



BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **10th Grade | Unit 1**

BIBLE 1001

CREATION TO ABRAHAM

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Authors:

Charles L. McKay, Th.D.
Rudolph Moore, Ph.D.

Editor:

Richard W. Wheeler, M.A.Ed.

Consulting Editor:

John L. Booth, Th.D.

Revision Editor:

Alan Christopherson, M.S.

MEDIA CREDITS:

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BIBLE 1001-1010: AN OVERVIEW

Wise is the student of the Bible who approaches its study with the words of Samuel in 1 Samuel 3:9: "Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth." Only in this attitude, can we discover many of the secrets of this great Book.

THE BIBLE

The Bible, composed of sixty-six smaller books, cannot be read in a day; nor can it be fully known in a lifetime. Although sixty-six books, the Bible is one Book. Jerome, in the fourth century, called the Bible "the Divine Library."

Content. The Bible consists of two main divisions—the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament includes thirty-nine books; the New Testament, twenty-seven books.

The author of Hebrews wrote (Hebrews 1:1), "God...spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets."

The Bible contains the history of redemption. This redemption was achieved in and through Jesus Christ. He is the central figure (character) in the Bible. Jesus Christ is the Hero of the drama.

The germs of all the great doctrines of the Christian faith are found in Hebrew Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The first verse in the Bible, "In the beginning God..." lies at the foundation of all the theology of the Bible. The Bible is the record of the covenant relationship of God with His people.

Although approximately forty men over a period of approximately fourteen hundred years were used of God to record this revelation of Himself to men, one thread of thought runs throughout the entire Book. One must conclude, therefore, that God is its author.

No other book has been so preserved as the Bible. Men have attempted to destroy it. Yet, it has been printed in more dialects and languages than any other book ever written. Copies by the thousands have been burned at the hand of the enemy, but God's Word abides forever. Reportedly, printing presses are at work daily printing copies of the Bible on the very street corners where men have stood to denounce and try to destroy God's Word. This outcome can be expected, for God Himself said (Isaiah 40:8), "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." Jesus said (Matthew 5:18), "...Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." Luke recorded these words of Jesus (Luke 21:33): "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my word shall not pass away."

Jesus said of the Scriptures, "These are they that testify of me." The Bible is God's redemptive revelation of Himself to man for his salvation.

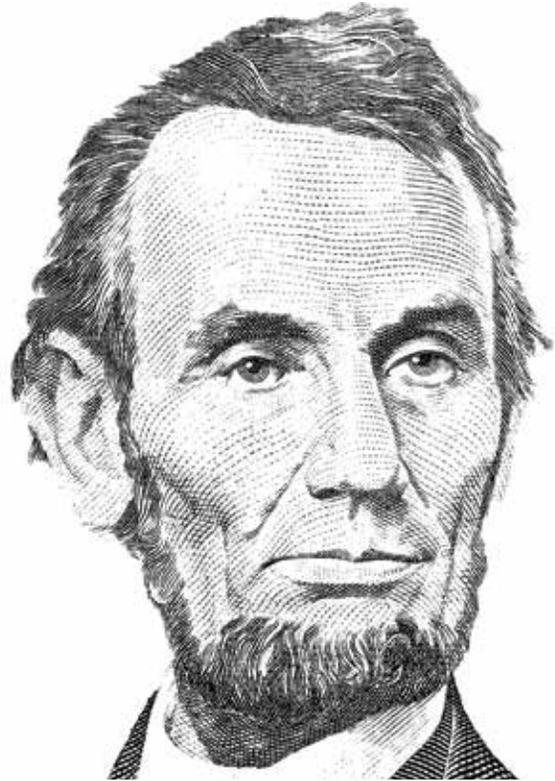
Queen Victoria declared the Bible to be the secret of England's success. William E. Gladstone, the former British Prime Minister said, "My daily adviser and comfort is the impregnable rock of the Holy Scriptures." Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers of our nation, said, "I have said and always will say that the studious perusal of the Bible will make better citizens, better husbands, and better fathers." President Andrew Jackson of the United States said, "The Bible is the Rock on which our Republic rests." Abraham Lincoln confessed, "I am profitably engaged in reading the Bible. Take all of this upon reason that you can, and the balance on faith, and you will live and die a better man." Theodore Roosevelt said, "Almost every man, who by his life's work added to the

