

## Creation of Mankind and his environment

by Jorge Guedes

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### 1. God prepared the land prior to creating mankind

Before God created mankind, He created and organised the environment in which mankind would live ([Genesis 1:9-15](#)), therefore the trees, plants, sun, stars, and moon had to be created for the purpose of sustenance and living conditions. Incidentally, the plants and trees were created on day 3 before the sun was created, maybe because some seeds need a dark environment in which to germinate, however, God's manifest presence (light in the darkness) is enough to make anything grow. Moisture for plant life already existed because the ground was drenched in the waters that covered the earth before day 3. These waters were separated to create the firmament and the land that appeared on day 2. The land was therefore completely soaked, and thus the land was watered from underground springs/fountains giving it the moisture needed for life ([Genesis 2:5-6](#)). It was on day 4 that the sun was created to generate light and heat so that plants could grow in adequate conditions through photosynthesis.

#### [Genesis 1:9-15](#)

9 And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so.

10 God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

11 Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so.

12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

13 And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

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14 And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years,  
15 and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so

### Genesis 2:5-6

5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the

LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

Once the land and sky was prepared with vegetation, water, heat, and light, the days to create animals and humanity was at hand, which took place on days 5 and 6. Day 5 saw the birds and sea creatures being created, while day 6 saw animals, creeping creatures (insects and the like), and mankind being created, [Genesis 1:20-31](#).

### Genesis 1:20-31

20 And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.”

21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.”

23 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

24 And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so.

25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,[a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

27 So God created mankind in his own image,

in the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

29 Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

On the seventh day God rested, but what did God rest from? Did God just stop and say, “Well, now I had done everything, I can now go for a snooze and let creation take care of itself?”. The Word of God is clear in that the Word (Jesus) upholds all things by the Word of His power ([Hebrews 1:3](#)), which is always quick (alive) and powerful (active) ([Hebrews 4:12](#)). Jesus also made it clear that His Father is always working in [John 14:10](#) and [John 5:17](#).

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### Hebrews 1:3

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

### John 14:10

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

### John 5:17

But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

### Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

This means that God continues to work on His creation, including working in human hearts, because He upholds creation indefinitely. Nevertheless, God has rested from creating the physical world as the systems He put in place are self-generating, such as:

- Mankind produces more people through marriage, though much of mankind does not see marriage as a strict requirement, however, it is about discipline and obedience to God's way of life if we are to maintain peace and tranquillity, as opposed to the ability to procreate regardless of marital status which results from a rebellious nature.
- Animals produce animals, each according to their kind. Animals are in a different spiritual status as they do not need to marry due to a lower level of spiritual understanding, i.e. animals have no intellectual capacity and thus have no ability to pray, reason, or follow God, however, what God puts in the soul of the animal is what they live by, which is passed on or inherited from generation to generation.
- Trees and plants produce seeds to grow more trees and plants, according to their kind.
- Galaxies, solar systems, and planets are created through gravitational collapse of massive clouds of gas and dust, as believed by cosmologists today.

So God upholds the Universe on an ongoing basis, which is why the third heaven does not only sit outside the Universe, as suggested by many believers, but is also within the Universe, proactively upholding the Universe by the Word (Jesus) that is settled in the heaven ([Psalm 119:89](#)), and thus exists in parallel with the Universe. We also understand through science/cosmology that the Universe keeps expanding at an alarming rate (faster than the speed of light), which I believe is the work of God, as the Universe can only expand into God/Heaven because only He is eternal and infinite. The cosmos or space is finite and cannot reproduce itself or expand itself, and matter does not travel faster than the speed of light, therefore, the only way the Universe is expanding, whether it is adding extra space or expanding like a balloon, at a speed faster than light, is because it expands into God/Heaven who exists outside the Universe, and is stretched by God/Heaven within the Universe.

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### Psalm 119:89

LAMED. For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven

Therefore, God upholds all created physical things by His Word, but He also places the breath of life in all living creatures. Though it is people and animals that physically conceive offspring, it is God that breathes a spirit in them to give them life according to His will and purpose, and they become living souls/beings ([Genesis 2:7](#)). What this tells us is that the spirit that God breathes in people or animals forms the soul, but more about that when we get to unpacking the Tabernacle of Moses.

### Genesis 2:7

7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

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### 2. The creation of mankind

Genesis chapter 2 is a more detailed breakdown of [Genesis 1:26-29](#) regarding the creation of mankind in their environment. When God made Adam (mankind) ([Genesis 2:7:9](#)), He made him in God's image, after God's likeness, but not in God's exact (express) image and likeness ([Hebrews 1:3](#)), meaning that Adam was an individual with free will, not the exact image of God like Jesus was, therefore, Adam was a natural man because he was not spiritually endowed or mature as he was led by his five senses and free will, as opposed to being led exclusively by the spirit. This is why [1 Corinthians 15:20-25](#) says that the first Adam was a natural man—a soul in the flesh, influenced by the five senses and his natural surroundings—where heart and mind are in conflict when challenges present themselves, but the last Adam (Jesus) was a quickening spirit—a soul in the flesh that is fully inhabited and alive by God's spirit—where heart and mind are in total harmony, and therefore influenced solely by the Spirit and Word of God. In other words, Jesus had the full measure of God's spirit ([John-3:34](#)), and by implication, mankind received the spirit by measure (a portion), and therefore needed to develop spiritually.

#### [Genesis 1:26-29](#)

26And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

28And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

29And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

31And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

#### [Genesis 2:7:9](#)

7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

#### [Hebrews 1:3](#)

3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

#### [1 Corinthians 15:45](#)

45And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

#### [John-3:34](#)

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34For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

I do not believe that God will ever create any creature exactly like Himself because that would defeat the object of individuality and free will, not to forget the potential challenges that God would impose on Himself from a creature equal in knowledge, power, and presence, especially when we know that divine beings rebelled in heaven and were instrumental in mankind disobeying God, where the snake (divine spirit being) was very subtle in deceiving mankind ([Genesis 3:1-5](#)). Without free will mankind would essentially operate like programmed robots to do God's will, but God desires creatures that have a heart that is willingly desirous of a relationship with Him, and not by compulsion administered through laws as they force people to become or do what is not in their heart, or else be punished. This is why God did not want to give mankind laws through Moses, though mankind had already devised their own understanding of good and evil from the time Adam and Eve ate from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

### [Genesis 3:1-5](#)

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?  
2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:  
3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.  
4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:  
5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

God gave mankind dominion over all creation because they were made in the image and likeness of God and are thus more spiritually in touch with God than any other living creature, excluding divine beings such as angels or those in the council of God. In other words, God breathed in mankind a spirit through which God communicates, either via dreams, visions, or word, and was therefore created to exemplify God's image on earth in service to others and to steward God's provision. Similarly, today, we try to project our organization's image to clients when in service to them, and we manage our resources effectively and efficiently to make the world a better place for all. It is all about serving others, but pride—especially through success—transforms our character, where we desire to be served rather than to serve, i.e. we become “gods” in our own estimation, and thus our behaviour runs on pride, even though that thought might never cross our mind, [Matthew 20:25-27](#).

### [Matthew 20:25-27](#)

25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.  
26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

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27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

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### 3. Mankind's spiritual development

Mankind's spiritual development was administered by God's manifest presence through the spoken Word (Jesus is the Word of God), i.e. Jesus was Yahweh in the garden of Eden as the Tree of Life. Mankind can never be in God's exact image and likeness because only God can ever be omnipresent, omnipotent, or omniscient, though Jesus (God the Word) was not omnipresent when in the flesh, which is why He had to send mankind the Holy Spirit. Besides, God did not want to duplicate Himself because He desired individuality and variety of personalities to enter into relationship with. No created being can ever be omnipresent, omniscient, or omnipotent, as only God lives exclusively in the third heaven where there is no time or space (distance), but created beings are subject to time and space wherever they reside in the Universe even though angels or divine beings are spirits who have permanent access to the third heaven. In other words, angels or divine beings live within the physical Universe (first heaven) and God's spiritual abode (third heaven) simultaneously, just as mankind will live on the physical earth (first heaven) but also in God's spiritual abode (third heaven) when Jesus reappears to manifest His full glory on the earth to replace our current corrupt spiritual atmosphere (second heaven). When God's full glory covers the earth, we will be immersed in the third heaven (God's abode), known in scripture as the new Heaven and Earth or new Jerusalem, which is a spiritual heaven, not physical.

In other words, the current corrupt (dark) spiritual atmosphere of our second heaven will be replaced with the spiritual atmosphere of third heaven which is the Kingdom of Heaven/God, and of course, creation will not see decay again ([Romans 8:18-23](#)), which is why it will be the "new" earth. I have heard people say that the new earth comes after God completely obliterates the existing earth and creates a new one. That is false, as God does not have to destroy the entire earth just to remove sin from it. The new earth merely denotes that it will not see corruption again because God's abode and earth will meet/merge. Jesus's prayer of letting it be in earth as it is in heaven, will be fully fulfilled.

#### [Romans 8:18-23](#)

18For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

19For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

20For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

21Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

22For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

23And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Essentially, God made man from the dust of the ground, representing the elements from which man was made, and breathed (spirit) in man, and man became a living soul (being), see [Genesis 2:7](#). Being the first flesh man, Adam was influenced by the five senses but was

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guided by God in person instead of a mentor like we have today, though even today we can be guided by God if we are disciplined, obedient, and desirous of God and His Kingdom. In essence, mankind's soul was in the learning phase and needed to grow spiritually but in a world that has many spiritual and physical challenges, however, mankind had God as the ultimate guide, teacher, and companion. All they needed to do was to obey God because He is the source of life, has all knowledge and wisdom, and the provider of all their needs.

### [Genesis 2:7](#)

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

They were guided or directed by God **to eat** from the Tree of Life, and **not to eat** from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil to remain in God's presence within the Kingdom of Heaven/God (Eden). To remain in God's presence is to live and not die, physically or spiritually, for God is the source of life, [Psalm 36:7-9](#). However, because God gives all creatures free will, He gave mankind the choice to either follow Him (Tree of Life) and live, or to independently try to understand good and evil (Tree of Knowledge) and die. When we become independent from God, who is the source of life and righteousness, spiritual death comes first, and then physical death later. It is God's spirit breathed in mankind that empowers us, and through which God speaks to give us direction, and it's the same spirit (breath) in mankind that goes back to God when we die, assuming we believe in God. In other words, God knew that mankind could not become righteous without the influence of His Spirit and the Word of God, which He spoke in person directly to them in Eden, and so God tried to direct mankind down the right path for He had mankind's interests at heart. It is no different today as Jesus told us to take the narrow road ([Matthew 7:13-14](#)) instead of the wide road by being born again by the spirit and renewing our minds by the Word of God.

### [Psalm 36:7-9](#)

7 How precious, O God, is your constant love! We find protection under the shadow of your wings.  
8 We feast on the abundant food you provide; you let us drink from the river of your goodness.  
9 You are the source of all life, and because of your light we see the light.

### [Matthew 7:13-14](#)

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in therat:  
14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

God did not give them a law because it was in the form of a choice, to either choose God (life) or independence (death), therefore He was "commanding" them to choose life, no different to when God told Israel to choose life or death in [Deuteronomy 30:19](#), and no different to when Jesus tells us to choose the narrow road which leads to life.

