

## LESSON 1

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### First Story of Creation Genesis 1–2:4

*Directions:* Read the scripture passage listed above and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. The book of Genesis concerns itself with the origin of the human race and in particular the Jewish people, and so it begins logically with the creation of the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The account of creation of the world is divided into days. The number of those days is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The first three days are days of separation. God creates by separating created material to produce something else.
  - A. On the first day, God separates darkness and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. On the second day, God separates the sky from the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. The ancient peoples thought that water gave the sky its blue color and therefore the sky must contain water, since at times water did fall from the sky. God, they reasoned, created something to keep the water aloft. This something was a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. On the third day, God separates the earth into water and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The next three days are days of populating. God fills the world with many creations.
  - A. On the fourth day, God fills the sky with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. On the fifth day, God populates the land with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. On the sixth day, God creates \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Then, on the seventh day, God \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Therefore, this account of creation follows a pattern:
  - A. three days of \_\_\_\_\_ in which a stage is built,
  - B. three days of \_\_\_\_\_ in which “actors” are put on the stage, and
  - C. one day of \_\_\_\_\_ in which the goodness of all is celebrated and enjoyed.
7. There is also a pattern for the days themselves.
  - A. Each day begins with the words: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Next, to create something, God gives a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Then this command or order is actually \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. God looks at it and sees that it is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - E. The author closes by telling what day it is with these words: \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Patterns allowed ordinary people of the ancient times to more easily memorize stories since most information between generations would have been by word of \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The author’s scientific knowledge is obviously not as important for us today as is his understanding of the relationship between creation and its \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Scientific accuracy is not the author’s intention. For instance, the sun, moon, and stars were not created until the fifth day, while light was created on which day? \_\_\_\_\_
11. And further, how could one determine the length of the first three days without the \_\_\_\_\_?

## Lesson 1 continued

12. It is evident, therefore, that we do not read the Bible for scientific truth, but for the truths of \_\_\_\_\_.
13. God creates humans in his own image in two ways:
  - A. Since in Genesis 1:27, God creates them both male and female, God apparently has both male and female \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. For the ancient Hebrews, humans most closely resemble God by their ability to control or have authority over the \_\_\_\_\_. (Gn 1:28)
14. God wants the creation to continue and wishes humans to be part of that process and so orders in Genesis 1:28: \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The most important day for Jews is the Sabbath. The origin for this weekly feast is given in Genesis 2:2-3 where God, on the seventh day, does nothing but \_\_\_\_\_.
16. What truths do we learn from this Genesis account of creation?
  - A. We learn that the world and the whole universe were created by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. We learn that creation is not evil, as is believed by some ancient cultures, but \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. We learn that creation was not done in a haphazard way, but with great \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. We learn that the sun, moon, and stars do not control human destiny; that their purpose as designed by God is to provide \_\_\_\_\_.
17. God is portrayed in a definite manner in this account of creation. God seems to be far away from creation and very powerful. To create something, all God has to do is \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., Gn 1:3).
18. In this account of creation, God is simply called \_\_\_\_\_.