



The Creator's Vision for Humanity

By Jim Myers

The Story of the Creation of the Heavens and Earth (Genesis 1:1-2:4a) is a very powerful story that has influenced the lives of people for over 2,500 years – *people from many nations, people of every color and race, and people who have translated it into thousands of languages*. Other Bible stories have not had the universal appeal of the first story in the Bible.

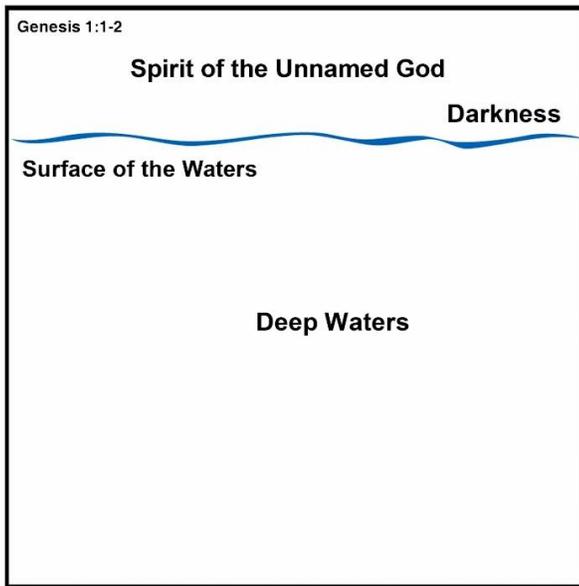
Even though many present it as theological or scientific story, it is neither. It cannot be used to support any theology because the Creator is an unnamed god, not one of the named gods of Christianity or Judaism. It is not a scientific account of the creation of the Heavens and the Earth because we have factual evidence that the sun and moon are not attached to a solid dome-like structure.

It is a wisdom story containing universal principles and values about how humans can live at the highest levels of life possible. This wisdom, however, is difficult to see in languages other than the Hebrew language in which it was originally written. But, with the guidelines and models BHC has created over the years to help people explore their biblical heritages, discovering the wisdom embedded in the biblical stories is much easier.

The Story of the Creation of the Heavens and Earth is a story about the unnamed Creator, **the seven sacred spaces** he created and *the relationships of things in those spaces*. Readers must always be aware of which space things take place, the Creator's role, and the relationships of things in those spaces.

It is also a spiritual story and that, I believe, is one of the reasons for its universal appeal. In this story all humans are linked together by a spiritual connection – *it also connect all humans to the mysterious Creator*. All humans are part of one spiritual family; they all share the same basic survival requirements, emotional needs, a desire to belong, and a very deep longing for their children, family, friends and neighbors to live in safety and peace. There is yearning to be surrounded by people who can be trusted and who really care about each other. *That reflects the vision that unfolds as we discover the seven sacred spaces in *The Story of the Creation of the Heavens and the Earth*.*

Before the Beginning of Creation



Before anything was created there were two spaces:

- *above the surface of the deep waters*
- *below the surface of the deep waters*

The unnamed god and darkness are in the space above the surface, and there is only water in the space below the surface. Everything is immersed in total darkness. This would be one of the most deadly environments a human could ever face. *It would produce instant death!*

From this point on, the things above will be changed to create new things. With the introduction of every new thing, we must search for the answer to these questions:

What does it mean for the new thing to exist?

