A person is walking away from the camera through a dense forest of tall, thin trees. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and branches. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The lighting is soft and diffused, coming from the upper left.

GENESIS 1-3 & THE ROOTS OF THEOLOGY

DIGGING DEEPER, BUILDING STRONGER.

#ROOTED

DAVID LYON



THEOLOGY BEGINS WITH GOD

- Theology is ‘the study of God’ and for Christians it is *dynamic* and *personal*. We can *know* God, because He makes Himself known (Mt 11:27, Jn 14:7-9)!
- Revelation is *a divine initiative*, not a human investigation; it always begins with God. We should seek Him (Isa 55:6, Jer 29:13-14), but He *will be found* because he has chosen *to reveal Himself to us!*..
- Our theology *starts with God*; we must derive our positions *from above* (what God reveals and declares) not below (what culture or circumstance dictate). A different starting-point will always yield different conclusions.
- Revelation begins in **Genesis**, and especially *in the Garden (chs 1-3)*, where we find *source texts* (foundations, ‘first mentions’) of every major theme...

**IN THE
BEGINNING
GOD CREATED
THE HEAVENS
AND THE
EARTH...**

GENESIS 1:1



**“[GENESIS] IS THE STATELY PORTAL TO THE SUPERB
STRUCTURE OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE. THE OPENING
SENTENCE IS A GRAND SPECIMEN OF BEAUTY AND TRUTH,
HERE COMPACTED INTO THE BRIEFEST COMPASS. IT
EXCLUDES ATHEISM, PANTHEISM, POLYTHEISM,
MATERIALISM; DENIES THE ETERNITY OF MATTER, AND
TEACHES THE ETERNITY, SELF-EXISTENCE, INDEPENDENCE ,
OMNIPOTENCE, AND WISDOM OF THE CREATOR”**

A.T. PIERSON

‘KEYS TO THE WORD: THE BIBLE BOOK BY BOOK’, P18.

