

Understanding the Six Days of Creation (Part Two)

Sunday, October 13/19 --- Genesis 1: 1 - 31

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
Genesis 1: 1- 2

The reference to the Spirit of God hovering over the earth could be understood as a dramatic indication that God's special action is now going to begin. The aeons of waiting are over. The Creator is about to shape His world, to create life and fill the earth with it in preparation for God's crowning final act, the making of man and woman in His image.
John C. Lennox

o Pictorial Scripture Reading of Genesis One: Drawings by Nicole Manuel

I. Reviewing Our Study in Genesis One:

- Clarification of the Two Books: Nature and Scripture
- 'Biologos' and Theistic Evolution: A Caution
- Three Views on the Days of Creation
- Tōhû wābōhû – '*without form and void*' (1:2)

II. Revealing Personal Beliefs and Questions:

- Truth: A Hermeneutical concern for Integrity
- Love: A Pastoral concern for Unity

III. Reasserting what the Biblical Creation Account Teaches:

- What we know the Bible does NOT teach... from Genesis One
- What we know the Bible DOES teach... from Genesis One

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- i. What part of the teaching from Genesis One is most difficult for you to understand? Why?
- ii. Because evolution as a theory cannot account for the origin of life, does it make a difference whether we believe in it or not? What is the danger of it? How do you define it?
- iii. Is it important to know what you believe about all matters addressed in Genesis One? Are there some things that we can agree to disagree about? What are they?
- iv. How has our study of Genesis influenced you so far? Has your faith in God been strengthened? Have some of your assumptions been challenged?