

# CREATION DAYS 3 AND 4

## DAY 3

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- The first foundational division occurred on day 1 (light from darkness) and the second occurred on day 2 (waters above from waters below)
- The third foundational division occurred on day 3 (land from sea)
- Although many deny that such significant changes could take place in such a short period of time on day 3 (large seas and entire continents formed, land dry enough to support plant life by evening), it is not hard to accept understanding the supernatural element of creation
- As day 3 begins, the earth's surface was still entirely covered with water and land masses were hidden under the surface of a global ocean



### Land and Seas

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**Genesis 1:9-10** ~ Then God said, “Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear”; and it was so. 10 God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good.

- God made the waters be “gathered into one place” – this word in the Septuagint is *sunagogen* where we get our word “synagogue” which refers to a gathering place
- The waters on the face of the earth were gathered together into one place, “coalescing the ‘seas’ into structured water resource systems”<sup>1</sup>
- Other passages in Scripture refer to the time when God gathered the water together and established dry land

**Proverbs 8:27-29** ~ When He established the heavens, I was there, When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep, 28 When He made firm the skies above, When the springs of the deep became fixed, 29 When He set for the sea its boundary So that the water would not transgress His command, When He marked out the foundations of the earth;

**Job 38:4-7** ~ Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding, 5 Who set its measurements? Since you know. Or who stretched the line on it? 6 On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 When the morning stars sang together And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

**Job 38:8-11** ~ Or who enclosed the sea with doors When, bursting forth, it went out from the womb; 9 When I made a cloud its garment And thick darkness its swaddling band, 10 And I placed boundaries on it And set a bolt and doors, 11 And I said, ‘Thus far you shall come, but no farther; And here shall your proud waves stop’?

**Psalms 104:5-9** ~ He established the earth upon its foundations, So that it will not totter forever and ever. 6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters were standing above the mountains. 7 At Your rebuke they fled, At the sound of Your thunder they hurried away. 8 The mountains rose; the valleys sank down To the place which You established for them. 9 You set a boundary that they may not pass over, So that they will not return to cover the earth.

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<sup>1</sup> Henry Morris, *The Book of Beginnings*, 74

- Clearly, the condition described in Genesis 1:9-10 reveals an existence that is quite from different from what we experience now... what it describes does not exist today
- A careful survey of various passages reveals a cosmology that is very different from today

