

Genesis 1:1-25

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SERMON NOTES

Genesis

In the beginning...

- Why is there something rather than nothing?
- Did the universe have a beginning?
- Does God exist?
- Does human life have any real meaning?
- What has gone wrong with the world?
- How can we know the difference between right and wrong?
- Is there any hope of redemption for humanity?

Genesis 1:1-25

Genesis means *beginning* and the book of Genesis begins with the Beginner.

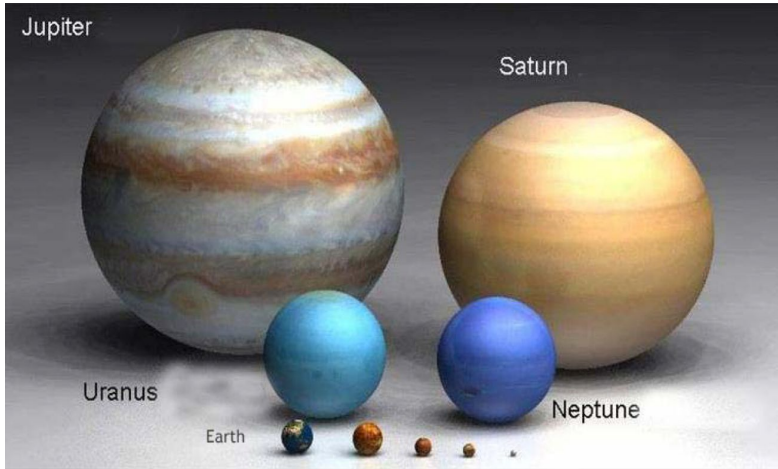
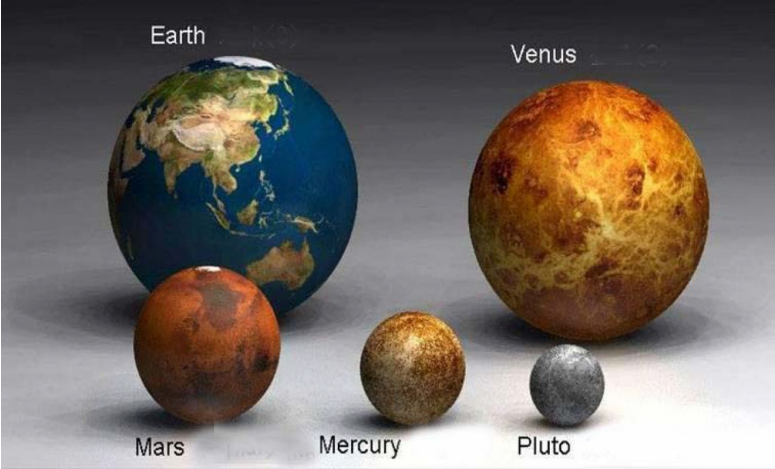
- What is the nature of the Creation account we find in Genesis?
- How does Genesis present itself?
- What can we deduce from what the book actually says?

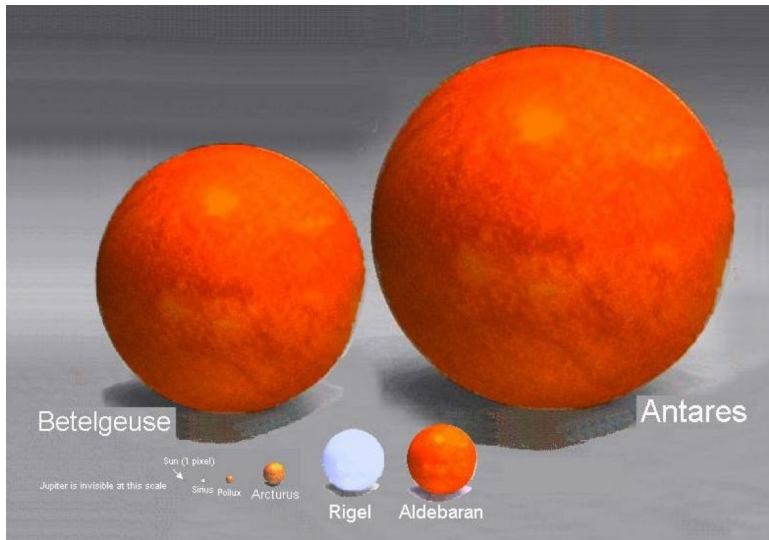
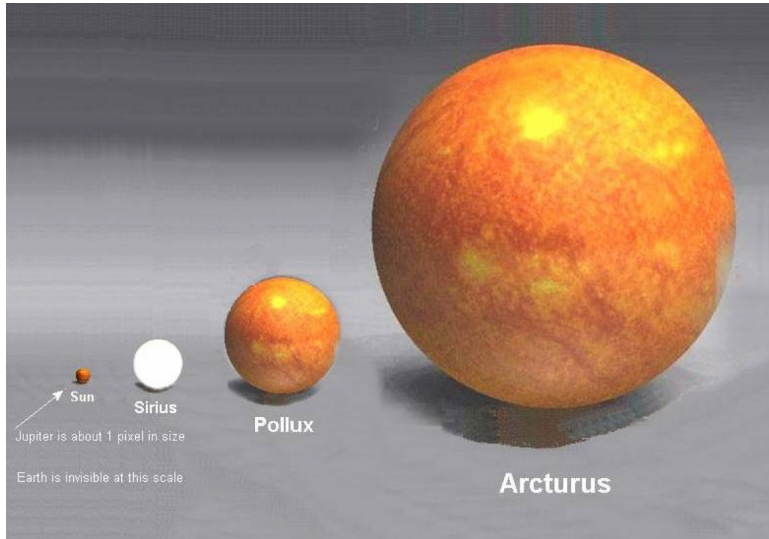
Genesis is not an *explanation* of *how* God created everything.

Genesis is a *declaration that* God created everything.

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. These majestic words introduce the most translated, most printed, and most read book in history... I heard them read to the watching world on live television by the crew of Apollo 8 as they orbited the moon. The context was a triumphant achievement of science and technology that caught the imagination of the millions of people who watched it. To celebrate that success the astronauts chose to read a text that needed no added explanation or qualification, even though it was written millennia ago.”

- John Lennox, *Seven Days that Divide the World*







*“The heavens declare the glory of God.”
- Psalm 19:1*

*“Today we know that if we were to count all the stars in the Milky Way at a rate of one every second, the process would take two thousand five hundred years!”
- Prof. David Block*

Genesis teaches us that:

1. God is distinct from His creation
2. God speaks
3. God creates
4. God regulates

“We would very soon become contemptuous of a god whom we could figure out like a puzzle or learn to use like a tool. No, if God is worth our attention at all, he must be a God we can look up to – a God we must look up to.”

- Eugene Peterson, A Long Obedience in the Same Direction

“The controlled universe reflected in the Bible, has God as both its creator and sustainer/ruler. He creates in an ordered way, and sustains and rules it in an ordered way, so that science is possible; but he is not bound by what he has created, so he is at perfect liberty to do things another way, with the result that miracles are possible.”

- D.A. Carson, The Gagging of God

“Every happening, great or small, is a parable whereby God speaks to us; the art of life is to get the message.”

- Malcolm Muggeridge