

Evangelical Views of the Creation Account in Gen 1–2

Designed by
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← More Literal					Less Literal →				
Literal Six-Day View	Gap Theory View	Pre-Creation Chaos View	Promised Land View	Old Earth Views	Framework View	Figurative Days Views	Mytho-Historical View	Theistic Evolution View	Cosmic Temple View
Traditional View. God created everything in six consecutive, 24-hour days, starting at Gen 1:1. Vs 2 depicts the earth in its initial incomplete stage, before God formed and filled heaven and earth (vv 3ff).	There is a long gap of time (perhaps billions of years) between an original creation in Gen 1:1 and a judged earth depicted in vs 2. This is followed by a new re-creation in six literal days starting at vs 3.	Gen 1:1 is a summary statement for the whole chapter (comp. 2:4). Vs 2 depicts the earth negatively (not by God—something wrong has happened). New creation starts in vs 3 (implies a previous creation).	Gen 1:1 is the creation of the entire universe over millions (perhaps billions) of years. Vs 3ff describes God's work to prepare the Promised Land (= Garden of Eden), for Israel. [Heb word 'erets can mean earth or land].	Millions of years were involved in the creation week. Day-Age View Each Day = millions of years (not 24 hr days). Intermittent-Day Age View A day = 24 hrs, but millions of years between each day. R. C. Newman John C. Lennox	Relies on literary analysis to take the days or the week figuratively. Based on an assumption of the paralleling of days 1-3 with days 4-6. Hence, days are not 24 hr days or sequential but used to convey theology.	Accepts the Framework Structure. Literary Days View The days are not 24 hr days, but only used as a literary device to convey the sequence God went through. Analogical Days View These are God's workdays; only an analogy to man's.	Gen 1–11 is cast in figurative language, conveying certain historical details (e.g., real people) through use of an ANE myth genre (unhistoric elements) to communicate theological truths and etiologies. Gen 1-2 need not be read literally.	God used natural processes, namely evolution, to create everything (e.g., stars, earth, plants, animals and man) over billions of years. Many (not all) see Genesis as allegorical and deny a historical Adam & Eve.	Gen 1–2 is not about material creation, but God giving function to pre-existing things. Cosmic space is prepared as His temple within which He will rule. The view relies heavily on comparison to ANE Lit.
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