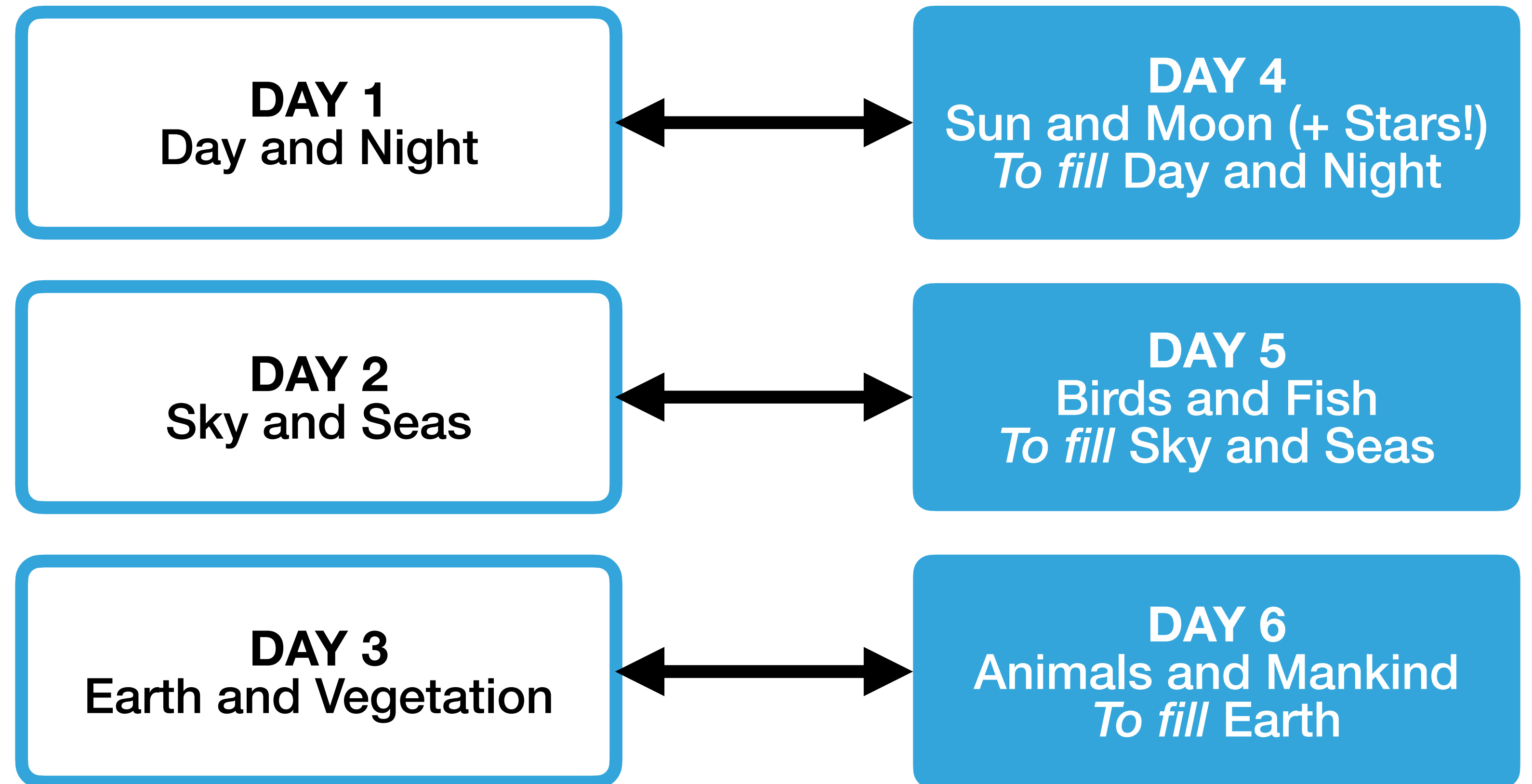


AT Pierson (1837-1911) was an American pastor-teacher with a transatlantic ministry. He wrote numerous books and succeeded Spurgeon as pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London 1891-1893.

SIX DAYS...

GOD IS THE CREATOR
OF THE HEAVENS.
HE FORMED THE
EARTH AND MADE IT;
HE ESTABLISHED IT;
HE DID NOT CREATE IT
TO BE EMPTY, BUT
FORMED IT TO BE
INHABITED.

