

Genesis 1:14-31—Days 4 to 6 of Creation

Memory Verse

Genesis 1:1 NKJV

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Revision

We have learned in Genesis 1:1 that, “In the beginning God”, means that God existed before His creation, and therefore God is separate to His creation. Also, we learned what God created over the first three days of the creation week:

1. The first day of creation—night and day, dark and light, establishing the 24 hour day/night cycle
2. The second day of creation—the firmament or expanse, what we call today the atmosphere
3. The third day of creation—dry land, seas, and the plants that all reproduce according to their kinds

Outline

1. The forth day of creation—the sun moon and stars (Genesis 1:14-19)
2. The fifth day of creation—the birds and sea creatures (Genesis 1:20-23)
3. The sixth day of creation—the land animals and mankind (Genesis 1:26-31)

Genesis 1:14-31 NKJV

Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; ¹⁵ and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. ¹⁶ Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. ¹⁷ God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

²⁰ Then God said, “Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” ²¹ So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

²⁴ 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. ²⁵ 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.

²⁶ 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.”

²⁹ 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. ³⁰ 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. ³¹ 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. The fourth day of creation—the sun moon and stars

Genesis 1:14-19 NKJV

¹⁴ Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; ¹⁵ and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. ¹⁶ Then God made two great lights: the greater light [sun] to rule the day, and the lesser light [moon] to rule the night. He made the stars also. ¹⁷ God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

v 14 Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night: Straight away we see the 24 hour day/night cycle that God set up on day one of the creation week. The firmament or expanse spoken of here is what we today call “outer space”, or biblically speaking, the second heaven. Remember the first heaven is the atmosphere where the birds fly, the second heaven is space or outer space where stars and planets exist, and the third heaven is where God lives.

v 16 Then God made two great lights: the greater light [sun] to rule the day, and the lesser light [moon] to rule the night: These two lights will last until the end of Jesus 1,000 year rule and reign on the earth. Until then the world will continue to function because God promised that it would. However, once Jesus has finished His 1,000 year rule and reign on the earth, once all promises that He made to Israel and the church are fulfilled, once all prophecy is complete, He will destroy the earth and heavens that He made, and then make a new earth and heavens (free from the presence and effects of sin) without the need of the sun, moon, and stars.

2 Peter 3:10-13 NKJV

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Isaiah 60:19 NKJV—*The new heavens and earth*

“The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; but the Lord will be to you an everlasting light, and your God your glory.

Revelation 21:22-23 NKJV—*The new heavens and earth*

But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

Application: God's promises are as sure as day and night

Jeremiah 31:35-36 NLT

It is the Lord who provides the sun to light the day and the moon and stars to light the night, and who stirs the sea into roaring waves. His name is the Lord of Heaven's Armies, and this is what He says: ³⁶ "I am as likely to reject my people Israel as I am to abolish the laws of nature!"

Jeremiah 33:19-26 NLT

Then this message came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ²⁰ "This is what the Lord says: If you can break My covenant with the day and the night so that one does not follow the other, ²¹ only then will My covenant with My servant David be broken. Only then will he no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne. ..."

²³ The Lord gave another message to Jeremiah. He said, ²⁴ "Have you noticed what people are saying?—'The Lord chose Judah and Israel and then abandoned them!' They are sneering and saying that Israel is not worthy to be counted as a nation. ²⁵ But this is what the Lord says: I would no more reject my people than I would change my laws that govern night and day, earth and sky. ²⁶ I will never abandon the descendants of Jacob or David, my servant, or change the plan that David's descendants will rule the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Instead, I will restore them to their land and have mercy on them."

God promises to Israel as as certain as the night and day cycle that we see every day. Notice that God has already brought the nation of Israel back into the land for the second time in our lifetimes (*In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to bring back the remnant of his people—Isaiah 11:11a*). What a privilege it is for us to be living in such a time as this, where we see so many of God's promises concerning Israel being fulfilled before our very eyes.

The promises God has given to the church are equally secure. For example:

Hebrews 13:5b-6 NKJV

For He Himself has said, "*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*" ⁶ So we may boldly say: "*The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*"

Matthew 16:18 NKJV

...and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Acts 1:8 NKJV

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Application: Overcoming fear concerning the end of the world

Jesus said that one of the signs of the end times would be that people would be worrying about the environment, social unrest, financial instability, political turmoil etc—the world is and will continue to more and more become a very difficult place place to live. Think of all the people suffering from depression and anxiety, causing the rate of stress related sickness and death due to heart disease to skyrocket. There is also the epidemic of those who self-harm and/or self-medicate using drugs and alcohol to numb the pain that they can't cope with. Even more sadly is the increasing epidemic of suicide.