**Genesis 2:10** ~ Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it divided and became four rivers.

**Genesis 7:11** ~ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened.

**Proverbs 8:28** ~ When He made firm the skies above, When the springs of the deep became fixed,

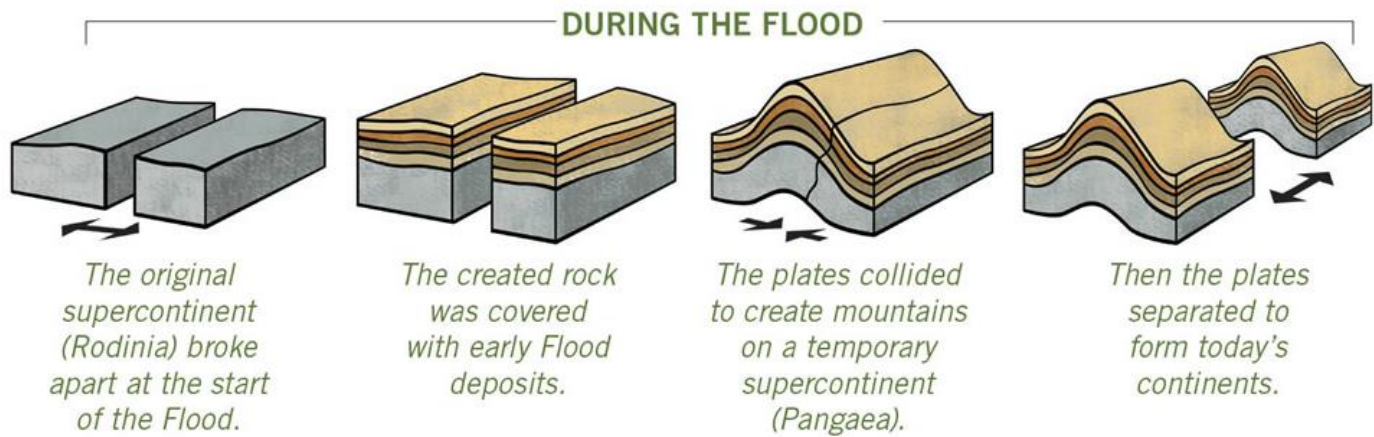
- Because this water went into "one place," it seems that God created one great big ocean
- At the same time, dry land (not mud or slime) began to appear, fully ready to sustain plant life
- "The cataclysm that brought this about at the command of God is almost inconceivable. All of a sudden rock and earth, still in its unformed condition and buried under the depths of a global sea, started to move to the surface of the water. As the land pushed up from the depths<sup>2</sup>, the water was displaced, gathering itself into one place – a massive ocean containing numerous 'seas' but now distinct from the landmass."
- There have been many attempts to explain what the world of Noah's day (prior to the flood) looked like
- One of the most common ideas early on was that the modern continents were probably at one time attached together forming a supercontinent known as Pangea
- In 1859, a creation geologist, Antonio Snider-Pellegrini, noticed the jigsaw puzzle fit of North and South America with Europe and Africa if the Atlantic Ocean were not there
- He believed that the supercontinent broke apart during the Flood and that "upwelling molten rock from the underlying mantle then helped to propel the continental fragments across the globe, opening up new ocean basins and colliding to produce today's mountains."<sup>3</sup>
- Thus, the belief was that Pangea was Noah's lost world
- However, in recent years, creation scientists believe that Pangea could not have been the pre-Flood supercontinent
- "When we remove the Atlantic Ocean and put the pieces back together again, we find a long mountain chain that ran from North America through Europe. The problem is that this chain, known as the Appalachian-Caledonian mountains, is made out of fossil-bearing sediments that were deposited earlier during the Flood. The only known way to form a mountain chain like this is for one continent to collide with another continent. This means that the Flood had to deposit fossil-bearing layers in North America and Europe before they crashed into each other to form Pangaea. Thus Pangaea cannot have been the pre-Flood supercontinent that Noah lived on. It could only have been a temporary merger of continental fragments during the Flood, lasting no more than a few weeks. Pangaea was a supercontinent during the Flood, but it was completely underwater."<sup>4</sup>
- "Today's continents were once joined together because some mountain chains, such as the Appalachians (US) and Caledonians (UK and Scandinavia), are now separated by thousands of miles. But these mountains were not on the original supercontinent because they are made out of Flood deposits. The only way such mountain chains could form is for the original supercontinent to break apart, the plates get covered by layers containing dead animals, and then crash together temporarily. As these plates moved again, they took with them pieces of the mountain chain formed by the collision, one piece in the US and one piece in the UK and Scandinavia."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>2</sup> John MacArthur, *The Battle for the Beginning*, 95.

<sup>3</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/geology/plate-tectonics/noahs-lost-world/>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.



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- Thus, the belief that Pangea could not have been the supercontinent that existed prior to the Flood stems from the fact that they are made out of Flood deposits
- Therefore, many creation geologists believe that another supercontinent existed prior to the Flood...the one described in Genesis 1:9-10
- This earlier supercontinent was likely Noah's lost world
- It has been named Rodinia (from the Russian word *rodina*, meaning "The Motherland")
- "What then did Rodinia look like? Geologists are fairly certain about the basic configuration of the core cratons, but they are still unsettled about many of the details. There are multiple ways to fit together the fragmentary continental pieces of the puzzle...But we do have a reasonable picture of what happened at the catastrophic initiation of the Flood. Huge plumes of molten rock blasted the underside of the earth's crust like massive blow-torches. Eventually the crust was ripped apart, and steam and molten rock burst forth. The supercontinent collapsed, with slivers of land sliding into the ocean at the margins. It must have been horrific."<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

