



Today we revisit Genesis 1:2. We will do so carefully because this verse has been a source of controversy for many, many years. Bible scholars and creation scientists have debated the issues surrounding this text to _____ avail. It is important, in our exposition of Genesis, to confront these matters lest the devil gain an advantage on us in the form of future division and overall divisiveness. Regardless of what position one takes concerning this passage, a study of the _____ is always beneficial (*2 Ti. 3:16-17*). What one chooses to believe about the issue does _____ ultimately affect the bedrock doctrines of scripture. Therefore, rather than skip over the controversy, we will address it head on as we study a subject referred to as the “_____”.

WHAT IS THE GAP THEORY?

1. The gap theory defined

- The gap theory also referred to as *re-creationism* or the *ruin-and-reconstruction theory* contends that Genesis 1:1 records the original creation of the earth and that Genesis 1:2 describes the results of the destruction of that earth. From this perspective the six-day creation of Genesis 1:3-31 is actually a _____ creation or recreation of the earth—although it is certainly the beginning of the universe as we know it. Therefore, the theory claims a *gap* exists between verse 1 and verse 2. Thus the term “_____”.

2. The gap theory objected

- The gap allows for atheistic geology and science
- The Bible restricts creation to _____ days
 - “For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” – Exodus 20:11
 - “It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.” – Exodus 31:17
- No direct biblical verse or passage teaches the gap
 - Numbers 35:30; Deut. 19:15; Isaiah 28:10; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Corinthians 13:1

- The sentence structure of Genesis 1:2 _____ the gap
- The Bible says that Adam is the _____ man
 - *“And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.” 1 Corinthians 15:45*
 - *“The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven.” 1 Corinthians 15:47*
- _____ originated in the world as a result of Adam’s sin
 - *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” Romans 5:12*
 - Clearly, Adam’s fall brought sin and death into this present evil world (*Galatians 1:4*). However, Christ is declared to be the maker of the “worlds” (*Hebrews 1:2*). Therefore, there must be more than one world and the scripture bears this out. The following worlds are found in scripture:
 - The *“world that then was”* in 2 Peter 3:6 – *“Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished.”*
 - The *“old world”* in 2 Peter 2:5 – *“And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;”*
 - This *“present evil world”* in Galatians 1:4 – *“Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:”*
 - The *“world to come”* in Hebrews 2:5 – *“For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.” (also see Hebrews 6:5)*

3. The gap theory approved

- The creation day pattern
 - Each day of creation begins with, *“And God said,”* and ends with, *“the evening and the morning were the [number] day”*
- God’s command to _____ the earth
 - Genesis 1:28 compared to Genesis 9:1
- A unique scriptural description of _____
 - Genesis 1:2 – without form... void... darkness...
 - Jeremiah 4:23 - without form... void... no light...
- Identifying the _____
 - *Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens. Psalm 148:4*
 - *And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: Rev. 4:6a*
 - *In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea. Isaiah 27:1*

- **The compacting of events into the first day**

- The creation of God's heaven
- The creation of the heavenly beings: angels, cherubim (Lucifer being one of them), seraphim
- The creation of the earth
- The song of the angels who sang at the creation of the earth – Job 38:4-7
- The creations of the waters that are upon the earth – Genesis 1:2
- The moving of the Spirit on the waters
- The creation of light
- The division of light from darkness

- **The origin and ministry of the devil**

- If there was no original creation and destruction, then the devil could predate man by no more than five days. This means that the following events must have occurred between the first day of the six-day creation and the fall of Adam and Eve:

Lucifer was created – Ezekiel 28:15

Lucifer served God as “the anointed cherub that covereth” in Eden, the garden of God – Ezekiel 28:11-15

The fall of Lucifer because of his pride – Isaiah 14:12-15

The fall of the angels who followed Satan - Matthew 25:41

The origin of devils

The preparation of everlasting fire for the devil and his angels – Matthew 25:41

Lucifer is called that “old serpent” – Revelation 12:9; 20:2

4. The gap theory _____

- **Creation**

- Man was made perfect and in a perfect environment - Genesis 2:7, 15, 18; 3:8

- **Sin and destruction enter the world**

- Man's life is now without _____. He has no true purpose or direction. He wanders about aimlessly trying to find a purpose that is not there...
- His life is _____. It is empty and vain. It lacks the only thing that can give true life and that is the life of the Spirit of God...
- His life is without _____. Man without God lives in darkness. His mind is blinded by the god of this world...
- His life is without foundation. Instead of standing solidly on the foundation of God's truth, he drowns under the flood of waters above him. He cannot ascend above the deep...

- **Re-creation**

- At salvation, man becomes a new creation - Ephesians 2:10; 4:23; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Titus 3:5;