Luke 21:25-26 NKJV

And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; ²⁶ **men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth**, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

As Christians we must not be fearful that the world is going to end because of so called climate change, lack of resources, or lack of food. God will say when things will finish, and He will sustain the world with food and resources until then. God gave us this promise right after the flood.

Genesis 8:22 NKJV

"While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease."

Yes, there are famines, and yes, people go hungry. But most often these circumstances are either caused by greed, mismanagement of water and other resources, injustice, war, and sometimes a judgement of God (e.g. when God disciplined Israel when they sinned). Generally speaking, there is always enough food to go around, but it is simply not made available to those who need it. This is a terrible injustice that God will hold people to account for.

You may wonder why I'm talking about this. But this fear is very real for most people today. It pushes people to do crazy things. They may: chain themselves to trees, protest by blocking roads and destroying art etc, go vegetarian because the cows produce too much methane, pay huge carbon taxes, pay exorbitant prices for energy, switch from reliable energy sources like natural gas and coal to unreliable ones like wind and solar, and even murder babies for the sake of saving the planet from being destroyed due to overpopulation. For example, "In the mid 1970s the US government sponsored a travelling exhibit for schoolchildren titled, "Population: The Problem is Us." (Jacqueline Kasun, *The War Against Population*, San Francisco: CA, Ignatius, 1988, p. 21.) [As a result of this fear of overpopulation being the downfall of the human race being popularised] In 1973, Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart's vote in *Roe v. Wade* was influenced by this idea, according to Bob Woodward and Scott Armstrong: "As Stewart saw it, abortion was becoming one reasonable solution to population control" (quoted in *Newsweek* of September 14, 1987, p. 33.)." (from whatsupwiththat.com)

Why are people acting so irrationally? Because governments and individuals push the narrative that "If we don't do something soon, then we're all going to die!" They have successfully created a society that is driven and therefore controlled by fear; if we pollute the earth too much, or cut down too many trees, or produce too much carbon dioxide, or there are too many people, or if there is a natural disaster, then we will all become extinct, or at least most people will die, and life as we know it will cease to exist. Climate change and death by global warming is the current topic of the so-called scientists fear mongering, but like all the other dire warnings that have come and gone in the past, they will also come to nothing. Here are some false predictions from the recent past of the climate, resource and overpopulation doomsayers: (data below from whatsupwiththat.com)

- In 1865, Stanley Jevons (one of the most recognised 19th century economists) predicted that England would run out of coal by 1900, and that England's factories would grind to a standstill.
- In 1939 the US Department of the Interior said that American oil supplies would last only another 13 years.

- In 1968, Paul R. Ehrlich wrote *The Population Bomb* and declared that the battle to feed humanity had been lost and that there would be a major food shortage in the US. “In the 1970s ... hundreds of millions are going to starve to death,” and by the 1980s most of the world’s important resources would be depleted. He forecast that 65 million Americans would die of starvation between 1980-1989 and that by 1999, the US population would decline to 22.6 million. The problems in the US would be relatively minor compared to those in the rest of the world. (Ehrlich, Paul R. *The Population Bomb*. New York, Ballantine Books, 1968.)
- *The Limits to Growth* (1972) [A book put out by the Club of Rome, a group of intellectuals, who based their conclusions on the latest computer models] – projected the world would run out of gold by 1981, mercury and silver by 1985, tin by 1987, zinc by 1990, petroleum by 1992, and copper, lead and natural gas by 1993. It also stated that the world had only 33-49 years of aluminium resources left, which means we should run out sometime between 2005-2021. (See Donella Meadows et al., *The Limits to Growth: A Report for the Club of Rome’s Project on the Predicament of Mankind*. New York: New American Library, 1972.)
- Claim: In 1974, the US Geological Survey announced “at 1974 technology and 1974 price” the US had only a 10-year supply of natural gas.

Data: [In 1990] The American Gas Association said that gas supplies were sufficient for the next 1,000-2,500 years. (Julian Simon, *Population Matters*. New Jersey: Transaction Publications, 1990): p. 90.

As you can see, people in high places, with big credentials, have been basically fear mongering the general population, and I believe that the reason is for control. The more scared a person is, the more easily they are controlled. This trend is getting worse as time goes on, as Jesus said it would right before the time He returns. The nations of the earth are being set up to willingly receive the Antichrist, who will promise to solve all their problems and save humanity from “destroying themselves”.

