it's mind-blowing for some people! Do you see how creative the Creator is? Amazing!

And to give us the ability to have dominion over animals, God made us in His image as it says in **verse 26**. To be made in God's image is obviously not a physical thing but it is a mental, moral and social idea. He gave us the ability to reason and to choose, to know good from evil and to want to be with other humans. No other creatures are like that. God designed all that into us on purpose.

When you think about the complexity of the human body and the impossibly complex brain and how many blood vessels there are and how our digestive systems work and how the body actually heals itself sometimes, it's more than I can take in. It's overwhelming. But what is even more overwhelming is that we are so much more than physical beings. God created us, not just to look at us like a kid has a pet turtle or something. He created us to have fellowship with us. He wants to have a relationship with us. He – are you ready for this? – wants to be our friend!

Genesis 1 gives us some idea of how we were made but the rest of the Bible tells us why. **Exodus 33:11** – And the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. **1 Corinthians 1:9** – ...by Him you were called into companionship and participation with His Son, Jesus Christ. Paul prayed that the fellowship of the Holy Spirit would be with the church in Corinth. In **John 15**, Jesus said, "I call you my friends."

My dear family, that is amazing! That blows my mind! How could the Creator of all the universe – the One who spoke it into existence – the One who knows everything I have done in the past – want to be friends with me? I don't know about you but that is hard to believe. So, how do we do that? How do we be friends with God?

Music Well, James 4:8 says, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." And Hebrews 10 expounds on that and says that we should draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith. Yes, it's hard to believe but God gives us the faith to believe it. He also tells us in Romans 1:20, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." You can see the creation. Now, draw near to the Creator. You have no excuse not to.

Do you have a relationship with God through His Son Jesus? You can. All you have to do is believe. Use the faith that God has given you to believe that Jesus – who is God the Son – paid the price the Father said was due. He created you for you to believe and have fellowship with Him. It's the only way to get to Heaven. It's the only way to have peace and joy in this life. Accept forgiveness of all your sins from the Creator of the universe and just draw near to Him. Do it right now as the music plays.