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### Deuteronomy 30:19

19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

In the case with Moses, the way they had to choose life was to fulfil God's commandments (moral laws), after they consistently displayed unbelief in God as they were led through the wilderness. God did not want to give Israel laws, but they forced His hand due to continuous disobedience and lack of faith in Him, which is why the law was added because of transgressions ([Galatians 3:19](#)), and to show the world that they are guilty of sin ([Romans 3:19](#)). It's like when we ask our children to obey certain instructions, but after continuous refusal or disobedience, we start to give them rules as an ultimatum to discipline them. Mankind is born into sin and therefore require discipline through laws and punishment to learn to live in harmony and peace, which is why the Word of God says that we should not spare the rod ([Proverbs 13:24](#)), but once they are disciplined and live by faith in Christ ([Galatians 3:22-25](#)), maturity and obedience becomes second nature because faith in Christ is active.

### Galatians 3:19

19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

### Romans 3:19

19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

### Proverbs 13:24

He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes

### Galatians 3:22-25

22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Today, we choose life by believing in Jesus Christ who does not impute sin to us ([Romans 4:8](#)), and considers us as if we have no sin, just like in Eden where they had to choose life by eating from the Tree of Life, but in their case, they had no sin. Whether in Eden, the wilderness, or in Christ, lack of faith in God is always what brings death, which is the sin that kills ([1 John 5:16-17](#)).

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### Romans 4:8

8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

### 1 John 5:16-17

16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

17 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

However, in the garden of Eden, they did not know good or evil, and were thus innocent, therefore God was progressively cultivating righteousness and knowledge in them, not by giving laws, but through teaching them as they experienced life, and as long as they followed God by faith. This proves that God is the same, yesterday, today, and forever because he did the same with Moses and Israel, where no laws were given until they disobeyed through lack of faith, and today we also follow Jesus by faith through the spirit that changes our heart, thus fulfilling the law through love without the written letter of the law. Jesus's work of the cross is the final opportunity for mankind's redemption, therefore, those who do not believe in Jesus Christ will inherit the lake of fire.

With God, obedience is key if mankind wants to live, not because God is giving mankind an ultimatum by wielding a big stick, but rather, because He gives us free will to choose life or death. If we choose to follow Him, we live, if we choose not to follow Him, we die. It is only by the spirit and the Word that we receive life because the letter kills but the spirit gives life ([2 Corinthians 3:6](#)). God never gave Adam and Eve moral laws because they did not know good and evil. Actually, they were expelled from Eden when they tried to define their own moral laws (good and evil), which proves that God's commands were a directive or guidance to give life as opposed to a legalistic ultimatum to prevent death through sin.

### 2 Corinthians 3:6

6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life

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### 4. Creation of the woman

Adam was doing pretty well on his own until God gave him a helper, and we know what division does. Different courses for different horses is what makes mankind create competitiveness encapsulated in pride.

Therefore, man was walking more in accordance to the image and after the likeness of God before the female spiritual characteristics or qualities were taken out of him to create a woman. I believe taking a rib, or the side of man, is more spiritually symbolic than a physical reality, though some obvious physical aspects were made differently for reproductive purposes and gender recognition. In other words, God made woman identical to man with some physical tweaks, but with different spiritual characteristics or qualities, where men might embody more "masculine" traits (desire or need to initiate transformative processes, ideas, provision, and protection) and women more "feminine" traits (where they are more inviting, empathetic, nurturing, and receptive).

God had made man in His image and likeness, but not exact; however, Adam was now split between two genders, male and female, which made each individual having even less of the likeness of God. I believe that [Genesis 1:27](#) refers to the combination of male and female being in God's image and likeness, as opposed to each individual being in God's image and likeness, although initially Adam was created as such before God took some characteristics or qualities and gave them to the female. In other words, together they are in the image of God and thus God's representatives on earth, but mankind is like angels who also cannot be present everywhere simultaneously, neither can they have fullness of God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom, and neither can they have power like God. This will remain true even after Jesus reappears to manifest the Kingdom of Heaven (third heaven) on earth.

#### [Genesis 1:27](#)

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.