sum of human achievements of which the race is proud, has based his life's work largely upon the teachings of the Bible." William Jennings Bryan said of the Bible: "There is not a community which cannot be purified, redeemed, and improved by a better knowledge and a larger application of the Bible to daily life." President Woodrow Wilson, son of a minister, said, "I am sorry for the men who do not read the Bible daily. I wonder why they deprive themselves of the strength and the pleasure. I should be afraid to go forward if I did not believe that there lay at the foundation of all our schooling and all of our thought this incomparable and unimpeachable Word of God." John Adams called the Bible "the best Book in the world"; and George Washington was right when he declared, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

The Bible, then, is the one and only true chart and compass for all men everywhere. It is the road map for those who desire to make it to the haven in safety. Truly, it is a lamp for the feet of those who would walk in the light. The Bible provides guideposts for those who would advance in the direction of God's standard of righteousness. It has the salvation of man as its end. The Bible contains a curse pronounced upon those who would alter its content (Revelation 22:19).

The earliest writing of any part of the Bible was about 1300 B.C.; the latest was around 100 A.D. Therefore, we can see that approximately fourteen centuries were involved in God's revelation processes of Himself to man as it is recorded in the Bible. For approximately forty human authors from different sections of the world (many of whom never saw the others) living through a period of fourteen hundred years to write what is now our Bible, the Bible has to be the Word of God—God is the author.

Years Dr. George W. Truett, pastor of a church in Dallas, Texas, said, "Man could not if he would and man would not if he could, write the Bible."



| Abraham Lincoln

The Bible is the inspired—"God breathed"—Word of God. Revelation is the what; inspiration is the how. Inspiration is the faithful writing under divine guidance of the truth received in revelation.

The Bible is the written record of selected events in which God has acted on behalf of men. This holy Book is deeply set in human history.

The Bible is the record of God's selective plan of His work of redemption. It is not an attempt to prove the existence of God; it starts with this assumption. It does not detail God's method of Creation; it emphatically declares the source of Creation. It leaves no doubt about man's origin, God's purpose for him, his destiny, and his means of arriving at that destiny.

Canon. The word canon is applied to those thirty-nine books in the Old Testament and twenty-seven books of the New Testament that have been received by the church as divinely

THE PENTATEUCH

What the foundation is to the building, the Pentateuch is to the Bible. The Pentateuch consists of the first five books of the Bible. To make a thorough and adequate study of the Bible, the place to begin is at the beginning—Genesis. This book is where the written revelation of God to man begins; therefore, we shall begin at the beginning and study the Bible in this order, asking the Holy Spirit, its Author, to reveal to us the truth contained in it.

The word **Pentateuch** comes from two Greek words: **pente** (five) and **teuche** (scroll or books). The Pentateuch consists of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. These books were written by Moses and contain the commandments and ordinances laid down by Jehovah Himself as the basis of Hebrew life and government. These books were called by the Hebrews the Torah or the Law. A good theme for the Pentateuch is “God’s faithfulness to His promise.” The basic principle of the Pentateuch is God’s promise to Abraham, renewed to Isaac, then to Jacob, and then to Israel. That promise concerned the building of a holy nation and the coming, through that nation, of a Redeemer.

GENESIS

The rabbis called the first book in the Bible **Bereshith**, which to us means “in beginning.” The Jews used the first word in the book to give it a name. Genesis is the English word for the first Hebrew word in the Bible. It carries the idea of “origin,” which to us means beginning. Therefore, Genesis is a book of origins or beginnings. This designation has been commonly accepted by translators of the Bible since the time of the Septuagint. The first eleven chapters set the stage for the entire book. Contrary to what some scholars think, “In the beginning” is not the theme of the book nor was it intended to be.

We should keep in mind that most of the great doctrines of the Bible are brought into focus in

this book of origins—Genesis. This book also covers more time and history than the rest of the Bible.

The key word in the book of Genesis is *generations*. The Hebrew word for generations is **toledhoth**. Ten generations are introduced in the book of Genesis, and each is introduced with this word. The English meaning for generations is *things brought forth*; the word *productions* may help us to understand it better.

