
God's Urge To Create

Lesson One

Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:14

Introductory Thoughts

The one thing that has always existed is God (Psalm 90:2, Deuteronomy 33:27). This means that God used to exist alone in His heaven, without people, planets or even angels. Then, at some point in His existence, God determined to create other things. Colossians 1:16 tells us that “by Him [Jesus] all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible . . .”

For this lesson, take your mind back to the beginning of time. Imagine God alone for eternity. Imagine the moment He decided to create, and wonder what motivated Him. We must understand why He made us because it explains to us our purpose for existing. And if we understand our purpose, then the direction for our lives becomes clear.

■ **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”**

Have you ever wondered why, after living an eternity without man, God decided to create us?

- **If man had this creative power, why might we have created the heavens and earth?**

■ **According to the Bible, why did God create us?**

1. **To be glorified.** Many Bible verses describe God's desire to be glorified. Read and comment on the following verses:

- **1 Corinthians 10:31**
- **Ephesians 1:3-17**
- **1 Peter 4:11**

- *What does “Glorified” mean? What does it tell us about God?*

Jonathan Edwards defined glory as “the emanation of that fullness of God that is from eternity in God . . . A shining forth” (Our Great and Glorious God, p. 85-94). Creating the universe, along with mankind, was a way for God to shine Himself forth. Think about how the creation helps God accomplish this.



- How does Creation allow God to shine forth His wonderful character? How could He express His mercy without creation? His love? His justice? His creative power?
- What else can God express through His creation perhaps more clearly and brightly than without it?

2. **To have a family.** Many Bible verses describe God’s desire to have a family. Read and comment on the following verses:

- **1 John 4:8, 16.** *What is God’s nature, according to these verses? What are people like who have this nature?*
- **2 Corinthians 6:16-18.**

■ **Application Questions**

- What purpose did God create us to fulfill? How do we fulfill it?
- Read **Hebrews 1:1-3**. How does Jesus glorify His Father?
- Can you think of anything else the Bible says about why God created us?