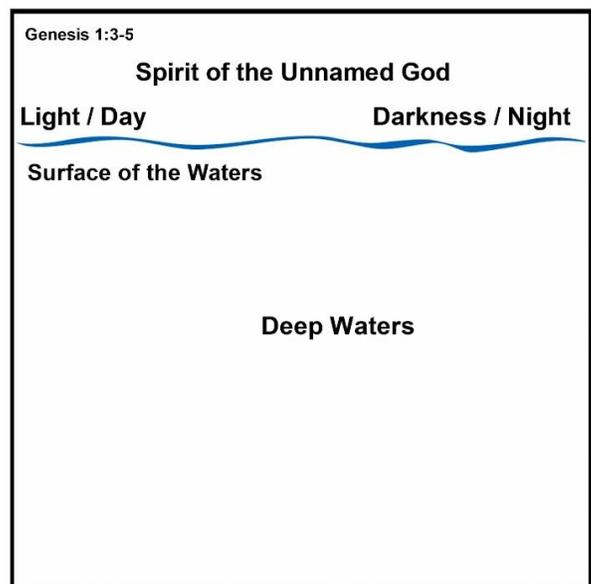
Who or what is going to benefit from its existence?

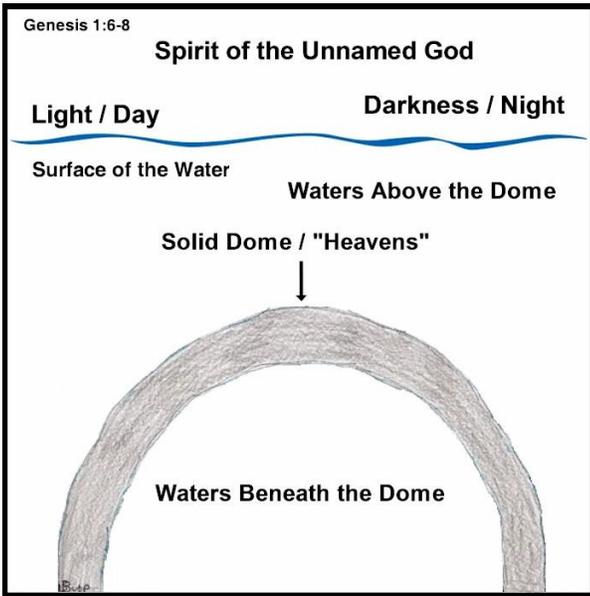
What new function does it add to the ordered system the Creator is creating?

How is it related to other things?

The Creator speaks and light exists! This light originates from the breath of the Creator. Light is related to the Creator and the Darkness. It added something new into the space above the surface of the deep waters. It changed the role darkness plays.

Darkness is no longer the constant state; *it is part of a perpetual cycle it shares with light. As the new light fades away, darkness returns – but darkness will fade away and light will return.* This cycle is called **TOV**, which means “***It is good for life!***”





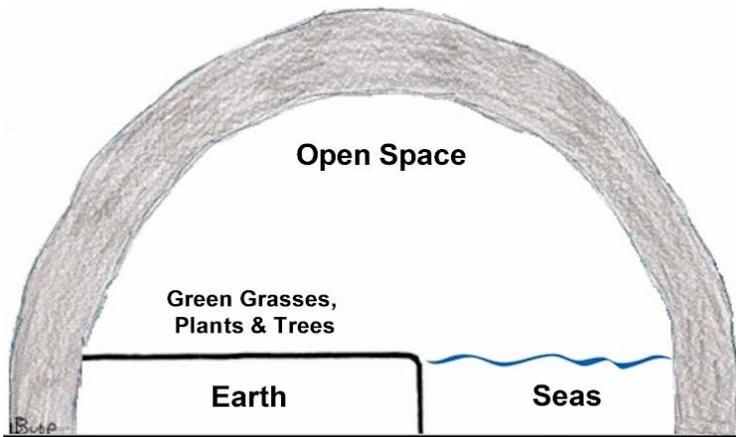
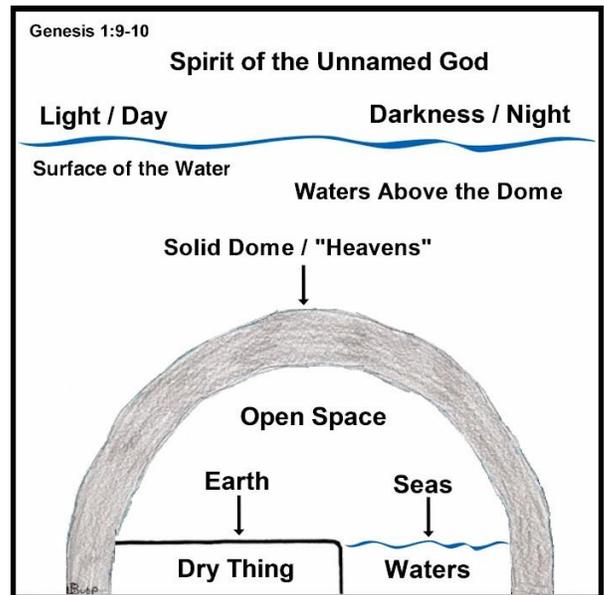
When the Creator created the Solid Dome, the number of spaces changed:

