BIBLICAL VIEW OF CREATION

Three "A's" of Introduction

- 1. Assumption: Bible is God's Word
 - Verbal inspiration
 - Inerrant—wholly true
- 2. Approach: Exegetical/theological
 - Start with the text of Scripture and employ the principles of interpretation
 - Do <u>not</u> start with scientific evidence and adapt the interpretation of Scripture
 - Allow other evidence (i.e. science, history) to examine our interpretive conclusions
- 3. Attitude: Humility
 - Ultimate goal—an awe and worship of the God who is the Creator
 - Charity towards those who differ on the question of "how" God created

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"Proper Perspectives"

Main Issue: The one true God (as revealed in the Bible) is the Creator of all things

Scriptural Emphasis: Genesis 1:1

- Historical: Ex. 20:11 (31:17); Neh. 9:6
- Writings: Job 38:4ff; Psalm 33:6-9; 90:2; 102:25ff; 104:1ff; 148:1-6
- Prophets: Isaiah 40:25-26; 42:5; 45:18
- New Testament: John 1:3; Acts 4:24; 14:14; 17:24-28; Rev. 14:6-7

2. Issue of "ex nihilo"

- Ultimately, God created "out of nothing"; every thing had a beginning
- Textual basis: emphasis on "all"; uniqueness of God; Col. 1:16

3. Spiritual Issue

- Hebrews 11:3—faith in special revelation
- Romans 1:18-25—sin of idolatry

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(Continued)

4. Goal of Studying this Subject

- The worship and adoration of God as Creator
- · Reveals His infinite power, wisdom, beauty
- Revelation 4:11

Lesser Issue: "How" God created all things

- Interpretive Issues: theistic evolution, progressive creation, day-age theory, gap theory, literal-day creation; etc.
- These are issues of biblical consistency and proper interpretation (not heresy)