

## THE CREATION

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*“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.  
And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was  
upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon  
the face of the waters.  
And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God  
saw the light that it was good: and God divided the light from  
the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness  
He called Night. And the evening and the morning were the  
first day.” (Genesis 1:1-5)*

*Lessons: Genesis 1*

These words are the very first part of the Word of the Lord, which is often called the Bible. They tell how the Lord began His creation. You know, it is very hard to think about a time before the creation, before the world was made, even before there was a sun, a moon or a sky; for then, only the Lord was, and there was nothing which we can usually see or feel or hear when we go out of doors.

It's hard to think of that time. We can only describe it by what was not then made. There was no sky then, and no sun, nor moon, nor stars. There was no water and no land. Of course, there could be no fishes or birds or animals. And no trees or grass, or any of the things that we see and feel and know about in this beautiful world.

So in the Word we read that the earth was without form. It was not yet made, and it was empty, and darkness was upon the face of the sea, and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the water. The Lord thought of the creation He would make, about how He would prepare a world and then put people upon it, so that by their light here in the world they might prepare for heaven; so that they could dwell with Him in happiness forever.

And the first thing that God did was to say, “Let there be light, and there was light. Then God saw that light, that it was good. And God called the light day, and the darkness He called night, and the evening and the morning were the first day.”

And then the Lord made the sky, and called together the waters under the sky; and from the waters He caused the dry land to appear, and on the land He made the grass to grow and the trees to take form and bear fruit.

After the world was formed and the trees and grass were growing, the Lord said, "Let the sun shine in the sky during the day, and let the moon shine at night." And He made the stars also. Then on the fifth day, He made fish to swim in the sea and birds to fly in the air. And on the sixth day He made animals to live on the land.

God saw that all His creation was good, and the world was ready, and people alone were to be created to finish His work of creation. So the Lord God made man and woman, and told them that all of the creation was made for them, that all things were to serve them, to bring them happiness and to teach them the ways of heaven.

And then God saw His creation, that it was very good, and He rested on the seventh day and hallowed it. And we, too, stop to rest on one day of the week - Sunday -and we think of the Lord our Creator who made all of the beautiful things of the world for the sake of men. And by thinking of Him and thinking of the things He has made for us we can worship Him and prepare for eternal happiness in heaven.

Now you may think that because these things happened long, long ago, they do not matter very much to us; but that is not right, for the Lord does the same things for every baby born into the world. He did the same things for you and for me. For when a baby is born in the world, he can't see, or hear, or taste or touch—he has to learn to do all of these things. And who do you think teaches a baby these things? The Lord teaches the baby. Of course, He does not make a separate world for each baby, but He does make it so that the baby discovers the world, and sees the light, and feels, and tastes and hears the things of this world.

So, for every baby the world is new, just as if it had been created for him alone, and the first thing that a baby can do is see the light. If we hold a little light before a baby's eyes when he is about a month old, the baby will look at the light; and if we move it just a little bit, then the baby's eyes will follow it, just as if the Lord had said, "Let there be light." And for the baby there is light. The baby can see light. Then, as he gets a little older, he can see the sky and the earth. He can see his mother and his father, and his sisters and brothers, and he can touch the things around him, and he can hear the songs of those near him, and the lullabies that his mother sings to him. And as he grows up, he learns to use and enjoy all the things that the Lord has made—all the many, many things the Lord has given to all men in this world.

We know that the Lord has made all of the food which we prepare and eat. And He has given all the things of nature for the use of people. We should think about these things and be thankful to the Lord who made them and gave them to us. Think about these things the next time you sit down to eat and prepare to say the blessing, so that you can really mean it when you say, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy is forever."

Note to Parents:

If you have a copy of First Songs For Little Children, you might enjoy teaching younger children the song "The Lord Made Them All" on page 25.