1. Space above surface of the waters.
2. Space beneath surface and above Dome.
3. Space within Dome.
4. Space beneath the Dome.

But we do not know why they exist or how what will happen in the them yet.

Now we have six spaces.

1. Space above surface of the waters.
2. Space beneath surface and above Dome.
3. Space within Dome.
4. Open space beneath the Dome.
5. Earth below the open space.
6. Seas below the open space.



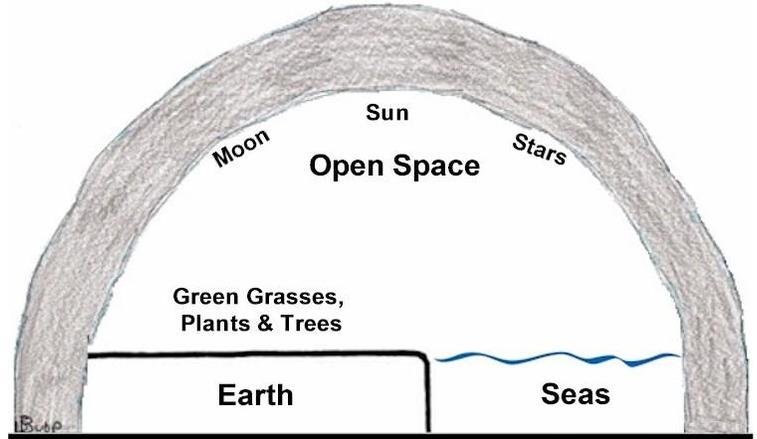
The Creator speaks to the Earth and she causes green grasses, plants and fruit trees to sprout; each produces seeds that reproduce its kind.

*And the Creator saw that this was **TOV** – “good for life!”
(Genesis 1:11-13)*

Be sure to note that the Earth isn't just dry ground, she actively participates in the sacred function of causing the grasses, plants and trees to come forth, grow, and produce seeds.

The Creator speaks concerning the functions of the solid dome named "the Heavens."

He then makes two large lights; a larger light & a smaller light – And also the stars.

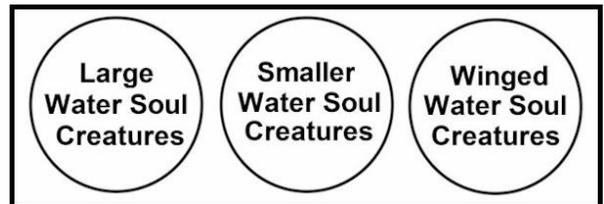
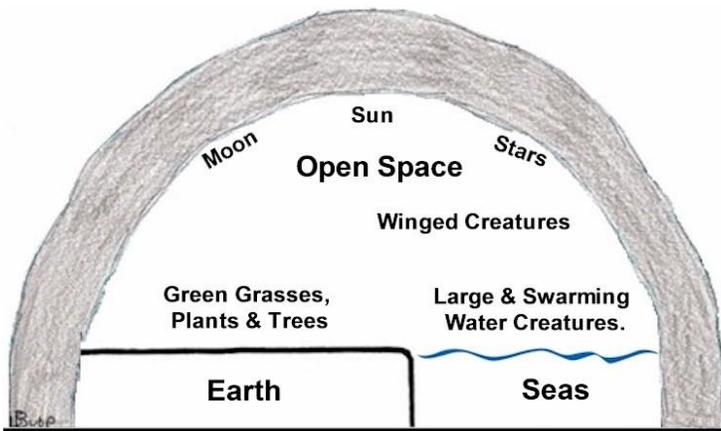


