

# Redefining Good: The Creator's TOV Standard

By Jim Myers

*The Creator's Alliance* with the ADAM established humans as the Creator's co-representatives to all life on earth. That job description paves the way to for learning some of the most shared wisdom principles and values of the Bible. The Creator "*creates and makes things*," so learning how to create is a prerequisite for being the Creator's representatives. This is a quick introduction without detailed explanations and footnotes. The text we will be working with is Genesis 1:1-2:4a ([CLICK HERE for BHC Version](#)).

## What does create mean?

The answer to that question requires defining the Hebrew word *bara*, which is translated "created" in Genesis." I will warn you that this is a theologically loaded word, which is why we use [BHC Guidelines and Linguistic Models](#) to keep us on track.

*Bara means to change things that exist to create other things.*

The process of making a plan for creating:

- (1) *Know what you want to create.*
- (2) *Identify the things that are available to change.*
- (3) *Use the TOV Standard as a guide for what to do and measure things that are created.*
- (4) *Determine the order in which things must be created.*

Genesis 2:1 provides an overview of what will be created in this story.

*Thus the skies and the earth, and all their hosts were finished.*

Now we know what was created: *the skies, the earth, the hosts of the skies, and the hosts of the earth*. Genesis 1:2 reveals what was available to change and create them:

*Darkness was on the surface of deep water,  
and the breath of Elohim hovering over the surface of the waters.*

Three things are available in this verse: darkness, deep water, and the breath of Elohim.

Next, we will focus on the Creator's **TOV Standard**. He uses it to measure things that He creates and makes. One or more of the following criteria must be met to measure **TOV**:

- (1) *It must protect lives.*

- (2) *It must preserve lives.*
- (3) *It must make lives more functional.*
- (4) *It must increase the quality of life.*

The four measurements above are arranged in the order of their priority. If existing conditions present an **“immediate threat to life,”** those conditions must be addressed before changing conditions affecting **“quality of life.”**

Below are the four universal survival requirements for humans and they must be deal with within the specified amounts of time – *3 minutes, 3 hours, 3 days, or 3 weeks.*



I want to make it abundantly clear that the **TOV Standard** is a standard linked to human lives. Below are the things the Creator changed and the order in which they occurred.

- (1) **Darkness** was changed when **“the light of life”** was created by **“the breath of the Creator’s words.”**
- (2) **“Deep water”** was changed when the **“solid dome-like structure”** was made beneath the surface of the deep water.
- (3) **“The space inside the dome”** was changed when **“the water inside the dome gathered in one place.”** After the water gathered, **“dry land”** and **“an open space”** existed where the water had been before.
- (4) **“The dry land”** was changed when **“grasses, plants, and trees began growing.”**
- (5) **“The inside surface of the dome”** was changed when **“the sun, moon, and stars”** were placed in it.
- (6) **“The gathered waters and the open space inside the dome”** were changed when **“large and small water creatures, and winged flying creatures”** were created.
- (7) **“The dry land inside the dome”** was changed again when **“large, smaller, and wild animals”** were created.
- (8) **“The dry land inside the dome”** was changed again when **“the ADAM”** was created.

With the ADAM in place, the Creator turned His attention to functions related to the ADAM’s life and his position in the Creation.

- (1) The Creator blessed and empowered the ADAM.
- (2) The Creator made an Alliance with the ADAM that defined the relationship between the Creator and the ADAM, the relationship of the ADAM to the rest of the creation, and the relationships of the male and female human of the ADAM.
- (3) The Creator completed His Temple. On Day Seven of every week, the ADAM will rest from his work and acquire the Creator's wisdom.
- (4) The Creator established His Kingdom, which is the social structure required in order for the ADAM and his future descendants to survive and thrive.

## **The Seven Acts of TOV**

*Things that measure TOV protect lives, preserve lives,  
make lives more functional, and increase the quality of life.*

Below are the things that measured TOV in the order they were created or made. Visualize how the seven acts of creation below changed the environment inside the dome as they progressed from darkness and deep water to the final act.

1. The Light of Life
2. The Earth and the Seas
3. Grasses, Plants, and Fruit Trees
4. Sun, Moon, and Stars
5. Large Sea Creatures, Smaller Water Creatures, and Winged Flying Creatures
6. Large Animals, Smaller Animals, and Wild Animals
7. Everything that the Creator Created and Made.

The vision created in your mind is the contextual meaning of TOV, which is now the **“redefined meaning of good.”**

- When you see **“good”** in *the first ten chapters of English translations of Genesis*, **visualize the contextual meaning of TOV.**
- Always keep in mind that the **TOV Standard** is the standard the Creator uses to judge things that affect humans.
- Instead of using words like **“good”** or **“right”** when discussing things that affect human lives, memorize and use the word **TOV.**