

The Literary Structure of Genesis 1:

God Forming and Filling

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[The initial stage of Day One Creation]

Vs 1 - “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”

[A parenthetical comment about the earth’s initial unfinished condition]

Vs 2 - “Now the earth was formless (*tōhu* = unformed) and empty (*bohu* = unfilled)”

Sphere	Focus on Giving Form by Three Primary Separations	Focus on Filling of the Sphere with Appropriate Creations
The Sphere of the Heavens	Day 1 Light Separating the Darkness in the Heavens	Day 4 Numerous Light Objects Created to Fill the Heavens
The Sphere of the Skies and Sea (non-land)	Day 2 An Expanse Separating the Waters Above from the Waters Below	Day 5 Sea Creatures to Fill the Waters Below and Birds to Fill the Expanse Above
The Sphere of Dry Land	Day 3 Separating the Dry Land on Which Edible Foods Will Grow	Day 6 Animals and Man Created to Fill the Dry Land, Sustained by Edible Foods

The Literary Structure Does Not Negate the Fact that the Days are Literal 24-Hour Days and are Sequential.

Climax of God’s Creation
Man, in the image of God, to rule over God’s creation