These are the functions of the lights: be signs for seasons, days and years, and give light on the Earth. The largest light is to rule the Day, the smaller light is to rule the Night. Nothing is said about the stars.

*The Creator set each light in its place in the solid dome and measured them with the TOV Standard; they were all **TOV** – "Good for life!" (Genesis 1:14-19)*

Who benefits from the light of the sun, moon and stars? The grasses, plants and trees require it to survive and thrive. Later they will govern the planting and harvesting of crops.

The Creator focuses on the Seas. He then creates water soul creatures - large sea creatures, smaller water creatures and winged creatures that fly.



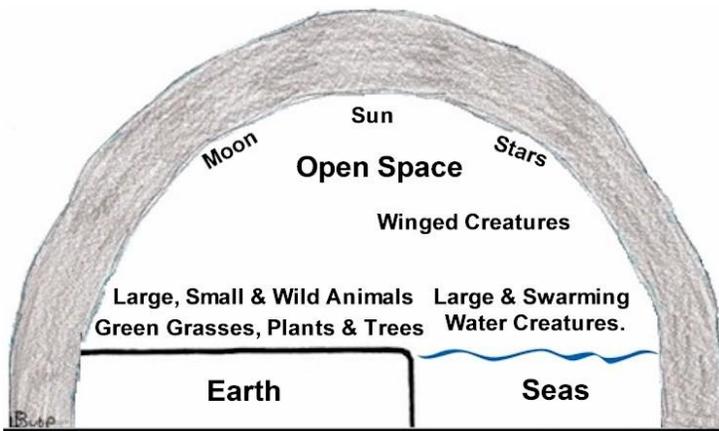
These are the first creatures with souls. The soul gives a creature appetites, desires and longings linked to the environment in which it lives. These newly created creatures will have appetites, desires and longings linked to the Seas.

After making the water soul creatures the Creator measures his work with the TOV Standard and he saw that it is **TOV** -- good for life!
(Genesis 1:20-21)

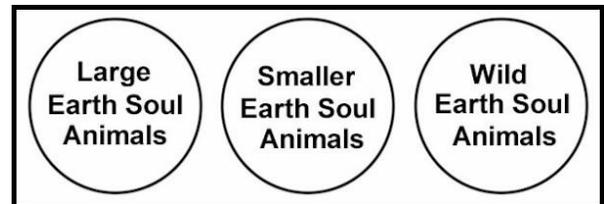
The First Blessing

When the Creator blesses something, he empowers it to fulfill the words of the blessing.

The Creator now empowers the water soul creatures to be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters of the Seas. And let the winged creatures multiply on the Earth.
(Genesis 1:22-23)



Next the Creator focuses on the Earth. The Earth brought forth a living soul for large, smaller and wild animals – and the Creator made them.



These are the second creatures with souls, but these creatures have appetites, desires and longings linked to the Earth.

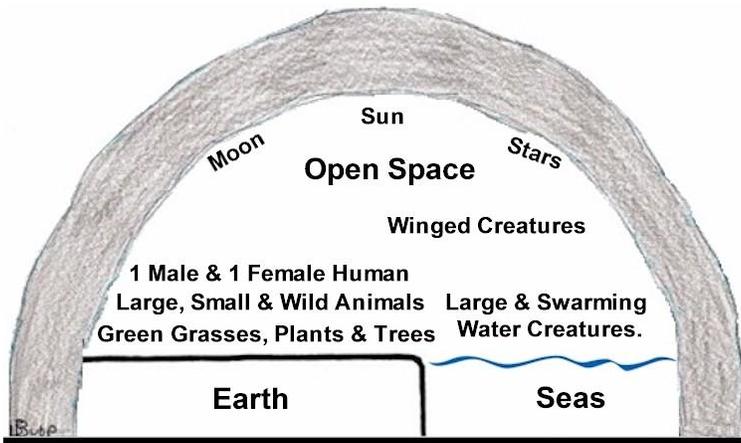
After making the Earth soul creatures the Creator measures his work with the TOV Standard and he saw that it is **TOV** -- good for life!
(Genesis 1:24-25)

