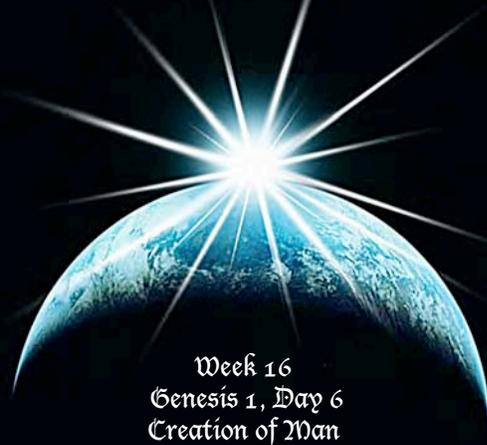


Science and the Bible

A Course of Study
by
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Winter, 2008 (Continued)



This is week 16 in a course of study in Science and the Bible.

We are at the Creation of Man, the second part of Day 6.

Genesis 1:26-27, Day Six, Part 2: Creation of Humans

26 Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

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



Genesis 1:27, Day Six, Part 2: Creation of Humans



I'd like to make a little side-excursion on the usage of the words for "create" in Genesis.

In this verse the word for "create" is the Hebrew word "bara" which is used only rarely in the Bible, and always refers to God's activity. The question is, what does this word mean, precisely, and why is it used here?

The other word that is translated "create" or "make" or "do" is Asah. The big question is, are these words interchangeable, or does the word "bara" have some special significance?

Genesis 1:27, Day Six, Part 2: Words for "Creation"

"The significant interchange between the words *bara*, 'create' and *asah*' is of great interest. The word *'bara'* carries the thought of the initiation of the object involved. It always connotes what only God can do, and frequently emphasizes the absolute newness of the object created. The word *"asah"* is much broader in scope, connoting primarily the fashioning of the object with little concern for special nuances."

Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

In contrast to this, the Young Earth advocates in the website "answersingenesis.org" make the words virtually identical in meaning in Genesis 1, thus wiping out the distinction that this quote asserts. They argue, "The context of Genesis, indeed the whole Bible, is overwhelmingly in favor of interpreting both *bara* and *asah* in Genesis 1 as virtually instantaneous acts."

Let's look at this a bit closer.

Genesis 1:20-23, Day Six: Creation of Man

Hebrew verbs for "Create"

<i>Bara</i> : to shape or create		<i>Asah</i> : to do or make	
Gen. 1:1	created the heavens and earth	Gen. 1:7	made the expanse between the waters above and below
Gen. 1:21	created the sea creatures and birds	Gen. 1:16	* made the sun, moon and stars
Gen. 1:27	* created man (both Adam and Eve)	Gen. 1:25	made all land creatures
Gen. 2:3	* created and made <i>all</i> His works	Gen. 1:31	<i>all</i> that He made
Gen. 2:4	created heavens and earth	Gen. 2:3	* <i>all</i> His works which God created and made
Gen. 5:1	created man (both Adam and Eve, cf. 5:2)	Gen. 2:4	* made heaven and earth
Gen. 5:2	created male and female	Gen. 3:1	made the beasts of the field
Ps. 89:47	created all the sons of men	Gen. 3:7	made loin clothes from fig leaves
Ps. 104:30	created sea creatures	Gen. 3:21	made garments from animal skins
Ps. 148:5	* created heavens, heights, angels, hosts, sun, moon and stars	Gen. 5:1	* made man (referring to both male and female)
Is. 40:26	* created stars	Gen. 6:6	* made man
Is. 40:26	created trees, rivers	Gen. 7:4	* destroy every living thing that I have made
Is. 54:16	created the blacksmith and the destroyer	Gen. 9:6	* man made in the image of God
		Ps. 121:2	* made the heavens and the earth
		Ps. 104:24	* made the sea, sea creatures and land animals
		Is. 41:20	* done this, made the trees and rivers
		Is. 43:7	* made, created and formed man
		Is. 45:18	* made, formed, established and created the earth

From "answersingenesis.org"

This table is from the "answersingenesis.org" website. I think the uses of *Bara* and *Asah* in this table are limited

To uses in connection with creating or making. There are many other places where *Asah* appears with other uses.