Since Genesis means origin, beginning, or source, this meaning applies only to that portion of the book that deals with the story of beginnings. This story is recorded only in the first chapter and a verse or two in the second. The remainder of Genesis deals with the study of the early generations (*toledhoth*). Therefore, the theme of the first book of the Pentateuch is *generations*.

THE GENERATIONS OF GENESIS

- (1:1-2:3) The Introduction
- (2:4-4:26) The Generations of Heaven and the Earth
- (5:1-6:8) The Generations of Adam
- (6:9-9:29) The Generations of Noah
- (10:1-11:9) The Generations of the Sons of Noah
- (11:10-11:26) The Generations of Shem
- (11:27-25:11) The Generations of Terah
- (25:12-25:18) The Generations of Ishmael
- (25:19-35:29) The Generations of Isaac
- (36:1-36:43) The Generations of Esau
- (37:2-50:2) The Generations of Jacob

In the story of the early generations, Jehovah proceeds to picture the ways by which He assures fulfillment of His purpose for and with men. Beginning with the human race, this story of God’s plan of redemption in Genesis narrows from a survey of the race in the beginning to one Hebrew family in the closing chapter of Genesis.



Answer true or false.

- I-1 _____ God is the Author of the Bible.
- I-2 _____ The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to man.
- I-3 _____ The Bible contains God's plan for man's redemption.
- I-4 _____ Inspiration is the method God used to give to the human writers his revelation of Himself.
- I-5 _____ Revelation, then, is the *what* and inspiration the *how*.
- I-6 _____ About forty different men wrote portions of the Bible.
- I-7 _____ Approximately fourteen centuries were involved in the process of writing the Bible.
- I-8 _____ The Bible contains the record of the covenant relationship of God with His people.
- I-9 _____ The Bible records a curse upon anyone who would attempt to take from or add to the Book.
- I-10 _____ The Bible has the salvation of man as its end.
- I-11 _____ The earliest writing of any part of the Bible was about 1400-1500 B.C.
- I-12 _____ The latest writing added to the Canon was approximately 100 A.D.

Complete the following statements.

- I-13 The Bible is the inspired, " _____ " Word of God.
- I-14 The two main divisions of the Bible are a. _____ and
b. _____.
- I-15 The Bible contains _____ books.
- I-16 The Old Testament contains _____ books.
- I-17 The New Testament contains _____ books.
- I-18 Another name for the first five books of the Bible is the _____.
- I-19 The first five books of the Bible (in order) are
a. _____, b. _____,
c. _____, d. _____,
and e _____.

The survey study of the Old Testament will follow this outline:

LIFEPAC® BOOK	OLD TESTAMENT BOOK	HEBREW MINOR PROPHETS	TIMELINE
I. CREATION TO ABRAHAM	Genesis 1-11		Creation-2000 B.C.
II. ABRAHAM TO MOSES	Genesis 12-50		2000-1526 B.C.
II. THE EXODUS AND WANDERINGS	Exodus, Leviticus Numbers, Deuteronomy		1526-1406 B.C.
IV. THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN	Joshua		1406-1380 B.C.
V. THE JUDGES AND SPIRITUAL DECLINE	Judges, Ruth		1380-1043 B.C.
VI. THE KINGDOM	1 and 2 Samuel, 1 Kings 1-11, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles 1-9, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon		1043-931 B.C.
VII. THE DIVIDED KINGDOM	1 Kings 12-22, 2 Kings 1-17, 2 Chronicles 10-28	Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Amos, Hosea	931-722 B.C.
VIII. JUDAH	2 Kings 18-25, 2 Chronicles 29-36	Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk	722-586 B.C.
IX. CAPTIVITY		Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel	586-536 B.C.
X. RESTORATION	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther	Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi	536-445 B.C.

Note: These dates are only approximate but should indicate some historical sequence of events and people.

CREATION TO ABRAHAM

Introduction

The Bible, like all books, has an introduction. The book of Genesis is the introduction to the Bible. Therefore, we begin our study with the introduction — Genesis. Genesis has its own introduction, which we find recorded in its first eleven chapters. God set the stage in these eleven chapters for all that follows throughout the entire written revelation of Himself.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK. When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. Outline the history of man from his creation to the time of Abraham.
2. Identify and discuss the great facts related in Genesis chapters 1-11: the Creation, Fall, Flood, and Nations.
3. Trace the revelation of God's redemptive plan.