However, for believers, we must remember God’s promise to us that He will maintain this planet for us as long as people are still living on it, and don’t sin by worrying:

Genesis 8:22 NKJV

“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.”

v 14 **Let them [the sun, moon, and stars] be for signs and seasons:** God set up a system of lights in the sky so that we can tell direction, and also measure time. But there is another purpose for the stars in particular. **Signs** most likely includes the story of salvation. Today we call it the Zodiac, which is a corrupted version of the Hebrew *Mazzaroth* [constellations] (see Job 38:31-32).

“Significantly, the sequence of the zodiac is the same in every language and culture, even if the specific names of the constellations change. Also, we know the figures of the constellations suggested to us don’t look like those things at all, and, they never did. Yet the names for the figures of the constellations are the same in all cultures. This points to a common, pre-Babel beginning for all these things, before the truth of the constellations was corrupted.

Astrology is a satanic corruption of God’s original “message in the stars,” a message outlining His plan of redemption. Because astrology is a corruption, it is to be avoided always by man (Isaiah 47:12–15)” (David Guzik)

Isaiah 47:13-14 NLT

All the advice you receive has made you tired. Where are all your astrologers, those stargazers who make predictions each month? Let them stand up and save you from what the future holds. ¹⁴ But they are like straw burning in a fire; they cannot save themselves from the flame. You will get no help from them at all; their hearth is no place to sit for warmth.

The original story the stars tell of the gospel is given below, as well as a link for short article on the subject. Search Mazzaroth to find more information.

<https://www.bereaninsights.org/nugget/the-big-picture-of-the-mazzaroth-and-its-meaning/>

The 12 signs of the mazzaroth (Zodiac) with their meanings, and the true message they convey, starting with Virgo (Job 38:32):

1. **Virgo:** The Seed of the Woman. Speaks of the virgin birth of the Almighty. (Gen 3:15; Isa 7:14; Lk 1:26-35; Matt 1:18-25).
2. **Libra:** The required price paid. Speaks of the Lord Jesus' blood sacrifice of His own self to redeem sinful men (1 Pet 1:18-21; Isa 53; Eph 1:7).
3. **Scorpio:** The mortal conflict. Pictures Satan bruising the Lord Jesus' heel, but Christ crushing Satan's head (Gen 3:15; Heb 2:14-15; Ps 22:16; Rev 12:2-9).
4. **Sagittarius:** The final triumph. Portrays the Lord Jesus as the exalted victor over death, and Satan (1 Jn 3:8; Eph 4:8-10; Rev 20:10).
5. **Capricornus:** Life out of Death. Shows Christ's judgement of sin, His death for our sins, and His resurrection (1 Jn 3:5; Rom 4:25, 5:8, 6:23, 10:9-10; 1 Pet 3:18).
6. **Aquarius:** Blessing out of victory. Speaks of Christ sending the blessed Holy Spirit with all His benefits for His people (Jn 7:37-39, 1 Cor 12:13).
7. **Pisces:** Deliverance out of bondage. Shows the saved winning others to Christ, and Jesus coming to rescue us (Matt 4:19; Jude 14-15, 22-23; 1 Cor 15:51-57).
8. **Aries:** Glory out of humiliation. Portrays Jesus, the Lamb of God, slain for our sins, and victorious over Satan (Jn 1:29; 1 Jn 2:1-2, 4:10; Rev 20:1-3, 10).
9. **Taurus:** His glorious coming. Foretells the Jesus' second coming in judgement upon a sinful world and upon Satan (Isa 34:1-8; Rev 6:12-17, 12:7-9).
10. **Gemini:** The coming Prince and Saviour. Speaks of the Lord's duality as 100% God, and 100% man; and as King and Servant (Phil 2:5-11; Gen 3:15; Acts 5:31).
11. **Cancer:** His possessions held secure. Assures His redeemed that He will bring them safely home to Heaven (Jn 10:27-30; 1 Pet 2:25, Jude 1; Rom 8:38-39).
12. **Leo:** His enemies destroyed. Prophetically assures us that the Lord Jesus is victorious over sin, death, and Satan (Gen 49:8-12; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 55-58; Heb 2:14-15; 2 Thess 2:7-10; Rev 1:13-16, 5:1-10, 14:14-20, 20:10).