ISAIAH 45:18



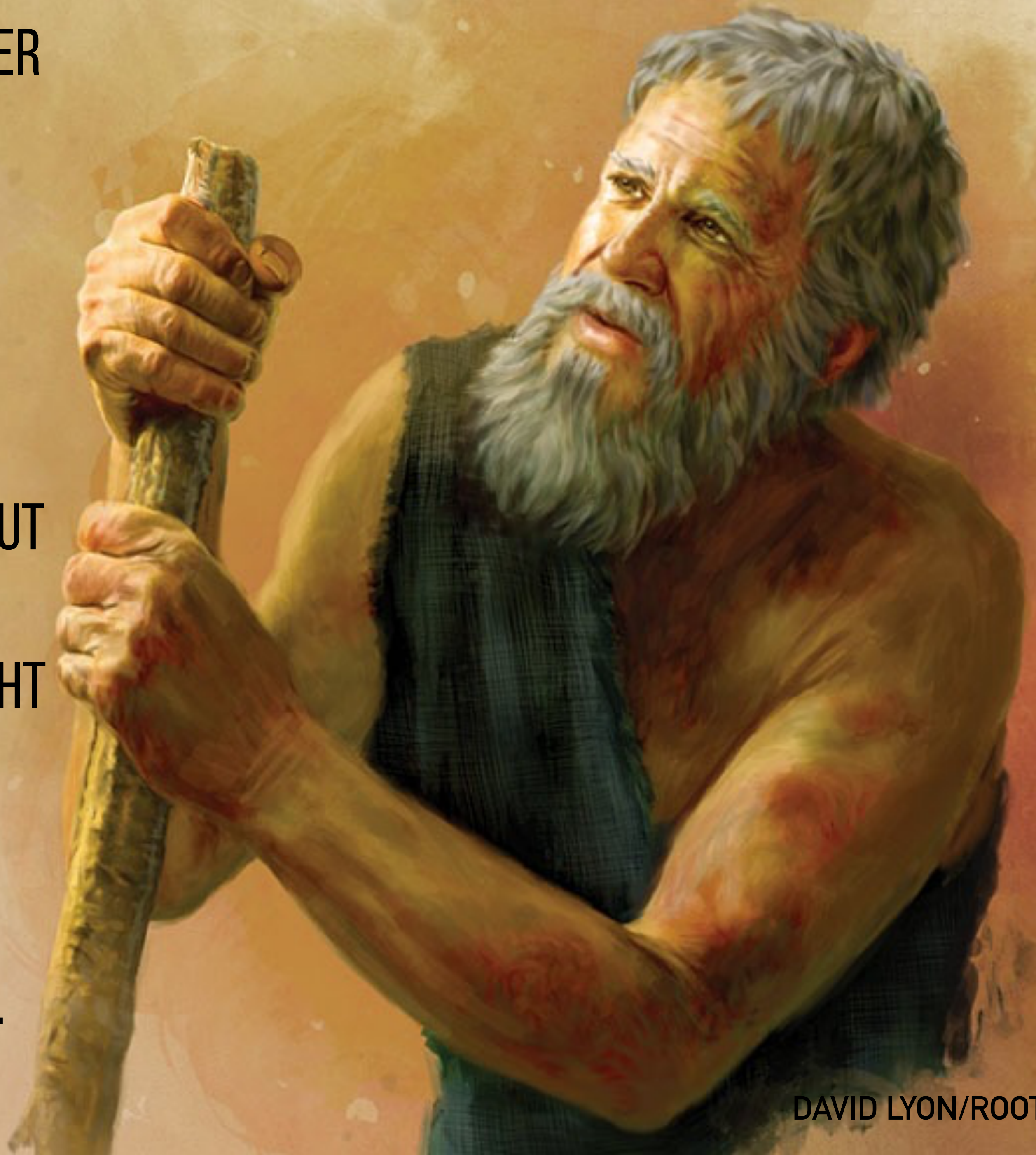
FORMED

FILLED

ORDER, BEAUTY, GROWTH!

- Creation through God's spoken word (cf. Pr 18:21)
- Creation "according to kind" - not evolution
- Only mankind in the image of God; the 'image-bearer'.
- Order and beauty expressed through distinction and separation (day/night, heaven/earth, land/sea, man/woman...)
- Everything created is reproductive; designed to grow!
- The cosmos is complete (Ge 2:1, Heb 4:3-4) - everything we see now and all that is yet to be seen *was in seed-form then!*
- ...And it was all "good"

**“HE STRETCHES THE NORTHERN SKIES OVER
EMPTY SPACE; HE HANGS THE EARTH ON
NOTHING. HE WRAPS UP THE WATERS IN
HIS CLOUDS, YET THE CLOUDS DO NOT
BURST BENEATH THEIR WEIGHT. HE
OBSCURES THE VIEW OF HIS THRONE,
SPREADING HIS CLOUD OVER IT. HE LAID OUT
THE HORIZON ON THE SURFACE OF THE
WATERS AT THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN LIGHT
AND DARKNESS....BY HIS BREATH THE
HEAVENS GAINED THEIR BEAUTY;
HIS HAND PIERCED THE FLEEING SERPENT.
THESE ARE BUT THE FRINGES OF HIS WAY...
JOB 26:7-14**



A person in a dark jacket and blue jeans is walking away from the camera through a dense forest of tall, thin trees. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and branches. The trees are mostly evergreens, and the lighting is soft, suggesting a misty or overcast day.

BREAKOUT GROUPS

WHAT DOES THE CREATION
ACCOUNT TELL US ABOUT
GOD?

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