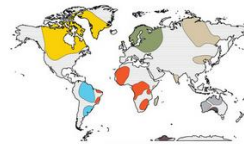
<sup>7</sup> Ibid

**Rodinia****Pangaea****Today**

**Original  
Supercontinent**  
(made of cratons)



**Temporary  
Supercontinent**  
(made of original  
cratons and Flood  
sediments)



**Modern Continent**  
(made of original  
cratons and sediments)

Our modern continents are made out of pieces from the original earth, which broke apart during the Flood. These core pieces are called cratons. Certain features within these pieces and on their edges can be lined up, helping us put them back together. We call this original continent Rodinia, but so much has been lost that many puzzles remain.

After the original continent broke apart during the Flood, the pieces crashed together temporarily, forming a supercontinent known as Pangaea. How do we know this? The pieces were already covered with fossil-containing sediment layers when they crashed together. In the impact zones, these layers were pushed into folded mountains that we still see today.

Today the earth consists of many separate continents, formed out of pieces from the first supercontinent. Only the cores survived. The rest of our modern continents were filled in by mud and sand that the Flood stripped from the earth's surface. Geologists are studying the original pieces to see how the edges originally aligned.

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- Regardless what the original land mass created on day 3 looked like, land emerged for the first time out of the water
- Everything that was now necessary for life was now present...but life itself had not yet been created

## Vegetation

**Genesis 1:11-13** ~ Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; and it was so. 12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. 13 There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

- Now that there was dry land, God commanded it to produce plants...as a result, fruit trees, green grass, colorful flowers, and many other kinds of plants filled the land
- Plants and vegetation represent the first evidences of life on the newly created earth
- Again, the presence of life argues for a Creator since life cannot generate from that which inanimate
- Evolution cannot account for inanimate matter giving rise to living organisms...it fails to explain how life came about
- At God's command, vegetation of every kind instantly appeared...fully mature vegetation with seed already in it, ready for reproduction
- He didn't just create seeds or immature plants...rather, He made them mature, fully developed and ready to immediately multiply
- 4 times the word "seed" occurs in vv. 11-12, describing one of the great wonders of creation
- "God designed an astonishing variety of ways for seeds to be carried from place to place. Some seeds are feathery and light or aerodynamically shaped and can be carried by wind. Others are carried by birds and animals – by adhering to animal fur or by being eaten and later deposited in the creature's droppings. There are hundreds of creative ways for seeds to be dispersed. This one aspect of creation alone reveals that a marvelous creative mind planned and shaped everything we see."<sup>9</sup>

