The Bible's Wisdom of the Beginnings Series: The First Story Day One

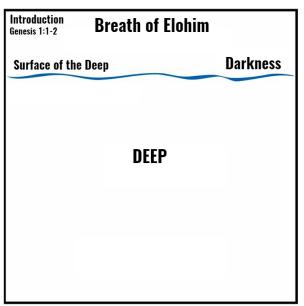
(1:1) In the beginning, Elohim created the Skies and the Dry Land.

The first verse in Genesis is the title. Ancient scribes often repeated the same line or a portion of it at the end of a story. Chapter and verse markers were inserted after the 13th century CE (AD).

(1:2) The Dry Land was without form and substance, and Darkness was over the surface of the Deep. The breath of Elohim was hovering over the surface of the Waters.

The ancient author now describes the scene of what existed before anything was created. We have identified these **Key Words**: *Elohim, Skies, Land, Darkness, Deep, and Waters*. Now find them in the graphic on the right.

The title contained the words "<u>Dry Land</u>," but the second verse made it clear that "<u>Dry Land</u>," either <u>did not exist</u> or <u>wasn't functioning yet</u>. In this ancient culture, knowing the functions of things was very important. Focus on the functions of *Elohim*, *Skies*, *Land*, *Darkness*, *Deep*, and *Waters*.



At this point in the story, Dry Land, Darkness, the Deep, and the Waters are not doing anything. **Elohim is breathing and is hovering**.

(1:3) Elohim said, "Let Light exist!"

Light existed.

(1:4a) Elohim saw the Light, that it was Tov.

We can add the following to His functions above.

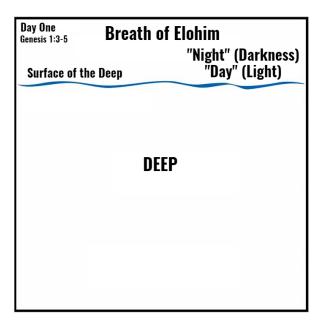
<u>Elohim spoke</u>. The words He spoke caused **<u>Light</u>** to be created. **<u>Light</u>** and **<u>created</u>** are new words to add to the **<u>Key Words List</u>**.

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Elohim saw. Elohim saw that the thing His words created was Tov.

Tov is a standard Elohim uses to measure things.

(1:4b) Elohim distinguished between the Light and between the Darkness.



Elohim <u>distinguished between</u> things after Light was created. Add it to the list.

(1:5) Elohim named the Light "Day."
He named the Darkness "Night."

Elohim **names** things. Add it to the list.

It was evening and it was morning, Day One.

"Evening and morning" are related to "Night and Day." "Day" is the name of "Light," which was created by "the breath of Elohim."