The word "*Bara*" occurs only three times in Genesis 1:

- (a) Genesis 1:1 when the heavens and the earth are created
- (b) Genesis 1:21 on day 5 when animal life (as opposed to plant life) is first created, and
- (c) Genesis 1:27 on day 6 when man is created.

Other uses of *bara*: Ex. 34:10 "I will create a marvel" Num 16:30 "create something new", Ps 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart"

Is there any special significance in the use of "*bara*" in these particular junctures in the creation narrative? And if so,

what is the significance of the use of the other word "*asah*" when *it* is used in the creation account?

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Gen. 2:7 then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

So, what does this verse say? What special thing is created "from nothing" here?

Compare Genesis 2:7. Here man is formed of dust. That's interesting! Man (or at least his body) was formed from previously created material (dust).

Genesis 1:26-27, Day Six, Part 2:
Creation of Humans



So, what does this verse say? What special thing is created "from nothing" here?

Where does the artwork of cave men come into the picture?

Genesis 1:20-23, Day Five:
Cambrian Explosion

Example of segmented body plan
Trilobite



VIDEO - CLEANING TRILOBITES IN MOROCCO

THE "GILDED" TRILOBITE BODY (IRON PYRITE)

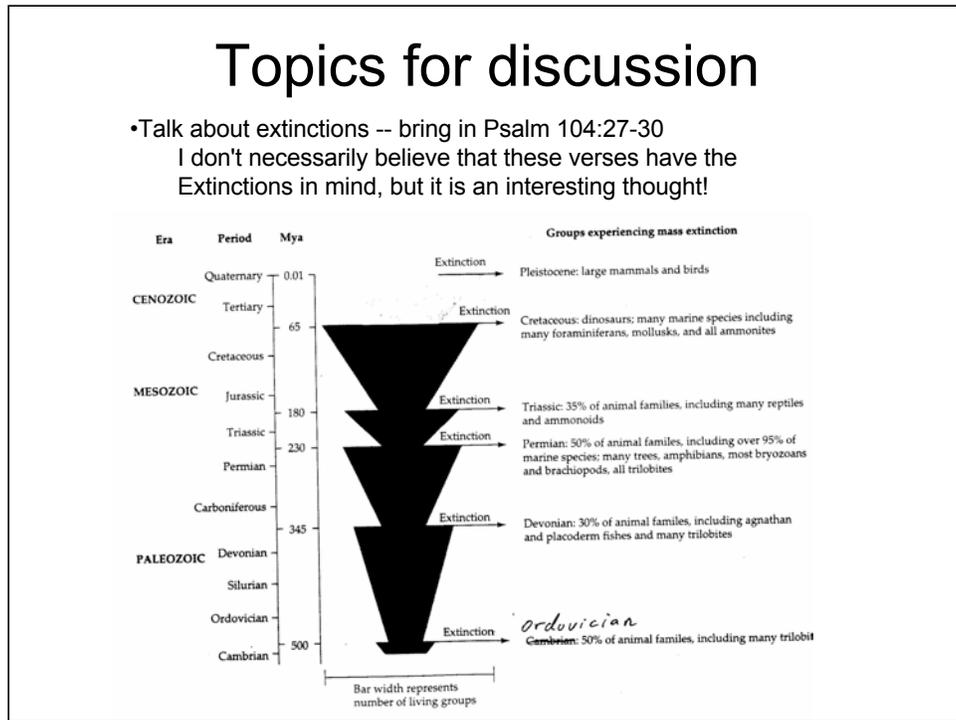
Show the videos on Moroccan trilobite "mining"

Topics for discussion

- More on body plans
 - the 39 phyla
 - all suddenly appear in the fossil record "Cambrian explosion"
 - body segments
 - experiments on hox genes -- growing legs, eyes and antennae
- Yes - there is a progression of complexity,
but ALL life is exceedingly complex!!!
- * Talk about extinctions -- bring in Psalm 104:

Topics for discussion

- Talk about extinctions -- bring in Psalm 104:27-30
I don't necessarily believe that these verses have the Extinctions in mind, but it is an interesting thought!



Show the video on the mass extinction at 65M -- dinosaurs. Talk by ??
At IBRI -- became a believer.