

# NEW LIFE WITH GOD

## Unit 2: **THE NATURE OF GOD THE FATHER**

May 5, 2024

### I. WHAT IS THE NATURE OF GOD?

#### A. Three distinct PERSONS ... One divine ESSENCE [Tri - Unity]

1. **MATTHEW 28:19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
2. **JOHN 15:26** But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.
3. **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
4. **EPHESIANS 2:18** For through him [CHRIST] we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

### II. THE WORK OF GOD THE FATHER: CREATION AND PRESERVATION

A. **GENESIS 1:1-3** **1** In the beginning, God **created** the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. **3** And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

1. Hebrew *bara* ( ברא ) means *make out of nothing*.

2. **JOHN 1:1-4** **1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men. [Preincarnate Christ]

#### B. Three levels of scientific truth

1. Hypothesis (raw observation only)
2. Theory (multiple testing of hypothesis)
3. Law (subject theory to all possible variable)

### C. EVOLUTION IS A **THEORY** - NOT A **LAW**

1. Only a probable explanation of theory
2. Observer *Charles Darwin* on Galapagos Islands
3. Thesis: All of life evolves from lower forms of life
4. **GENESIS 2:19-20** **19** Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. **20** The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.
5. Impacted by *Doctrine of Progress*
6. Humans are NOT mammals because ...
  - a. Mammals do not worship God
  - b. Mammals not forbidden by God to kill other mammals
  - c. Mammals are not held morally accountable
  - d. Jesus did not die for mammals
  - e. Humans are given DOMINION over mammals
  - f. Mammals not created in the *Image of God*
  - g. Mammals do not have a soul that is surrendered to God
7. **GENESIS 1:28** *And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and **have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.*

### D. EVOLUTION speaks of PROGRESSION ... BIBLE speaks of RETROGRESSION

1. Cavemen and Aborigines?
2. Decline of human body into weakness and decay
3. Radioactive Half-Life decline over time
4. Decline in average human life-span

5. **GENESIS 5:4-8** **4** *The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. **5** Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died. **6** When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh. **7** Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. **8** Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.*

E. At best, EVOLUTION may be a logical explanation of HOW GOD CREATED THE UNIVERSE.

1. But cannot be use to disprove the *existence or providential care of God*.
2. Science and religion are *partners* ... not bitter enemies.
3. God the Father creates the world and preserves His creation.
4. **HEBREWS 1:3** **3** *He [Christ] is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.*
5. God is intimately connected to Creation - and calls us into RELATIONSHIP