

## CHAOTIC EARTH

Genesis 1:1-2 is part of a timeless eternal past. Gen.1:2 declares that something occurred between Gen.1:1-2 that resulted in a Chaotic Earth.

The English dictionary defines **CHAOS** as “the confused unorganized state of primordial matter before the creation of distinct forms.”

Chaos is a Greek word and part of Greek mythology. Chaos personified the three-fold chaotic condition of the earth described in Gen.1:2 that existed before the restoration-creation of Gen.1:3-31.

**This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the Chaotic Earth.  
It will explain how the Bara creation of Gen.1:1 became chaotic (tohu waw bohu) in Gen.1:2.**

**1. Three changes occurred in the original creation that resulted in the earth becoming chaotic. These three chaotic conditions are identified by three Hebrew circumstantial conjunctions [‘waw’].**

- “**And the earth** was (hayah / kal pf) formless and void
- **and darkness** was over the surface of the deep ( tehom) [form of tohu] [primeval waters]
- **and a Spirit of God** was moving (piel ptc) [very active] over the surface of the waters.” (Gen.1:2; Deut.32:11)

**2. The verb hayah (kal pf) [completed state] is used to introduce the three-fold chaotic condition of the earth.**

Hayah (kal pf) can be translated “became.” It means to become something it wasn’t previously. It was used to describe Lot’s wife becoming a pillar of salt (Gen.19:26).

Note the three things that the earth became: formless and void and darkness and waters.

Note also that the Holy Spirit was very active hovering over the surface of the waters (primeval ocean).

**3. The Pre-Adamic earth was not originally created under these three conditions. It became something it wasn’t!**

(Isa.45:18) “For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (He is God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and **did not create** (Bara) it a waste place (tohu), but formed it to be inhabited), I am the Lord, and there is none else.”

Notice that **waste place** is contrasted with **inhabited** (Isa.14:17). The idea is that the earth was originally created to be inhabited but something happened to cause it to become uninhabited or not GOOD for habitation.

(Luke 18:19) “And Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.”

We know that whatever God creates (Bara) it must be consistent with His essence.

(1 Cor.14:33) “For God is not a God of **confusion** (akatastasia) [state of disorder, tumult, chaos] **but of peace** (eirene) [harmony, order], as in all the churches of the saints.”

**4. In the restoration-creation section of Gen.1:3-31, we discover an interesting use of the Hebrew word for good (tob).**

Why was ‘tob’ used in Day 1 (Gen.1:3-5) **but not in Day 2?**

- But it is **used twice** in Day 3 (Gen.1:10, 12).
- It is used in Days 4, 5 and 6.
- And in Day 6, it’s used **twice again** (Gen.1:25, 31)
  - But the second time it is translated “**very good.**” (Gen.1:31) [inhabited]

**Question:** Why wasn’t ‘tob’ (good) used in Day 2 (Gen.1:6-8)? What was happening on Day 2 of restoration that “good” couldn’t be applied? (Ps.136:5-6)

What was being separated?

- **Day 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ( Gen.1:1)
- **Day 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ( Gen.1:1)

**5. We know that darkness is associated with Satan and light with God in the Bible.**

- **Darkness** (Acts 26:18; Rom.2:19; Eph.5:8; 1 Pet.2:9; 2 Pet.1:19; John 3:19; 2 Sam.22:29).
- **Light** (1 John 1:5-7; John 8:12; 1 Tim.6:16; 2 Cor.4:4, 6; 6:14; 11:14; Rev.21:23; Ps.119:130).
- **Water** (The Holy Spirit was holding the waters back until the separation and expanse of Day 2).

We know that these separated waters were used later for divine judgment of the Antediluvian earth (Gen.6-9; 6:5-7; 1 Pet.3:19-22; 2 Pet.2:4-5). God gave us the rainbow promise (Gen.9:11-17).

We also know that the Holy Spirit holds back divine judgment in the post-Diluvian earth.

(2 Thess.2:7) “For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; **only He** who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.” (2 Pet.3:7-13) [Judgment by Fire]

**NEXT WEEK:** We will learn that the three-fold chaotic condition of the earth of Gen.1:2 was the result of the fall of Satan in eternity past (Isa.14:12-15; Ezek.28:11-17). Read these passages in preparation for that study.