## Sunday's Wisdom Explorers Journal

August 29, 2021

Before The Beginings       ELOHIYM         Genesis 1:1-2       ELOHIYM         Surface of the Waters       DARKNESS	Before anything is created, an " <u>unnamed</u> <u>invisible, breathing elohiym</u> " hovered above the surface of <u>Deep Waters</u> in total <u>Darkness</u> . Nothing is known about those three things. The first <u>wisdom principles</u> of <u>The Bible's Wisdom of</u> <u>the Beginnings</u> are revealed here:
DEEP WATERS	<ul> <li>The Bible opens with the mysteries of elohiym, deep waters, and darkness.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Mysteries are a part of life.</li> </ul>
	On the <b>First Day</b> ( <i>Sunday's Wisdom</i> ) <u>elohiym</u> spoke and " <u>light</u> " was created. This is the " <u>Light of</u> <u>Life</u> " and it entered the "lifeless darkness."

That breath signaled the introduction of life into the Creation. This wisdom is also revealed in the Second Story in Genesis, <u>The Story of the Garden in Eden</u>. In it <u>elohiym</u> breathed the "<u>Breath of Life</u>" into the nostrils of the first human and his life began. This reveals another <u>wisdom principle</u>:

• Human life begins with the first breath and ends with the last breath.

## Planned Acts of Connecting, Kindness & Shalom:

- Take a moment to ponder the wisdom principles revealed in today's wisdom.
- Consider how they affect people's realities and lives.
- Are you thankful for any of the wisdom principles?
- Connect with one person in your *Family, Friends & Neighbors Network*.

## September 5, 2021

Compare the two verses below. The first is **Genesis 1:1**, which introduces the first story in the Bible, <u>The Creation of Elohiym's Temple and Kingdom</u>. The second is **Genesis 2:4b** which introduces the second story in the Bible, <u>The Garden in Eden</u>. Both are from the New King James Version of the Bible.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

In <u>How to Successfully Explore The Bible's Wisdom of the Beginnings</u>, I pointed out the importance of: 1) every Hebrew word and being aware of what precedes and what follows *it*, 2) spotting juxtapositions (conflicts and contradictions in this text, and 3) asking the obvious questions. Now let's apply this to the verses above.

- 1. in the beginning / in the day
- 2. God / Lord God
- 3. created / made
- 4. the heavens and earth / the earth and the heavens

Spotting *juxtapositions* (conflicts and contradictions in this text) is crucial skill for discovering "*wisdom principles*" embedded in the ancient Hebrew text. It also makes it possible for us to determine the beginning and end of a context.

The four differences above made it possible for us to identify where the first story in the Bible ended and the second story begins. Most Bible readers are completely unaware of two of the biggest challenges to accurately read the Bible. They are "<u>context busters</u>" and are found on every page of the Bible. They are <u>chapter and verse markers</u>.

The first thing every Explorer of Biblical Heritages must learn to do is completely ignore all chapter and verse markers!

The ancient Hebrew and Greek manuscripts, from which English translations were made, did not contain chapter and verse divisions.

• Archbishop Stephen Langton and Cardinal Hugo de Sancto Caro developed different schemas for chapter divisions of the Bible in the early 13th century.

• **Robert Estienne**, a 16th-century printer and classical scholar in Paris, developed the numbering system of verses in his **1551** edition of the Greek New Testament.

When we removed chapter and verse marker and used the four things above to define the context of each story, it was easy to spot the end first story and the beginning of story in Genesis 2:4:

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created [End of First Story].

When the Lord God made the earth and the heavens . . . [Beginning of Second Story]."