

CHAOTIC EARTH

Gen.1: 1-2 is part of a dateless eternal past while 1:3 is part of the dating time line. Gen.1: 2 introduces the three conditions of the earth after it's original creation (Gen.1: 1) as formless, void, and darkness over the surface of the deep and Spirit of God moving over the surface of the waters.

“And **the earth** (ha erets) was (hayah / kal pf.) formless and void (tohu waw bohu), and darkness (choshek) was over the surface of the deep (tehom / form of tohu / primeval ocean); and the **Spirit of God** was moving (rachaph / piel ptc / hovering) over the surface of the waters (ha mayim).”

Tohu waw bohu refers to divine judgment on the earth. “I looked on the earth, and behold, it was formless and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.” (Jer.4: 23)

There are two important parts to Gen.1: 2. The **earth** is the first part (over the surface of the deep) and the **Holy Spirit** is the second part (over the surface of the waters).

The English dictionary defines chaos as great confusion and complete disorder and the infinite space or formless matter before the universe existed or a gaping void. It is derived from the Greek language. The Greek's had a god called Chaos. It personified the formless, confused state of matter before the universe existed.

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| This lesson will study SIX aspects of the Chaotic Earth that is described in Gen.1:2 |
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1. The absolute status quo verb (hayah/ kal perfect) is used to introduce the chaotic conditions of the earth of Gen.1: 2.

Hayah should actually be translated as (became). The earth became something it wasn't previously.

It is used the same way in Gen.19: 26 referring to Lot's wife when she became a pillar of salt.

2. The pre-adamic earth was not originally created with the three existing conditions of Gen.1: 1-2.

“For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create (bara) it a waste place (tohu), but formed it to be inhabited (la sheveth), I am the Lord, and there is none else.” (Isa.45: 18)

The waste place is contrasted with inhabited (Isa.14: 17). The idea is that the earth was originally created to be inhabited but something happened to cause it to be uninhabited or not good for habitation.

3. The order of creation is established by Gen.1: 1 (bereshith / in beginning) (Ps.115: 16).

God ____ + ____ + _____ Everlasting (Ps.8: 3; 19:1-4; 90:2; 102:25-27; John 1:1-2)

Heavens (angels) _____ (Job 38:4-7; Ps.148: 1-6; Rev.12: 4) - Lake of Fire (fallen / Matt.25: 41)
(1 Tim.5: 21; Heb.2: 6-8; 1 Pet.3: 22) - Fire renovation (2 Pet.3: 10-13)

Earth (man) _____ (Ps.148: 7-13) - Lake of Fire (unsaved / Rev.20: 11-15)
- Fire renovation (2 Pet.3: 10-13)

4. **The fall of Satan resulted in the three existing conditions of Gen.1: 2 (Isa.14: 12-15; Ezek.28: 11-17).**

King James interpretation of Isa.14: 12 referred to Satan as Lucifer (Latin word), star of morning.

“How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth; you have weakened the nations! But you said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, to the recesses of the pit.” (Isa.14: 12-15; Rev.20: 10)

Isaiah and Ezekiel declared that the earth became the battleground in the angelic conflict as a result of the fall of Satan in eternity past. John declared that the earth will be the battle ground until Satan is cast into the Lake of Fire at the end of human history (Luke 10:18; 2 Thess.2: 4; Matt.25: 41; Rev.12: 3-4; 20:10).

We know that the Garden of Eden became the first known battleground in the angelic conflict. We know that human history on earth became the battleground in the angelic conflict with the fall of Adam (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Rom.5: 12; 1 John 5:19; 2 Cor.4: 4).

The question is why, when, and how long? “The heavens are the heavens of the Lord; but the earth He has given to the sons of men.” (Psa.115: 16; 12-18)

5. **The pre-Adam chaotic earth of Genesis 1:2 was preserved by the Holy Spirit for it’s restoration in Genesis 1:3.**

“And the Spirit of God was hovering (rachaph / piel perfect/ intensive action) over the waters.” (Gen.1: 2)

“Like an eagle that stirs up its nests, that hovers (same words as Gen.1: 2) over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them on its pinions.” (Deut.32: 11) NIV (Isa.31: 5)

- Most biblical scholars believe this earth was covered with an ice pack. The earth was being preserved for restoration for human habitation. “From the breath of God ice is made, and the expanse of the waters is frozen.” (Job 37:10; 38:29-30)

“And saying, ‘where is the promise of His coming? Ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation. For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water (Gen.1: 6-10), through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water (Gen.6-9). But the present heavens and earth by His word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men ” (2 Pet.3: 4-6)

6. **Most biblical scholars believe that Gen.1: 2 was the time of the formation of Tartarus of Sheol and the Lake of Fire.**

“And darkness (choshek; skotos) was over the surface of the deep (tehom is a form of tohu). The Septuagint translated tehom by the Greek word abussos (the abyss or unfathomed deep or underworld).

Abussos is the prison of fallen angles (Matt.25: 41; Luke 8:31; 2 Pet.2: 4, 17; Jude 6; Rev.20: 1-3). “This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is NO darkness at all.” (1 John 1:5) (John 3:16-21)