Surely God taught Adam and Eve the meanings of the names of the stars and mazzaroth before they fell into sin. And surely this knowledge was passed on Noah and to the post Flood world. But Nimrod corrupted the truth of God in the stars into a lie.

v 16 **He made the stars also:** This would have to be one of the biggest understatements in the whole bible. There is so much in this one little statement, "**He made the stars also**". Consider just how big our universe is, and how many galaxies and stars actually make up the universe. A brief internet search revealed that the most up to date estimates show that there are about 100 billion stars just in our Milky Way galaxy. But there are also about 100 billion individual galaxies, each one with an average of about 100 billion stars. So that's

about 10 billion trillion stars that God called into being just by speaking. Consider also that God named every star, and that each galaxy is separated by vast distances and has its own unique shape. Truly God is so much bigger than we give Him credit for. We look at the universe and go “wow”. God looks at the universe and says, “that was easy, no problem”. We look at the universe and say, “It’s huge”. God looks at the universe and says, “yeah, 16 billion light years across, that’s about the size of my hand”.

Isaiah 48:13 NLT

It was my hand that laid the foundations of the earth, my right hand that spread out the heavens above. When I call out the stars, they all appear in order.”

Psalms 147:4-5 NKJV

He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name. ⁵ Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.

Isaiah 40:12 NLT

Who else has held the oceans in his hand? **Who has measured off the heavens with his fingers?** Who else knows the weight of the earth or has weighed the mountains and hills on a scale?

“A typical galaxy contains billions of individual stars; our galaxy alone (the Milky Way) contains 200 billion stars. Our galaxy is shaped like a giant spiral, rotating in space, with arms reaching out like a pinwheel, and our sun is one star on one arm of the pinwheel. It would take 250 million years for the pinwheel to make one full rotation. But this is only our galaxy; there are many other galaxies with many other shapes, including spirals, spherical clusters, and flat pancakes. The average distance between one galaxy and another is about 20 million trillion miles. Our closest galaxy is the Andromeda Galaxy, about 12 million trillion miles away.

For every patch of sky the size of the moon, if you could look very deep, you would see about a million galaxies.” (David Guzik)

v 16 **He made the stars also:** Many speculate that there is life on other planets. But is this possible? Statistically, the chances that everything is just right for life to exist is mathematically impossible—not only is life a miracle, but also the precise conditions required to sustain life are also a miracle. David Guzik describes it well:

“When you take into account all that is necessary for the sustenance of life as we know it, there are few planets able to support life. Taking into account factors such as our galaxy type, star location, star age, star mass, star colour, distance from star, axis tilt, rotation period, surface gravity, tidal force, magnetic field, oxygen quantity in atmosphere, atmospheric pressure, and 20 other important factors, the probability of all 33 occurrences happening on any one planet is one in 10 to the 42 power. The total number of possible planets in the universe is 10 to the 22 power.”

Application: Is the world causing a solar eclipse in our lives, resulting in Jesus light in us fading?

“Jesus is the Light of the world (John 8:12). He said we are also to be lights (Matthew 5:14). He is the greater light—the sun. We are the lesser light—the moon—reflecting His light to our dark world.

I recently watched the moon appear smaller and smaller in an eclipse, and was reminded that to whatever extent the world gets between the sun and the moon is the extent to which the light of the sun upon the moon is diminished. The same thing is true with me and you. Jesus is the sun; we're the moon; and to whatever degree we allow the world to come between us, His light in our lives will fade proportionately. If you were to chart your own life tonight, would you be a full moon, a three-quarter moon, half moon, quarter moon, or eclipsed moon? It all depends on how much of the world you allow to creep in between you and the Son." (Jon Courson)

2. The fifth day of creation—the birds and sea creatures

Genesis 1:20–23 NKJV

²⁰ Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." ²¹ So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ So the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

On day 5, God created **every winged bird** (not flying insects) and all the creatures that live in water—**with which the water abounded**.

v **²¹ So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind:** Again, what we read in God's word agrees with what we see in God's world. For example: Man has been breeding fruit flies, useful because they have very short life cycles. They have observed millions of generations of these organisms, but guess what? The fruit fly is still a fruit fly. There is change within the kind, but one kind cannot change into another kind. The information or blueprint required for changing one kind of organism into another simply does not exist. It doesn't matter how much time you have, or how many generations, one kind of organism will never change into another kind of organism.

3. The sixth day of creation—the land animals and mankind

Genesis 1:24-31 NKJV

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. ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ 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.

What we see on day six is that God created all the land dwelling, air breathing animals (including insects etc—**and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind**) before He created the first man Adam—**Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image"**).

Again we see that God created everything according to its kind.

What about the dinosaurs? Did dinosaurs and man live at the same time?

