

**Series:** Beginnings: The Bible's Account of Creation — Part 1

**Title:** The Heavens and The Earth'

**Text:** Genesis 1:1

**Date:** September 16, 2018

‘Astounding! What we know about God, about creation, about ourselves, and about salvation begins in Genesis. It provides the theological pillars on which the rest of the Bible stands!’ **Kent Hughes**

Genesis 1:1 contains a simple statement concerning the beginning of the Universe. It does not go into detail concerning the means and methods of creation. A degree of mystery is present (Deuteronomy 29:29). The verse is not intended as a cosmological or apologetical one. It contains a simple theological assertion, not a scientific one. Genesis 1:1 assumes that God exists and that He made all things. As it does, it seeks to answer some of the most important questions of life.

*In Genesis 1:1, Moses speaks of four ideas which help answer the questions related to human origin and purpose...*

## 1. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF CREATION (‘In the beginning...’)

Before time, earth, man, or anything else was made, \_\_\_\_\_ existed.

‘Although it is impossible for us to comprehend fully this concept of an eternal, transcendent God, the only alternative is the concept of an eternal, self-existing universe; and this concept is also incomprehensible. Eternal God or eternal matter — that is the choice.’ **Henry Morris**

‘Beginning’ =

John \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF CREATION (‘...God...’)

‘It is no accident that God is the subject of the first sentence of the Bible.’ **Derek Kidner**

‘The hero of creation is God. Each event occurs according to God’s expressed will and through the agency of his word.’ **Bruce Waltke**

‘Elohim’ =

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### 3. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF CREATION (‘...created...’)

‘There is a wide difference between ‘creating’ and ‘making’: to ‘create’ is to call into existence something out of nothing; to ‘make’ is to form or fashion something out of materials already existing. A carpenter can ‘make’ a chair out of wood, but he is quite unable to ‘create’ the wood itself.’ **Arthur Pink**

Theologians often refer to God’s act of creating as ‘creatio ex nihilo,’ a Latin descriptor which means ‘creation from \_\_\_\_\_.’

### 4. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF CREATION (‘...the heavens and the earth’)

‘Heavens’ =

Psalm \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah \_\_\_\_\_

Isaiah \_\_\_\_\_

‘Earth’ =

God first fashioned our globe and the atmospheres that surround it. This was done ‘in the beginning,’ at an immeasurable, unspecified time (‘In the beginning...’) before the seven days of creation. Afterwards, the Lord used the seven day sequence to fill and populate the heavens and the earth.

*Commenting on the unfinished state of creation which is depicted in verse 1, Ulrich Zwingli has said...*

‘He depicts God for us as a sort of master craftsman, who produces a work that is rough and indistinct at first, then adds light, shadows and outlines, and adorns each thing with its colors.’ **Ulrich Zwingli**