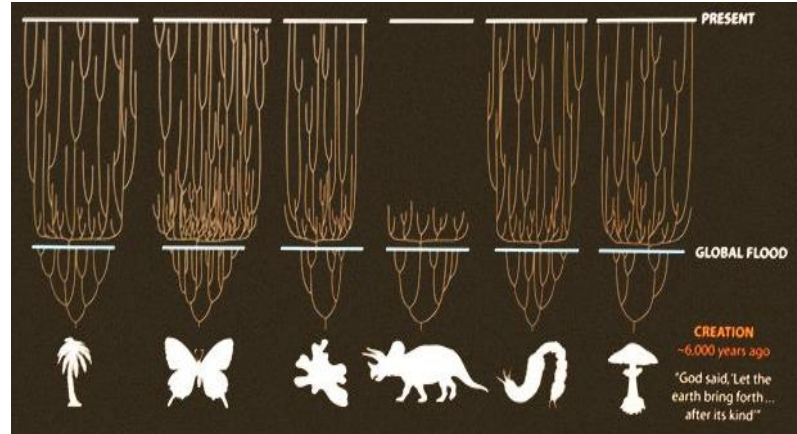


- Demonstrating God's supreme wisdom, He preprogrammed each plant variety with DNA and genetic information such that it reproduces "according to its kind"
- This phenomenal reality, which God built into every living organism, is referred to 10 times in Genesis 1 (vv. 10, 11, 21, 24, 25)...it also occurs 7 times later in Genesis (6:19, 20; 7:14; 8:19) and 13 times in Lev and Deut...evidently the concept is important
- A "kind" (Hebrew *min*) is a category of related organisms capable of breeding with one another
- A "kind" (*baramin*= "created kind") is roughly equivalent to the biological term "family" (Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species)
- It means that plants and animals were created to reproduce within the boundaries of their kind
- It means that one kind of plant/animal cannot turn into another kind of plant/animal because like begets like
- Each living organism has its own DNA and can only reproduce another of its same "kind"
- "The fact that creatures reproduce according to their own kind is a fundamental rule of genetics. Each organism has a unique DNA structure, with genes and chromosomes that determine all its characteristics. Careful breeding can emphasize or minimize certain characteristics within genotypes, but no amount of cross-pollination can cause a whole new life-form to arise from the species that exist. And boundaries are set on which species may be cross-pollinated. Attempting to crossbreed an oak tree with a fungus would not produce any offspring whatsoever, much less a whole new species."<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> MacArthur, *Battle for Beginning*, 98.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, 99.

- “Though we observe multiple species and varieties within kinds, we never observe one kind evolving into a different kind. Instead of an evolutionary tree of life, we observe a creation orchard of God’s created kinds with variation occurring only within those kinds.”<sup>11</sup>
- This speciation results from the **genetic potential** within each kind being displayed as animals/plants reproduce over time
- This unfolding of **genetic variability** in pre-existing genes shows stunning variation within a kind, but it is NOT the formation of new genetic information of the type required by evolution



A couple with **melanin** control genes **AaBb** (Adam and Eve?) would have “**medium**” skin tone, and each would make four kinds of reproductive cells, as shown along top and side of this “genetic square”:

		genes in mother's egg cells			
		AB	Ab	aB	ab
genes in father's sperm cells	AB	AA BB	AA Bb	Aa BB	Aa Bb
	Ab	AA Bb	AA bb	Aa Bb	Aa bb
	aB	Aa BB	Aa Bb	aa BB	aa Bb
	ab	Aa Bb	Aa bb	aa Bb	aa bb

Each box in the larger “Punnett square” shows the gene combination possible in a child.

As shown in the pictures below, children of “medium” parents could have **most to least melanin** and **color darkest to lightest** with 4, 3, 2, 1, 0 “capital letter” genes indicated with each picture.

- Thus, speciation is a direct result of the genes that define each kind AND different versions of these shared genes, called alleles, which result from mutations in pre-existing genes
- Alleles are not different genes, but variations in genes that already exist within that kind’s gene pool
- “All the genes in one generation available to be passed on to the next are called the gene pool. Members of the same kind may also be defined as organisms that share the same gene pool. The number of genes for different kinds of traits, the number in a complete genome, can be called the depth of the gene pool...A kind is defined in terms of depth of the gene pool, which is the total number of different genes in a genome and a list of traits they encode for. Variation within a kind is defined in terms of the width of the gene pool, the number of possible alleles at each gene site (locus)...Geneticists call the shuffling of *pre-existing* genes recombination.”<sup>12</sup>
- “Although the comparison is not perfect, a deck of cards illustrates the concept of variation within a created kind. The bridge hands dealt are unique, different, and constantly changing, like the individual members of a population. But the deck of 52 cards remains constant, never changing, always the same, like the kind. Individual variation plus group constancy equals variation within a created kind.”<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/creation-science/baraminology/one-kind/>

<sup>12</sup> [https://answersingenesis.org/natural-selection/speciation/is-speciation-evidence-for-creation-or-evolution/?utm\\_source=articlesmedia&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=20201003&utm\\_content=6-list-title&mc\\_cid=7d49938d43&mc\\_eid=d44976c98d](https://answersingenesis.org/natural-selection/speciation/is-speciation-evidence-for-creation-or-evolution/?utm_source=articlesmedia&utm_medium=email&utm_term=20201003&utm_content=6-list-title&mc_cid=7d49938d43&mc_eid=d44976c98d)