The water dwelling dinosaurs, like the Plesiosaurus, would have been created on day 5. The land dwelling, air breathing dinosaurs like Tyrannosaurus Rex were created on day six. So did dinosaurs really exist with man? Yes. Did they go onto the ark? Yes. There is actually much evidence to support this biblical position. Here is a brief summary of the evidence that man lived with dinosaurs.

Dragons = dinosaurs: The word "dinosaur" comes from the Greek words "deinos," meaning "terrible" or "fearful," and "sauros," meaning "lizard." It was coined by the palaeontologist Sir Richard Owen in 1842 to describe a distinct group of large, extinct reptiles. Below is a quote from *The Creation Answers Book*:

Applying the above biblical framework to our thinking in relation to dinosaurs, then, raises this question: As man, post-Flood, spread out after the fiasco at Babel (Genesis 11), surely he would have (re-)encountered dinosaurs?

Indeed, there are strong indications of exactly that. From Europe, across Asia and into China, historical references to 'dragons' abound, with the described features of those creatures often matching scientists' modern reconstructions of dinosaurs from fossil evidence.



St George and the dragon, Venice, Italy, c. 1500

For example, from a chronicle of 1405, in England: "Close to the town of Bures, near Sudbury, there has lately appeared, to the great hurt of the countryside, a dragon, vast in body, with a crested head, teeth like a saw, and a tail extending to an enormous length. Having slaughtered the shepherd of a flock, it devoured many sheep."¹⁰ Such features as 'crested head' and 'tail extending to an enormous length', are consistent with this 'dragon' being a dinosaur-like creature.

An Irish writer around AD 900 recorded an encounter with a large animal with thick legs and strong claws and described it as having 'iron' nails on its tail—could that have been a Stegosaurus?

And brass engravings dating from the 1400s at Carlisle Cathedral in Britain depict creatures that any 21st-century child would instantly recognize as dinosaurs, along with depictions of various fish, a dog, a pig, a bird, and other familiar animals. How could the person engraving those depictions have known what dinosaurs looked like, given that he/she lived over three centuries before the fossil bones of such creatures were systematically dug up, described, and named? Surely the answer is clear: people knew what such dinosaurs looked like because those creatures were alive at that time, and were as familiar to people as fish, dogs, pigs, and birds.



Evidence in the Bible that dinosaurs lived with man

Within a few hundred years of the Flood, God spoke to a man called Job, and reminded him of how great He was as Creator, by pointing to a particularly massive creature He had made:

Job 14:15-19

“Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you; he eats grass like an ox. See now, his strength is in his hips, and his power is in his stomach muscles. He moves his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are tightly knit. His bones are like beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron. He is the first of the ways of God; only He who made him can bring near His sword.”

One difficulty facing Bible scholars is trying to identify just what this ‘behemoth’ could be. Obviously it was alive in Job’s day, otherwise God’s instruction would not have made sense. Some Bible translators, not being sure what the beast was, simply transliterated the Hebrew בהמות, behemoth. Others, noting the size and strength of the creature, and that it ranks “first of the ways of God”, thought it must be the largest land animal alive today, namely the elephant, or alternatively (noting its capacity to occupy streams/marshlands—vv. 21–23) the hippopotamus. This idea was indicated either in a footnote or, in some instances, in the translation itself.

However, besides the fact that the elephant and the hippo were not the largest land animals that God made (fossils show that certain dinosaurs completely dwarfed anything the size of an elephant), such an interpretation does not make sense, since the tail of a behemoth is compared to a cedar tree (v. 17). Neither the cord-like tail of an elephant nor the hippo's tail in any way justify comparison with a cedar tree. But palaeontologists' reconstructions of Brachiosaurus, based on the fossils, look very much like God's description of behemoth to Job.

Image by Steve Cardno



Was 'behemoth', seen by Job, one of the big dinosaurs?

Summary and conclusion

1. The stars tell a story, the story of the gospel, the *Mazzaroth*.
2. This world will continue to support all the people that God allows to inhabit it until Jesus destroys it and makes a new one; there is no need to have any concerns about the world ending due to human or natural reasons—seed time and harvest will continue all long as there is day and night.
3. God created all animals and plants according to their kinds. It is impossible for one kind of plant or animal (e.g. dogs) to change into another kind (e.g. cats).
4. Dinosaurs were created by God on days 5 and 6 of creation. They lived with man, went onto the ark, and came off the ark. There are many stories of dinosaur sightings since the flood, even up to fairly recent times. We know that these stories and their associated drawings are real because people drew them long before the fossils were discovered—the obvious conclusion is that, because they had not seen the fossils before, then the only way that they could know what they looked like was because they had actually seen the live animals.