1. CREATION

Read Genesis 1 and 2



Other than in the second chapter where Moses gives a supplemental narrative of the **Creation** of man and woman, he tells the Creation story in just one brief chapter of thirty-one verses (Genesis chapter 1). In Genesis 1:1, the Bible teaches that God created all things out of nothing, or by His **fiat**. The Hebrew word **bara**, used in this verse, usually means to create, *to bring into existence from nothing or to make from nothing*.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Outline God's Creation as written in Genesis 1-2.
2. Describe man's relation to God.
3. Trace man's experience in the Garden of Eden.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

bara

brooding

Creation

Elohim

fiat

helpmeet

image and likeness of God

Let us make

made

man and ground

replenish

YHWH

SIX DAYS OF CREATION

The story of the beginnings describes each Creation as an act of Jehovah God, and Him alone. Created is a word that is used only for the activity of God; it is never used for the activity of man. God creates; man takes God's Creation and out of it makes things. Man has never been able to make without the use of pre-existing material.

In the beginning has no article in the Hebrew. **Elohim**, Hebrew for God, is plural but is used with a singular verb. This form by no means implies polytheism; Hebrew plurals are often used to indicate fullness, completeness, or excellence.

The word *created* solves the problem of the origin of matter and life. It also explains God's relation to the universe and how it came into being. Genesis 1:1 is the introductory statement, and the following verses of Genesis chapters 1 and 2 are God's explanation of His Creation. No conjecture or speculation of man is needed beyond what God has given.

God created (brought into existence from nothing) matter and gave to matter form and life. The name for God in Genesis 1:2 is *Elohim*, which is a plural noun that suggests the work of the Trinity in Creation. As the **brooding** of a hen develops the inherent possibilities in her eggs, the Spirit of God brooded (a better translation than *moved*) matter and brought forth its inherent possibilities.

The Genesis account of Creation is concise and orderly. In six days God completed His good work. You can see his work on the chart to the right.

Since the sun is our source of light and determines our twenty-four hour day and since it was not created until the fourth day (Genesis 1:16), some have concluded that the word day, therefore, cannot be limited to a twenty-four hour period. The Hebrew word for day is *yom*. This word is used in other places in the

First Day
light



Second Day
firmament



Third Day
seas and
dry land



Fourth Day
sun, moon,
and stars

Fifth Day
lower animal
life

Sixth Day
higher animal
life



Seventh Day
God rested from his work

Bible to describe a period of time other than the twenty-four hour day; however, we should note that God created light on the first day and divided the light from the darkness, calling the light *day*. God, then, is the source of light (the sun is but a light holder); and the first days were God-divided rather than sun-divided. Note also the six-times-repeated statement (verses 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, and 31), "and the evening and the morning were...." Observe Exodus 20:9-11, "Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work... For in six days the LORD **made** heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day...."

Concerning Creation, with the exception of man, the Bible says that God spoke and things came into being. In the case of man, God said (Genesis 1:26), “**Let us make** man in our image,

after our likeness....” In creating everything else, God was preparing the way for man, His highest creation.



Complete the following statements.

- 1.1 The book of the Bible that serves as the introduction to the Bible is _____.
- 1.2 God set the stage for all that follows in His written revelation in the first _____ chapters of the Bible.
- 1.3 The Hebrew word *bara* (in Genesis 1:11 means to a. _____, to b. _____, or to c. _____ from d. _____.
- 1.4 The first verse in the Bible is the introductory statement for the entire biblical account of _____.
- 1.5 Identify the Creation that took place over the six creative days:
 - a. First day, _____
 - b. Second day, _____
 - c. Third day, _____
 - d. Fourth day, _____
 - e. Fifth day, _____
 - f. Sixth day, _____

THE CREATION OF MAN

We should note that by *creation* God brought into existence that which had been nonexistent; but after the nonexistent had been created, the word used is *make*. God said (Genesis 1:26, italics added for emphasis), “...*Let us make man...*” In the case of man, God used pre-existing material that He had created. The plural personal pronoun *us* is used to identify all the members of the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The fact that only in the case of man does God call forth the cooperation of the three persons of the Godhead indicates the supreme emphasis and interest God placed upon the development of man.

The root word from which the words **man and ground** come is the same word. Other than in the grace of God, man has nothing of which to boast since he was made of the dust of the earth.

Image is the word used to describe the similarity of God and man. Since **likeness** and image are similar in meaning, they will be treated in that way. The word could not refer to man’s physical nature because God has no physical nature. He is Spirit. This characteristic distinguishes man from all other creatures. God is Spirit; therefore, for man to be made in God’s image evidently indicates His moral and

spiritual nature. This nature includes intellectual, volitional, and emotional qualities. God gave man will power because he is to have dominion over God’s Creation.

Having formed man of the dust of the ground, God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul (Genesis 2:7). Man does not have a soul; he is a soul. He was made for fellowship with his Creator.

The Hebrew word for a specific man is *ish*. In these first verses of the Bible, the same word is translated by some translators *man* and by others *Adam* for a reason. The Hebrew word used is the same word in chapters 1 and 2 of Genesis.

The Hebrew language has but one set of letters. In English we have capital letters and lower-case letters, but the Hebrew alphabet has only capital letters. Thus, we are justified in believing that in addition to Adam (meaning a specific man), the word also means mankind in general.

Since the woman created from Adam’s rib was to be the mother of all mankind, her husband named her Eve, which means *living* (Genesis 3:20).

To multiply and **replenish** the earth was God’s plan for man from the beginning. The growth of the human race was and is God’s plan to replenish the earth, and God’s command “Be fruitful and multiply” had no relationship to sin and the Fall. God had in mind for Adam and Eve to propagate the race. The Hebrew verb for *replenish* means to *fill*, and the same verb is translated *fill* in Genesis 1:22.

Before God made Adam, He created the earth and all that is therein for the benefit of the human race. His purpose was and is for man to have dominion over the earth.

God endowed man with faculties of personality. The image of God in man makes possible the culmination of his development in dominion over all of God’s Creation.

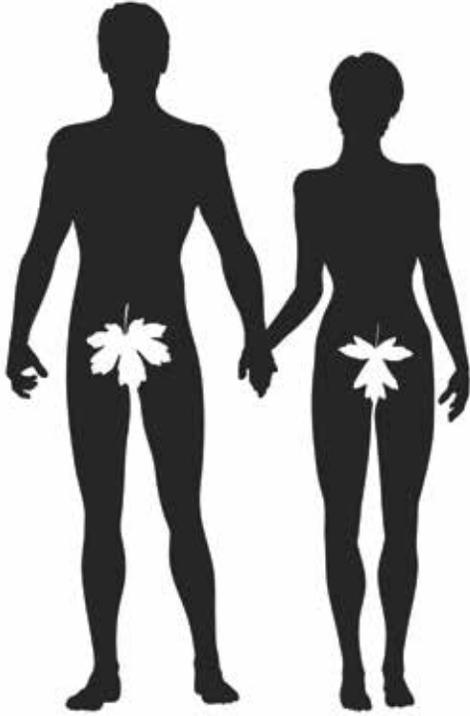
God the Creator is the foundation for all biblical theology and philosophy. Genesis 2:4 introduces a new name for God. Since the original Hebrew language had only consonants (no vowels), the new name was “**YHWH**.” This word, meaning Jehovah, became so holy to the Jewish mind that they would not pronounce it. Rather, they would say “Adonai,” which meant Lord. YHWH became the covenant name for the God of Israel and therefore too sacred for them to repeat. The word simply meant *Jehovah*.

Thus, the Elohim of the story of beginnings is the generic name for God, and the name is compounded in Genesis 2:4 to identify the Jehovah of chapter 2 with the God of chapter 1. The Hebrew word *YHWH* in 2:4 is a proper name that describes character—the eternal, self-existent One; the I AM. As we continue to observe in our study of the Scriptures, God was revealing more of Himself to man in the progression of His revelation.

