

God Makes the World

In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth but the earth was without form and empty, and darkness was everywhere, and the Spirit of God moved over the deep.

Then God said: "Let there be light." And there was a shining, bright light, and God divided light from darkness. He called the light day, and the darkness he called night. This was the first day.

Then God said: "Let there be a sky and air above the water." And the sky appeared above, and clouds gathered in the sky, and God called the sky heaven.

Then God said: "Let the waters on the earth come together into great seas and oceans, and let dry land appear. Let trees, grass and green things grow on the earth and bring fruit and seeds." And the seas and oceans came together, and dry land appeared and green things grew and brought forth fruit and seeds. God saw that it was good.

Then God said: "Let the day be divided from the night. Let the sun and the moon and the stars appear in the sky. The sun will rule the day, and the moon will rule the night. Let there be winter and spring, summer and fall, and everything shall grow in its own time." And it all came to be, and God saw that it was good.

Then God said: "Let the waters be filled with fish, and let birds fly in the skies."

And fishes of every kind, from huge whales to tiny fishes, moved in the waters. Winged creatures flew in the sky. God saw that it was all good, so He blessed the fishes and the birds and told them to live and have little ones. And God said: "Let there be animals on earth, beasts, cattle, and every kind of crawling creature. And let there be a man in My own image, after My own likeness. He will be master over all the fishes, birds, and animals that move on earth."

God called the first man Adam (which means "the man"). He told Adam to give a name to every fish, bird, and animal and to look after the earth with all the growing things on it.

Then God said: "It is not good for man to be alone. I shall make him a friend and a helper." And God made the first woman and called her Eve (woman).

Now God saw that the world He had made was very good, so He ended His work and rested on the seventh day.