The Creator keeps his focus on the Earth:

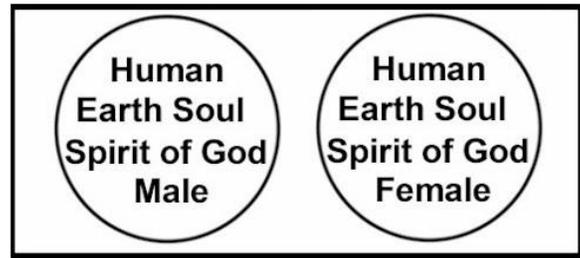
*And the Creator said,
“Let us make an ADAM in our image after our likeness”*

“**ADAM**” is the Hebrew word that means “humans,” in this context. As we saw above, the Earth and the Creator were both involved in the creation of the animals; now they are both involved in the creation of humans:

*The Earth brings forth an Earth Soul for the Humans.
The Creator creates the Humans “in his image” (with his spirit).*



There are two types of humans. They have an earth soul like animals.

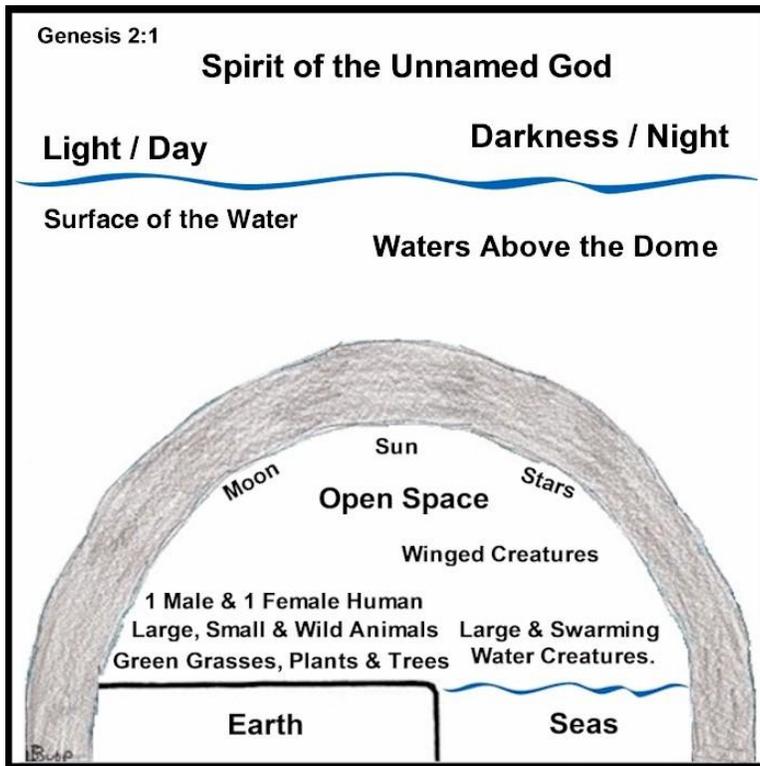


They also have the same spirit of God, but one is male and one is female.

