

CREATION OF HEAVENS AND EARTH

(Gen.1:1) “In a beginning (bereshith) God (Elohim) created (bara/ kal pf) the heavens (eth hashamayim) and the earth (eth haeret).”

We are learning how unique Genesis 1:1 is to the original creation. Gen.1:1 contains two more unique uses of the Hebrew grammar: the direct object (eth) and the definite article (ha). The Hebrew direct object (**eth**) points to something important in the sentence: the heavens and the earth of creation. The Hebrew direct object is not translated. The Hebrew definite article (**ha**) is used to emphasize what the direct object is pointing out: **The Heavens and the Earth.**

(Ps.115:16-18) “**The Heavens are the Heavens of the Lord, and the Earth He has given to the sons of men.** The dead (spiritual) do not praise the Lord, nor do any who go down into silence (physical dead); but as for us, we bless the Lord from this time forth and forever. Praise the Lord!”

In the New Covenant Messianic Hallel (Ps.113-118) Old Covenant Egyptian Hallel, (Ps.113 – 114) were sung before the Passover meal and (Ps.115-118) were sung after the Passover meal.

(Ps.115) consists of a five-part liturgy exchange between the priest and the people:

- (Ps.115:1-8) The people speak
- (Ps.115:9-11) The priest speak
- (Ps.115:12-13) The people
- (Ps.115:14-15) The priest
- **(Ps.115:16-18) The people.**

Remember the circumstances surrounding Ps.115-118 being sung by Jesus (Matt.26:20-30).

- How important was the word of God to Jesus in His personal life? (Ps.115:16-18)

<p>This lesson will study <u>three aspects</u> of the Creation of the Heavens and the Earth.</p>

1. In Gen.1:1, The term for Heavens is plural while Earth is singular.

The bible teaches three Heavens.

- **First Heaven** is earth’s atmosphere (Gen.1:3-13) [Days 1, 2, 3]
 - (Gen.9:9-17) The rainbow
 - (Acts 1:9-11) Ascension
 - (1 Thess.4:13-18) Rapture
- **Second Heaven** is celestial and outer space (Gen.1:1-3, 6-8)
 - [Day 2] The expanse and water (Gen.1:14-19)
 - [Day 4] The expanse and light (Isa.13:9-11) and the Second Coming. (Joel 2:10; Matt.24:29).
- **Third Heaven** is throne room of God
 - Jesus (Eph.1:20-21; 1 Thess.1:10; Heb.9:24)
 - Paul (2 Cor.12:2)

The third Heaven predates the other two (Gen.1:1). “Do not be hasty in word or impulsive in thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore, let your words be few.” (Eccl.5:2; Job 38-41; 40:1-2)

2. The word of God teaches that the Plan of God predates the creation of the heavens and the Earth.

(Matt.5:18) “For truly I say to you, ‘until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.’”

(1 Pet.1:20) “For He (Christ) was foreknown before **the foundation** of the world but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you.”

(Eph.1:4) “Just as He (God) chose us in Him (Christ) before **the foundation** of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.”

(John 17:24) “For Thou didst love Me (Jesus) before **the foundation** of the world.”

3. This predating of the Plan of God is why we believe in an Eternal Life Conference in eternity past.

“The phrase, ‘before **the foundation** of the earth’, looks back to past eternity.” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, pg.254)

(Heb.11:3 “By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared **by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.**” [bara creation] (Gen.1:1; 2 Pet.3:5-7; Isa.55:9-11)

(Deut.29:29) “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of the Law.”

The Plan of God lays out the divine purpose of the Heavens (for the Lord God) and the Earth (for the sons of men)

(Ps.115:16) “He has established them forever and ever; He has made a decree which will not pass away.”
(Ps.148:6)

Moses called the heaven and the earth as a witness against the Reversionism of the Israelites (Deut.4:26; 31:27).

King David and the Prodigal son said similar things in Ps.51:4 and **Luke 15:18**.

(Luke 15:18)– “I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in Your sight.’”