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

- This is a biblical “adaptation” → “Animals do ‘adapt,’ but that adaptation ability is ‘within’ the reproductive ‘seed’ of that which exists. The ‘kind’ surely does have the information necessary within the gene pool to adapt to environmental conditions. Plant and animal breeds take advantage of this phenomenon all the time – but they use the information already available in the plant or animal (the DNA), and then the breeder – an intelligent human – ‘selects’ the characteristics that he desires.”<sup>14</sup>
- Thus, speciation, in which two or more specialized species descended from one generalized ancestral kind, provides evidence for biblical creation rather than evolution which argues for a common ancestor
- This reality points to the obvious conclusion that evolution, which supposes that living organisms can come into existence and develop across species lines, is impossible
- Time is irrelevant...because no amount of time can cause enough “random mutations” to cause changes at the cellular level
- All of this magnificent variability and potential for variation programmed into the members of each of the original created kinds demonstrates the wisdom and glory of God!
- Why did God create plants before the sun?
  1. Perhaps to underscore that life did not come from the sun but from Him
  2. Perhaps to undermine the inclination of the human heart to worship the sun as the source of life (Rom 1:25)
- The fact that plants were created before the sun argues against the idea of the “days” in Genesis 1 being long periods...for how could plants survive for thousands of years without the sun?
- All that was necessary for plants to survive was created within the creation week: light (day 1 and 4) ...moderate temperature (day 1 and 2)...atmosphere (day 2)...water (day 1 and 2)...land (day 3)...pollinators (day 5)<sup>15</sup>

## DAY 4

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- On day 2, God created outer space and on day 4 He filled that space with “lights,” including the sun, moon, and stars
- Also included on this day was the creation of many other things not named in Genesis, including other planets in our solar system, asteroids, comets, etc.



**Genesis 1:14-19** ~ Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; 15 and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. 16 God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. 17 God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. 19 There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

<sup>14</sup> Morris, *Book of Beginnings*, 80.

<sup>15</sup> <https://answersingenesis.org/days-of-creation/did-god-really-create-plants-before-sun/>

Days of Forming	Days of Filling
1. Light and Dark	4. Sun, Moon, Stars
2. Sea and Sky	5. Fish and Birds
3. Land and Plants	6. Land animals and Humans

- On days 1-3, God gave form to the sky, sea, and land
- Then, on days 4-6, God filled these voids with abundant reminders of His glory
- Thus, day 4 began the second phase of God’s creative work, the process of “filling” the universe
- Days 4-6 constitute finishing work as God fills that which was once formless and void

- Why did God create the sun, moon, and stars?