The Second Blessing

As pointed out above, “*blessing something empowers it to fulfill the words of the blessing*” – *to function as the Creator intended.*

1. Function as equals in authority, status and power; as counterparts that are equal to and adequate for each other in every way.
2. Function in producing offspring through sexual reproduction.
3. Function as a father or mother in raising your children *from birth to when they can survive and thrive*. Function as their caretakers, protectors, teachers and mentors by meeting their physical and emotional requirements -- *food, shelter, protection, emotional support, affection, and love*. Function as a team doing acts of TOV.
4. Function as humans who exercise impulse control, practice self-discipline, and help each other do those things.
5. Function as the Creator’s Co-Shepherds over all life on Earth. The Shepherd Model is to be used in relationships with any form of life, including humans. Shepherds exercise power to protect and preserve lives, make lives more functional and increase the quality of life.
6. Function as person who eats the diet revealed by the Creator for humans -- *a diet of green plants and herbs that yield seeds that produce their own kind, and of fruit from trees which produce fruit with seeds that produce their own kind.*
7. Function as Shepherd over other forms of life by guiding them to *green grasses and plants.*



Since the second day all of the Creator's focus has been on the space inside the solid dome. Nothing has changed above it. For modern readers of English translation, understanding what has been created beneath the dome is impossible. But for ancient audiences the following words made it very clear.

*And the Creator rested in the
Seventh Day from all Its work . . .*
(Genesis 2:2)

Those words also reveal the highest functions humans were given by the Creator.

The Creation of a Temple and Kingdom

The reader from the ancient world would know immediately what was going on and recognize the role of day seven. Without hesitation the ancient reader would conclude that this is a temple text and that day seven is the most important of the seven days.

*A god rests in a temple, and only in a temple.
This is what temples were built for.*

A temple is built so that a god can have a center for his rule. The role of the temple is not primarily a place for people to gather in worship like modern churches. It is a place for the deity — *a sacred space*.

And the Creator blessed the Seventh Day and set it apart (made it holy).
(Genesis 2:3)

When a god rests in the temple it means that the god is taking command, he is mounting his throne to assume his rightful place and his proper role — *as the King of his Kingdom!* But more significant than the construction of temples of other gods, this story is about the construction of a cosmic temple:

“ . . . in the Seventh Day he rested . . . ”
(Genesis 2:3)

The Third Blessing

The third blessing is for the *Seventh Day*. The seventh sacred space is not a place – *it is period of time*. The fact that until now the Creator has only blessed living creature with a soul raises an interesting question – does the Seventh Day have appetites, desires and longings too? Days existed before the Sun and moon. Time originated in the space above the surface of the deep waters – *the location of the Spirit of the Creator*. *A function of Day Seven is to create a sacred on Earth by linking it to the space of the Creator!*

The Creator's Vision for Humanity

Among all of the functions of humans in Genesis 1:26-30, male and female humans functioning together “*the image of God*” doing acts of TOV is the most important.

*All of creation functions in relationship to humankind.
Humankind serves the creation by functioning as God's vice regents.*

Humans are endowed with a godlike function in the environment in which they live – they are the climax and pentacle the creation. In short, this is the Creator's Vision for Humanity:

*Bring all of creation, especially other human, to the Creator.
Be the representatives of the Creator to the rest of creation.*

Memorize the Creator's Vision and teach to your children and those who have not been taught. *Gather with others and with the Seventh Day to recall the Creator's Vision and be spiritually revived and empowered.* That is the vision that the authors of books of Jewish Scriptures recorded and the one Jesus taught – “*On the Great Day of Judgment those who acted as the Creator's Co-Shepherds will hear these words:*”

*“Come, you blessed of My Father,
inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world . . .”*
(Matthew 25:34)

The Jewish people were given another vision too – God will restore them to their homeland. *From 450 BCE until 1948 CE they remembered and taught that vision to their children; they gathered to recall it on the Seventh Day in homes and synagogues around the world.*

Today Jewish people live in that homeland.

If we follow the example of the Jewish people, the Creator's Vision could become a reality for future generations. It can benefit people today by making their lives safer, healthier, happier, more fulfilled -- and create order in the midst of chaos.

BHC