

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dec 18, 2016



At first glance, this seems like an easy question. Just as children have been singing for generations, it was on **day four** when God made “the Sun, Moon, and stars galore.” Some, however, have alleged that the “sun, moon and stars were created ‘in the beginning’ (Gen. 1:1)” (Thurman, 2006, p. 3), rather than on day four of Creation. Presumably,

on the fourth day, God “set” the sun, moon and stars in the heavens to govern the days, months, seasons and years (verse 17). When God “set” the lights in the heavens, it was much like when we “set” a clock. And that really is what God did—He “set” His clock on the 4th day. **But these (the sun, moon, stars) were all created “in the beginning”** (Gen. 1:1) (Thurman, 2006, p. 3, emp. added).

The problem with this line of argumentation is that it contradicts what the Bible says.

Certainly, “[i]n the beginning God created the heavens and the

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & fellowship for lunch every Sunday!

P.O. Box 321

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

Joe Owen Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

the earth” (Genesis 1:1). But, it was not until later that God created the Sun, Moon, and stars. Genesis 1:14-19 reads:

Then God said, “**Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens** to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. Then God **made two great lights**: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made **the stars also**. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were **the fourth day** (Genesis 1:14-19, emp. added).

God not only “set” (Hebrew *nathan*) the Sun, Moon, and stars in their precise locations in the heavens on the fourth day of Creation, but it was on this day when God literally “made” (Hebrew *asah*) these heavenly bodies. Similar to how God initially made the land and seas void of animal life (which later was created on days five and six of Creation), the “heavens” were made “in the beginning,” but the hosts of heaven (which now inhabit them) were created “in the firmament of the heavens” on day four (Genesis 1:14).

Consider also how God spoke light into existence on day one of Creation, saying, “**Let there be light**” (1:3, emp. added). On the fourth day God declared, “**Let there be lights** in the firmament of the heavens...and it was so” (1:14-15, emp. added). Gary Workman commented on this similarity, saying:

“Let there be lights” (v. 14) is identical in grammatical construction with other statements of “let there be...” in the chapter. Therefore the command can only mean that God spoke the luminaries into existence on the fourth day just as he had created the initial light on day one and the firmament on day two (1989, p. 3).

On day one God made intrinsic light; on day four He made the generators of light. Keep in mind that “the Father of lights” (James 1:17), Who is “light” (1 John 1:5), could create light easily without first having to create the Sun, Moon, and stars. Just as God could produce a fruit-bearing tree on day three without a seed, He could produce light supernaturally on day one without the “usual” light bearers (which subsequently were created on day four). Again, there is no indication in Scripture that the generators of light already were made before day four.

Suppose, however, that the creation of the heavens “in the beginning” had included the creation of the Sun, Moon, and stars (which Genesis 1:14-19 says were made on day four). One still would not be justified in trying to appease the evolutionary timeline by claiming that the “beginning” took place billions of years before the six days of Creation. Why? Because God said, “For **in six days** the Lord made **the heavens** and the earth, the sea, **and all that is in them**, and rested the seventh day” (Exodus 20:11

, emp. added). Both the heavens and **all** that is in the heavens were created during the six-day creation.

In truth, on day one God created “the heavens,” and on day four He made the Sun, Moon, and stars. And **all things** were made within the six days of Creation. No “rightly divided” (2 Timothy 2:15) Bible passage will lead a person to any other conclusion.

REFERENCES

Thurman, Clem (2006), “How Was Light Before the Sun?” Gospel Minutes, September 8.

Workman, Gary (1989), “Questions from Genesis One,” The Restorer, 9[5/6]:3-5, May/June.

Written by Eric Lyons, M. Min.

<http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=9&article=1990>

Sermon Review

How Will You Plan?

- I. **With Proper Perspective** (Colossians 3:17)?
- II. **With Purposeful Passion** (Colossians 3:23–24)?
- III. **Without Procrastination** (James 4:13–17)?
- IV. **To Be Patient** (James 1:3–5)?

When Our King Gave Thanks — He Raised Dead Lazarus

(John 11)

- I. **Jesus Allowed the Death to Happen** (3–5, 21, 32)
- II. **Jesus Rejoiced in the Midst of this Trial** (11–15, 3, 5, 33–36, 38, cf. James 1:2–5).
- III. **Jesus was Glorified and Denied in this Event** (4, 15, 25–27, 38–45, 46–57).

Send a card/note of encouragement to Molly's nephew, Macadden:

Macadden Easley

New Beginnings Recovery Center

1649 Linwood Loop

Opelousas, LA 70570

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Billy Bland, recovering from hernia surgery; **Several** have been sick; **Betty Duke**, will be in Oklahoma with daughter for some time; **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**.

NetCasters * Far East Missions * Fishers of Men Family & Friends

Judy Dowelling, Joe's mother, stroke; **James Cooper family**, Jan's brother passed; **Mike Ratliff**, Andy's father, recovering from heart surgery; **Dominic Rosado**, Monica's uncle, needs heart surgery but having major kidney issues; **George Morris**, trying to get into rehab, doctors discovered he has had heart attack at some point; **Robert Day family**, Grace's brother-in-law passed; **Macadden Easley**, Molly's nephew; **Bill Fleming**; **Raleigh Wood**, Ruth's cousin; **Ray Livsey**, Clifton's uncle; **Brandy Fleming**, Billie Martin's sister-in-law; **Stacy Family**; **Carole Livsey**, Clifton's aunt, leukemia; **Tim Isbell family**; **Myrtis Wadsworth**; **Noel Daniel**; **David Steward**; **Tyler Densford**; **Harold Russell**; **Zach Jackson**, Jim's nephew; **James & Rhonda Worthy**; **Myrtle McNab**; **Carey Smith**, friend of Jerry; **Lisa Hogan**; **Ava Roten**, young girl with third round of cancer; **Sharon Brewer**, Chris' sister; **Jenny Kraft**; **John Simpson and family**; **Mac Owen**; **Joy Angel**, health problems; **Rhonda Cook**; **Wanda Coats**; **Henretta Newsom**; **Tammy Powell**; **Lawton O'Brien**; **Pat Hardison**; **Beverly Whitecotton**; **Peggy Hunt**; **Jason Spencer**; **Elizabeth Baker**; **Janie Brister**; **Amanda Cummings**; **Danielle Key**; **Frankie Burfield**; **Renee Loya**; **Eli Williams**; **Ray Maples**; **Martha Hatfield**.

Birthdays

12/6 Sammy Williams
12/17 Kaiden Ferrell
12/22 Dalton Owen
12/23 Jeremy Moore
12/24 Daniel Owen
12/30 Renee Davis
12/31 Eli Martin

Anniversaries

12/13 Jerry & Renee Davis

Get Involved!

Providence Place Devo — TODAY — 2 PM

Childrens' Paint Party — TODAY

After PM services, \$5 for pizza and supplies

Secret Sister Reveal — Dec 12 — 5:30 PM

At church building, \$25 max on reveal party gift
Sign up sheet in auditorium

Convalescence Center Devo — Dec 28 — 10 AM

Coldwater Singing Night — Dec 28 — 7 PM

Bible Bowl @ Olive Branch — Jan 21 — 4 PM

1 Corinthians 10, 11, 12

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 18

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Seth Daniel
Announcements	Jim Jackson
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Ron Johnson
Assist	Jason Bayless
	Johnny Bayless
Opening Prayer	Jerry Davis
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Moore

Afternoon

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Marc Strickland
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Ron Johnson
	John Wofford
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, December 21

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Russell Wadsworth
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jared Brown