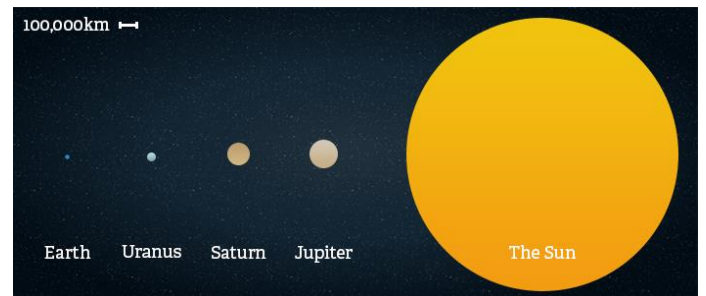
## To Separate Day From Night

**Genesis 1:14** ~ Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night...

**Genesis 1:16** ~ God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night...

**Genesis 1:18** ~ and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

- Although God had already separated light from dark and day from night on day 1 (Gen 1:4-5), the creation of the heavenly bodies on day 4 serves as a permanent marker of that separation
- “What had been a disembodied blanket of diffused supernatural light was superseded by a universe full of light-bearing bodies. The alternation between day and night continued, but now heavenly bodies provided the varying degrees of light.”<sup>16</sup>
- The sun, created to “rule the day,” is a fascinating heavenly body:
  - It is located 93 million miles from earth, providing the perfect temperature for life on earth
  - It accounts for 99.86% of the mass in the solar system
  - Over one million earths could fit inside the sun
  - Its diameter is 865,000 miles making it 109 times wider than the earth
  - It would take the sun approximately 225-250 million years to complete one orbit of the center of the Milky Way
  - It takes eight minutes for light reach earth from the sun
  - The sun is classified as a yellow dwarf star (a small to medium star)
  - Temperatures inside the sun can reach 15 million degrees Celsius
  - The sun is composed of hydrogen (70%) and Helium (28%)
- The moon, created to “rule the night,” is also a fascinating heavenly body:
  - The same side of the moon always faces earth because it is in a synchronous rotation with earth
  - It is 400 times smaller than the sun but 400 times closer to the earth
  - The rise and fall of the tides on earth is caused by the moon
  - Its gravity is about 1/6 of that of earth’s



<sup>16</sup> MacArthur, *Battle for the Beginning*, 108-109.





- It has no atmosphere
- Its surface can be 215 degrees Fahrenheit when facing the sun or -243 degree when in darkness
- It travels in an orbit around the earth that varies between 221,000 miles (perigee) to 252,000 miles (apogee)
- It completes an orbit around the earth every 27.3 days
- The lunar phases seen from earth are caused by the position of the sun relative to the moon

- Incredibly, God merely spoke these heavenly bodies into existence with a word!

## To Govern the Seasons

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**Genesis 1:14** ~ Then God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years

- The heavenly bodies indicate time such that they set our calendars by determining the length of a year and dividing that year into seasons
- They mark the passage of time: the sun determines our days...the moon determines our nights... the sun, moon, and stars determine our seasons and years
- Because the earth is tilted on its axis, the sun’s rays strike the earth at different angles throughout the year ...this produces seasons that are critical for the growing of crops and resting of the ground
- It also results in seasonal weather patterns
- All of life is suited to a 24-hour day...a time frame set the rotation of the earth
- Thus, the stellar bodies determine every facet of our clocks and calendars and everything about our lives: when we eat, work and sleep
- Incidentally, a week is not established by the movement of the heavenly bodies
- The period of time known as a week came from the creation week

**Exodus 20:11** ~ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

**Exodus 31:17** ~ It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased from labor, and was refreshed.”

## To Provide Light

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**Genesis 1:15** ~ and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so.

**Genesis 1:17** ~ God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,

- “By whatever means God had previously illuminated the earth – whether it was a supernatural light source, a disembodied and diffused light, or latent energy from the initial creation – it was no longer necessary. The sun henceforth would permanently give light to the earth by day, and the moon and stars would illuminate the night.”<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

- The sun radiates light during the day while the moon reflects light at night
- Incredibly, the sun continues to generate its light without burning out
- Perhaps the greatest understatement of this passage is found in v. 16 ~ the stars also
- There are countless stars in the universe and each one is uniquely designed by God
- In fact, he has named and numbered each one of them

**Isaiah 40:26** ~ Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, Not one of them is missing.

**Psalms 147:4** ~ He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

- There are some incredible facts about the stars in the universe:
  - Our solar system lies in the Milky Way galaxy which contains over 100 billion stars
  - There are hundreds of billions of galaxies in the universe
  - Assuming an average of 100 billion stars per galaxy means that there are 1 billion trillion stars in the observable universe
  - The closest star to our solar system (Alpha Centauri) is 26 million miles away and it would take over 4 light years to get there



- A question often arises when considering the stars: How can we see light that theoretically should have taken millions of years to reach us? → “It seems clear that when God created the stars, because He created them to illuminate the earth and be signs of our seasons, He also supernaturally enabled the light to traverse those vast expanses of space immediately. If He is capable of designing such an immense and intricate universe in the first place, He is certainly capable of getting the light across the vast reaches of space in accordance with His purpose.”<sup>18</sup>

## CONCLUSION

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- The vastness of the unfathomably large universe points to an infinitely greater God

**Psalms 19:1** ~ The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

**Romans 1:20** ~ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

**Psalms 8:1** ~ O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!

- It also points to the insignificance of man

**Psalms 8:3-4** ~ When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; 4 What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him?

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid.