

A
JOURNEY
THROUGH
THE BIBLE

DEAN L. GOSSETT



Developed as a study course by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.

A Journey Through the Bible

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STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

God has a blueprint for the past, present, and future. His blueprint contains a plan for man, for the nations, for Israel, for the lost, and for the saved. This study course takes us on a journey through the Bible to discover God’s master plan as it is revealed in it. Learn how *you* can be one of the “saved.”

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Bible Passages

Throughout the course you will see instructions to read passages in your Bible. All these passages are underlined so you can see them easily. They either support what is being explained in the course or give extra information. It is important that you read these passages. One reason for this is that some of the questions in the exams are based on the Bible text. When any question in the exam refers to a Bible verse or passage, you may look it up in your Bible to help you answer the question as we do not expect you to memorize all the Bible text.

Course Components

This course has two parts: this study course and the exam booklet.

How To Study

This study has twelve chapters, and each chapter has its own exam. Begin by asking God to help you understand the material. Read the chapter through at least twice, once to get a general idea of its contents and then again, slowly, looking up any Bible references given.

Begin studying immediately, or if you are in a group, as soon as the group begins. We suggest that you keep a regular schedule by trying to complete one chapter per week.

Exams

In the exam booklet there is one exam for each chapter (exam 1 covers chapter 1 of the course). Do not answer the questions by what you think or have always believed. The questions are designed to find out if you understand the material given in the course.

After you have completed each chapter, review the related exam and see how well you know the answers. If you find that you are having difficulty answering the questions, review the material until you think you can answer the questions.

How Your Exams Are Graded

Your instructor will mark any incorrectly answered questions. You will be referred back to the place in the course where the correct answer is to be found. After finishing this course with a passing average, you will be awarded a certificate.

If you enrolled in a class, submit your exam papers to the leader or secretary of the class who will send them for the entire group to the Correspondence School.

See the back of the exam booklet for more information on returning the exams for grading.

1

GOD'S PLAN FOR CREATION

God Had a Plan

A well known piece of advice to people who want to achieve a goal is, “Plan your work, and work your plan.” When God created the heavens and the earth, He began to work out a plan that He made in eternity past, and He is still “working” it. In fact, there is a lot in His plan that is still due to happen. Sometimes *our* plans go wrong because things happen that we have no control over. Psalm 33:11 says, “The counsel of the Lord stands forever; the plans of the Lord for all generations.” Because God is sovereign (meaning He controls everything), all God’s plans and purposes for this world *will* be fulfilled.

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sovereign, all God’s
plans and purposes
for this world
will be fulfilled.

God Put His Plan into Practice

Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” When the time came, God spoke, and His plan burst into being. First, the heavens and the earth appeared. (Although Earth is just one of many planets, it’s specifically mentioned because it is the only one that would be inhabited by man.) Light broke across this dark and lifeless planet. The atmosphere was wrapped around the earth like a blanket. The oceans heaved, encircling the earth. Then the dry land was raised and continents and islands appeared.

Next, God created living things. He brought grass and herbs and trees into being. He appointed the sun and moon to rule the day and the night and

caused the stars to appear and begin shining. He filled the oceans with fish and the skies with birds. He caused the land to be filled with life. Animals and insects of every kind appeared. And, last of all, God made man—His crowning achievement. He formed a man’s body from dirt and breathed into him the breath of life. Man, unlike all other creatures, has a soul that will live forever. God appointed man to be the lord of the earth. He gave him the right to be in charge of the planet and to take care of it.

On the seventh day, God rested in the created beauty of it all and said, “That’s very good!” In six days He had created the whole universe. Read about this magnificent creation in the Bible in [Genesis 1:1-31 and 2:1-4](#).

Some Theories About How the Universe Began

It is quite reasonable for human beings to wonder how the universe came into existence, but this issue has become very controversial. We’ll mention some of the theories here.

Some people believe the universe started with a big explosion of matter (*the big bang theory*). When planets came into being, animals evolved by natural causes from one-cell organisms that lived in the sea. These animals became more complex over many millions of years until we see the results we have today. This *theory of evolution* (which includes the Big Bang theory) leaves God out of the picture and is therefore in opposition to the Word of God. There really is no valid proof or true scientific evidence for the evolution of any species into another by natural selection.

People who believe the Word of God and acknowledge God as Creator of all things may accept one of several theories about the origin of animals. One explanation is that God first created everything and then destroyed life on earth when Lucifer, one of the highest ranking angels, rebelled against Him. After that, God remade the earth as it is now with the present kind of life and animals. This is called *the gap theory*. Another theory could be called *the old earth theory*. It interprets the creation days as periods of time, each one covering many years, thus making the universe very old. This explanation has many opponents who say it is not strongly supported by the Bible.