The fullness of life was God’s desire for man. Having been made a free moral being, man could have the knowledge of both good and evil. Yet this knowledge was not God’s desire for man because for him it was fatal. God

ק	י	'	ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
kaf	yod	tet	chet	zayin	vav	he	dalet	gimel	bet	alef	
ת	ש	ר	ק	צ	פ	ע	ס	נ	מ	ל	
tav	shin/sin	resh	kof	tzadi(k)	pe	ayin	samech	nun	mem	lamed	

| Hebrew Alphabet



| Adam and Eve

made man with power to choose for himself. Therefore, in exercising this freedom, man would decide for himself, and the results would be either life or death. Man's choice brought death. This death meant destruction to the spiritual life with which he had been endowed. In His commitment to Adam "to keep" and "to dress" the garden, God's desire was that it be kept as good as it was when it was created. In preparing man for his duty to rule over His Creation, God provided "a **helpmeet** for him." The woman he made and gave to the man was equal to and adequate for him. She was made on the same spiritual and moral level. She was to fulfill his needs, and he was to do the same for her. Adam and Eve were the only two creatures made in the image of God. There is no better place one can go than to Genesis 2:18 to find God's will and pattern for the man and woman in the home. The moral ideal for a home is one woman for one man.



Answer the following question.

1.6 Who does the word "us" refer to in Genesis 1:26? _____

Complete the following statements.

1.7 To be made in God's image evidently refers to His _____.

1.8 The image of God in man enables man to accomplish God's purpose for him relative to the earth: _____.

1.9 The Hebrew word for *replenish* means _____.

1.10 According to Genesis 2:18, God's will for the home is _____.



Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

SELF TEST 1

Write the letter for the correct answer on each blank (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.01** The Bible has _____ author(s).
 a. 66 b. 67 c. 1 d. 40
- 1.02** The method God used to give the human writers the written Word was _____.
 a. revelation b. inspiration c. canonization d. illumination
- 1.03** A word that means rule, standard, or norm is _____.
 a. Torah b. Pentateuch c. canon d. toledoth
- 1.04** The key word in the book of Genesis is _____.
 a. generations b. beginnings c. creation d. bereshith
- 1.05** The Hebrew word bara in Genesis 1:1 means _____.
 a. to create b. to bring into existence
 c. to make from nothing d. a, b, and c

Complete these sentences (each answer, 4 points).

- 1.06** The Bible is God's _____ of Himself to man.
- 1.07** The Bible contains God's plan for man's _____.
- 1.08** Revelation is the what and _____ is the how.
- 1.09** The process of writing the Bible spanned approximately a. _____ centuries and utilized about b. _____ human writers.
- 1.010** The Bible has the _____ of man as its end.
- 1.011** The two main divisions of the Bible (in order) are the a. _____ and the b. _____.
- 1.012** Genesis serves as an _____ to the Bible.
- 1.013** To the Hebrews, the _____ was the Torah.

Match these items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | | | |
|--------------|-------|------------|----|------------------------------------|
| 1.014 | _____ | First day | a. | sun, moon, and stars |
| 1.015 | _____ | Second day | b. | seas and dry land |
| 1.016 | _____ | Third day | c. | darkness |
| 1.017 | _____ | Fourth day | d. | higher animal life (beast) and man |
| 1.018 | _____ | Fifth day | e. | light |
| 1.019 | _____ | Sixth day | f. | firmament |
| | | | g. | lower animal life (fish and fowl) |

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.020** _____ According to Genesis 2:18, God's will for the home is one woman and one man.
- 1.021** _____ The Hebrew word for *replenish* means to *fill*.
- 1.022** _____ The first verse in the Bible is the introductory statement for the entire biblical account of Creation.
- 1.023** _____ In the first two chapters of the Bible, God set the stage for all that follows in the written revelation of Himself.
- 1.024** _____ A good theme for the Pentateuch is "God's faithfulness to His promise."
- 1.025** _____ The first word in the Hebrew Bible, *bara*, means *in the beginning*.
- 1.026** _____ The Old Testament contains twenty-seven books.
- 1.027** _____ Another name for the first five books of the Bible is *Pentateuch*.
- 1.028** _____ The foundation of all the theology of the Bible is found in the very first words of the Bible: "In the beginning God... ."

