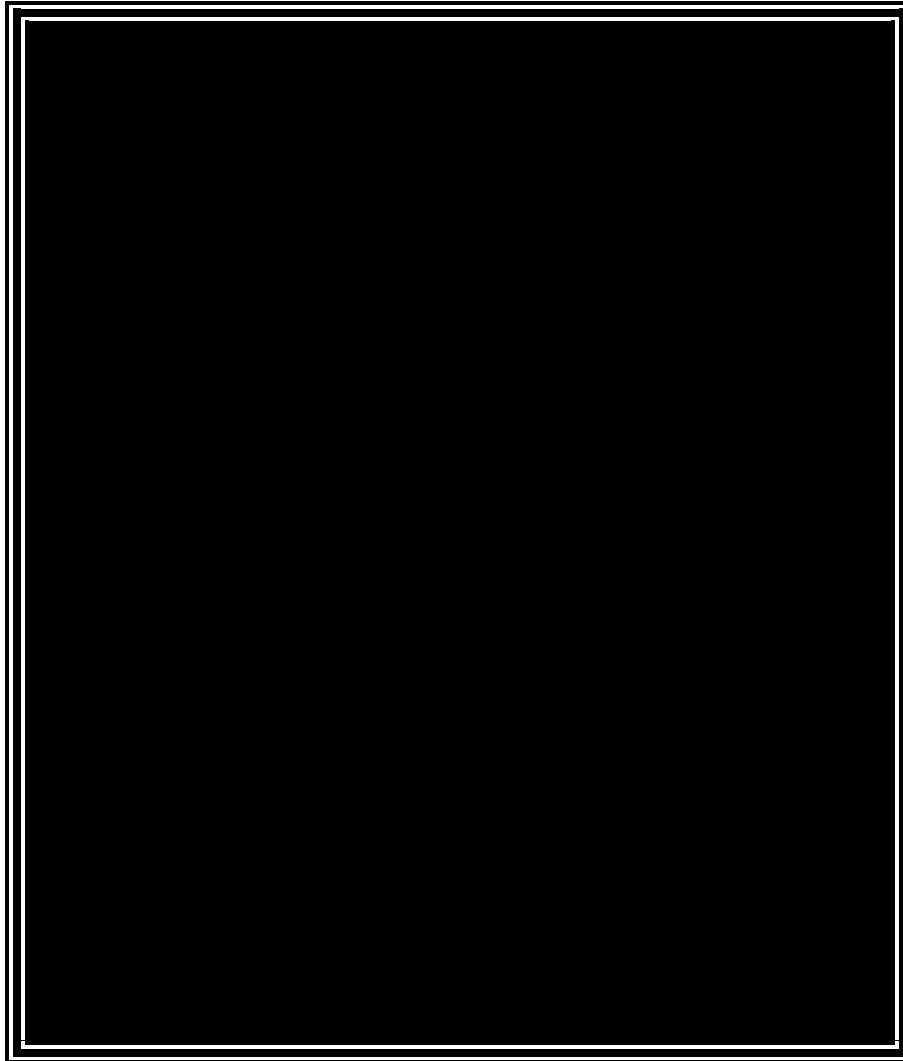


Before the Beginning of Creation

Genesis 1:1-2

It is before the beginning of time and the breathing spirit of a god¹ is hovering² above the surface of deep shoreless waters³ in total and complete darkness.

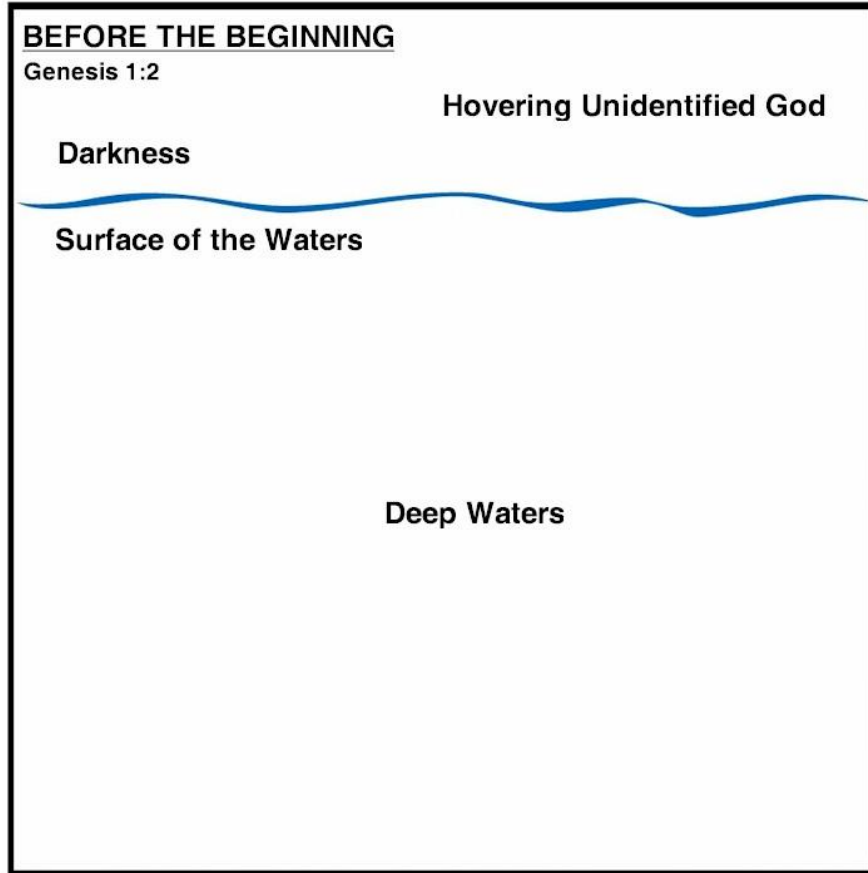


*In the most lifeless environment one can imagine, the god visualizes a **Kingdom of Life**. This god is unnamed, but we are told it is a creator. It creates by changing things that exist.⁴*

Only three things exist now – the unnamed god, deep waters and total darkness. Which will the god change first?

The Creation of Light

The god chooses the darkness to change first. It uses its breath to form and speak these words, “*Light exist!*” *And instantly light exists!*



This light isn't like the light that comes from the sun, fire or a smartphone. *It is the light that comes from the breath of this god.* Think of it as “the energy of life and the light of enlightenment.”

With that breath, life came into existence outside of the god.

Notice the location of the god in the above graphic. It is located above the surface of the deep waters. It is important to keep the locations of things the god creates as the story unfolds.

The God's TOV Standard

This god uses a standard to measure its words and actions. It measures to see if words and actions are “good for life.” In the language of this god, “words and actions that are good for life” are called “**TOV.**” When the god measured the newly created light – *they were found to be TOV, good for life!*

Making Clear Distinctions between Things that Exist

Now the *god, deep waters, darkness and light* exist. The next step in the process of creation is “*make clear distinctions between things that exist*” and the god does this “*by naming them.*” The god named *light “Day”* and *darkness “Night.”* In order for the *Kingdom of Life* to exist, darkness and light are both needed. They will exist together in perpetual cycles of time.

Day One: The Creation of Time

Each cycle begins with darkness and the beginning of **Night** is called “*evening,*” while the beginning of **Day** is called “*morning.*” The *first cycle* has now been completed and it is called “**Day One**”⁵ *because it marks the first appearance of light. It also marks the creation of time.*

(V. 01 - 05/27/20)

¹ The Hebrew word **ELOHIYM** appears in the text. The options for translating **ELOHIYM** are *god, gods, goddess or goddesses*. The name of the god is not “**God.**”

² The Hebrew translated “*hovering*” is also used to describe “*a mother eagle hovering over its nest.*”

³ **TEHOM** is the Hebrew translated “*deep waters*” it is linked to the Babylonian word **TIAMAT**, one of two bodies of water at the opening of *Enuma Elish*, the Babylonian Creation Myth.

⁴ The Hebrew word for create is **BARA** and it means “*creating by changing things that exist.*”

⁵ The Hebrew word YOM is translated “*Day,*” the name of the light the god created, and it also indicates “*the day of the week.*” “*Day One*” literally means “*the first appearance of the light in the week.*”