The Emmaus Correspondence School believes and teaches that the earth is fairly young, maybe no more than 12,000-years-old. This explanation is called *the young earth theory* and is soundly based on the Bible, including

the account of Genesis chapter 1 that the “days” of creation were literal 24-hour days.

We must always remember that it is more important to honor God as Creator of all things and to be faithful to study and obey the Scriptures than to argue about theories. The Bible clearly states that God made this world and all it contains—and He did it by simply speaking it into existence. Psalm 33:6 and 8 reads: “By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all

————— ❧ —————
**Where the Bible
does touch on
 science, there are
 no mistakes.**
 ————— ❧ —————

the host of them by the breath of His mouth. . . . Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”

The Bible is not a science book, but where the Bible *does* touch on science, there are no mistakes. If the topic of creation interests you,

we suggest you study the ECS course entitled “Ready to Give an Answer,” a course on Christian evidences.

God’s Plan Includes You!

Even though the Bible may not answer our specific questions about creation (for instance, about dinosaurs), what it does tell us is that God planned and created the whole universe. When He made Planet Earth He did it in an orderly way, making it a place fit for life before filling it with living things. He not only made it, He knows what is going to happen to its people—including what is going to happen to *you*. He has a plan for the future of the world, and it’s a plan that *you* can be a part of. Later you will read about those plans. The next chapter discusses God’s plan for the first man and woman.

A
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EXAM BOOKLET
AK '08 (1 UNIT)

STUDENT NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

COURSE GRADE: _____

INSTRUCTOR



Exam developed by Emmas Correspondence School, founded in 1942.

A NOTE ON THE EXAMS

The exams are designed to check your knowledge of the course material and the Scriptures. After you have studied a chapter, review the exam questions for that lesson. If you have difficulty in answering the questions, re-read the material. If questions contain a Scripture reference, you may use your Bible to help you answer them. If your instructor has provided a single page Answer Sheet, record your answer on that sheet. This exam contains the following types of questions:

MULTIPLE CHOICE

You will be asked to write in the letter of the correct answer at the space on the right. Here is an example:

The color of grass is

- A. blue
- B. green
- C. yellow

 B

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Questions headed this way are designed to help you express your ideas and feelings. You may freely state your own opinions in answer to such questions.

RETURNING THE EXAM

See the back of this exam booklet for instructions on returning your exam for grading.

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CHAPTER 1 EXAM

GOD'S PLAN FOR CREATION

EXAM GRADE

Before starting this exam, write your name and address on the front of this Exam Booklet.

Directions: Read each question carefully and write the letter of the correct answer in the blank space on the right. Use the separate answer sheet if provided.

1. When God made the world, He
 - A. started things, then let evolution take over the rest of the process
 - B. wasn't sure how it would all turn out
 - C. was following a detailed plan_____

2. Complete Psalm 33:11: "The counsel of the Lord stands firm; _____"
 - A. the plans of the Lord will be fulfilled"
 - B. the plans of the Lord for all generations"
 - C. the plans of the Lord for all who trust in Him"_____

3. Genesis 1:1 states that
 - A. the heavens declare the glory of God
 - B. God created the heavens and the earth
 - C. God is sovereign_____

4. God created the universe by
 - A. a big explosion
 - B. His spoken word
 - C. causing existing particles to evolve_____

5. When God created man, He
 - A. formed man's body of dust and breathed life into him
 - B. made a single cell from which man evolved
 - C. simply spoke, and man appeared_____

6. The young earth theory
 - A. interprets creation days as periods of time
 - B. is soundly based on the Biblical account of creation
 - C. teaches that the earth is 50,000 years old_____

- 7. Man was created a superior being in that he was
 - A. given a soul that will live forever
 - B. created sinless
 - C. created first_____

- 8. The theory that places Satan’s rebellion before the six-days creation account is
 - A. the gap theory
 - B. the big bang theory
 - C. the old earth theory_____

- 9. Our response to the debate on creation should be to
 - A. give God the glory for being our Creator
 - B. not settle until we all agree about it
 - C. learn a lot more about science_____

- 10. God planned and created the world,
 - A. but He doesn’t care what happens to it in the future
 - B. but He leaves everything now for man to do
 - C. and I can be included in His plan for its future_____

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

What does creation teach you personally about God?
