

BIBLICAL VIEW OF CREATION

GENESIS 2:4-7

Key Questions:

Since v.4-6 describe the beginning of the earth's history before man's creation, then...

1. What beginning point is being described in these verses?
2. How can these verses be reconciled with Genesis chapter one?

STRUCTURE OF GENESIS 2:4-7

I. Introductory Summary Statement (2:4)

“These are the stories of the heavens and...”

II. Circumstantial clause (2:5-6)

Pattern: *waw* disjunctive + noun + verb (*hyh*)

“Now no shrub of the field was yet in the...”

III. Main clause (2:7)

Pattern: *waw* consecutive + prefixed conjunction

“And the LORD God formed man...”

Circumstantial Clause

- A clause subordinate to the main verb
- Gives the circumstances that attend the action of the main verb
- In Hebrew, introduced by a *waw* disjunctive

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Interpretations

1. Parallel (second) Account

- Parallels Gen. 1:2; describing the earth as uninhabitable and a watery chaos.
- Second creation account with man as the focus

2. Positive State

- These are positive descriptions of the earth before man's creation and FALL
- Anticipating the Fall and Curse of man
 - The *siah* of the field = thorns and thistles of the curse
 - The *'esebh* of the field = the cultivated grain fields required after the Fall
 - "No rain" anticipates the flood
 - "work of the ground" = the toil and tilling required as part of the curse
- Harmonizes the order of chapter one with chapter two