

“THE TWO CREATIONS” [Part 2] (Gen. 1)

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REVIEW/INTRO: Last Sunday we began a 2-Part message comparing the progressive, sequential days of the creation of the heavens and earth to the progressive, sequential phases of spiritual growth as a new creation in Christ (2Cor. 5:17).

PRE-CREATION:

1. Before creation, darkness prevailed (Gen. 1:1-2a).
 - A. Before we became a new creation in Christ, spiritual darkness prevailed in our life.
2. The hovering Spirit of God (Gen. 1:2b).
 - A. Before we became a new creation in Christ, the Spirit of God began hovering over our life convicting us of sin and revealing Jesus to us.

CREATION:

Day 1. From Darkness to Light (Gen. 1:3-5).

- A. We became a new creation in Christ when we responded to the light that shone in our darkness.

Day 2. The Firmament (Gen. 1:6-8) – living a Spirit-filled, empowered & led life.

Day 3a. Land (Gen. 1:9-10) – living as faithful stewards.

Day 3b. Grass, Vegetation & Fruit (Gen. 1:11-13) – bearing the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).

Day 4. THE SUN, MOON & STARS (Gen. 1:14-19) – being the light of the world (Rev. 21:23; Matt. 5:14-16). Is your light shining brightly?

Day 5 & 6a. FISH, FOWL & LAND CREATURES (Gen. 1:20-25) – taking dominion through spiritual warfare.

1. Mankind’s calling to take dominion on the earth (Gen. 1:26, 28).
2. Dominion through spiritual warfare (Gen. 3:1; Mark 1:12-13; 1Peter 4:8-9a; Luke 10:19; Rom. 16:20; Eph. 6:12-13; 2Cor. 10:4).

Day 6b. MANKIND (Gen. 1:26-27, 31) – making disciples of all nations (the fruit of ministry).

1. As a new creation in Christ, you are called to multiply – to make disciples (Matt. 28:18-29; Acts 6:1, 7; 14:21).

Day 7. REST (Gen. 2:1-3) – sabbath rest, the new Jerusalem on the new earth - the eternal state.

1. Just as God rested on the 7th day, we are called to regularly enter His promised rest prepared for us and not come short of it (Heb. 4:1, 3-4, 11).
2. Entering the sabbath rest is resting from all our works (Heb. 4:9-11).
3. We’re to be diligent to enter this rest (Heb. 4:11).
4. Jesus wants us to come to Him and receive rest for our soul (Matt. 11:28-30; Ps. 37:7; 116:7; Mk. 6:31).
5. There is an eternal rest waiting for us in the New Jerusalem on the new earth (Rev. 14:13; 21:1-5; 22:17)!

CONCLUSION: Let’s faithfully persevere in living out these sequential progressive phases of spiritual growth as a new creation in Christ! Where are you in your spiritual journey? What is your next step forward? Will you take it?