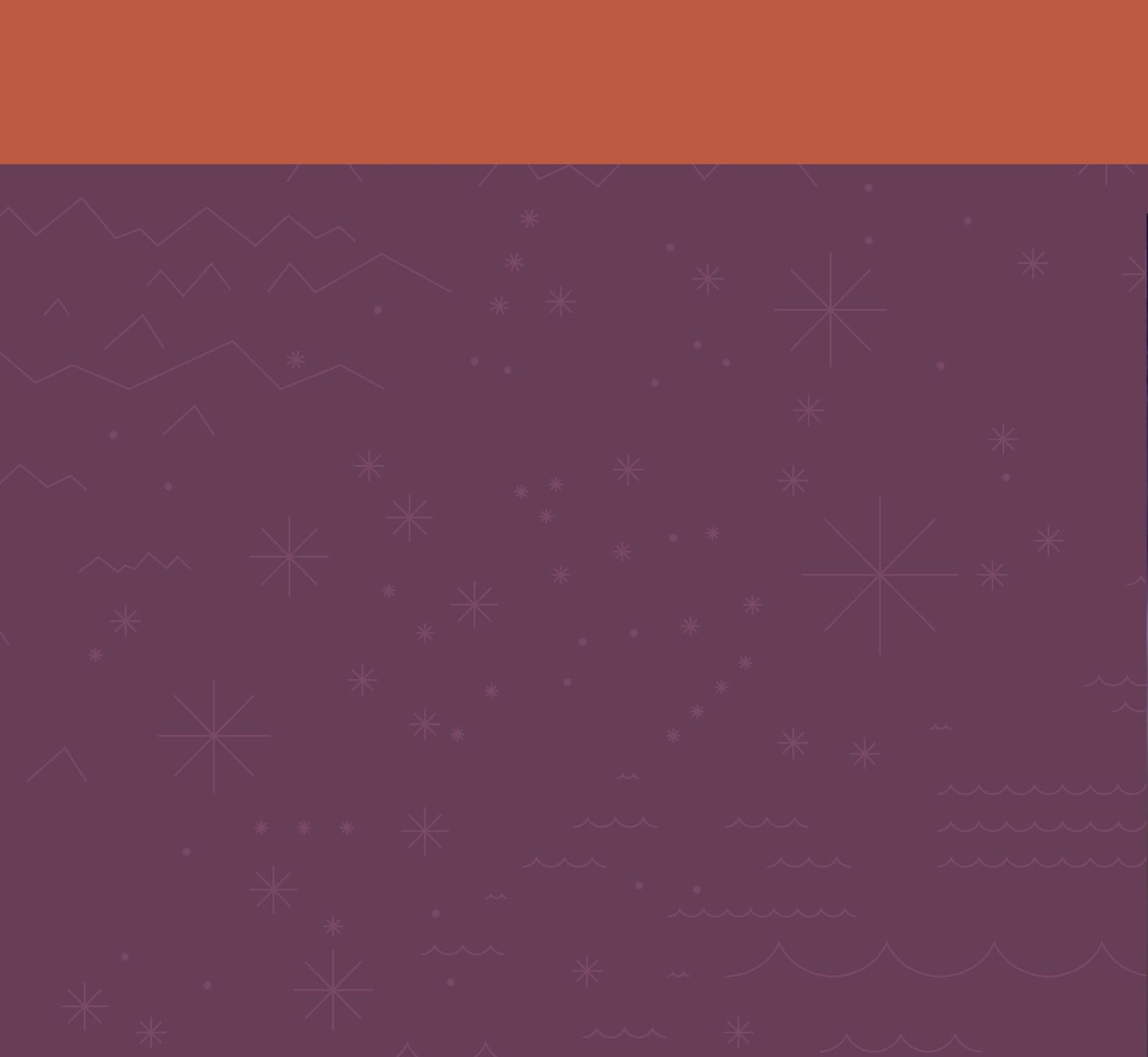
Answer these questions (each answer, 5 points).

1.029 How is *us* used in Genesis 1:26? _____

1.030 In reference to the Creation of man, what is the meaning of the *image of God*? _____

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72						
90						

"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven." — Psalm 119:89



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