

**Date:** January 13, 2012

**Topic:** In the Beginning

**Aim:** To examine the biblical view of creation and its implications for salvation.

**Know:** The creation reveals a God who has a plan and purpose for us.

**Feel:** Appreciate God's personal care for each of us

**Do:** Accept and teach the biblical beliefs of creation

### **Introduction**

It's hard to imagine two more diverse views of our origins than the biblical model of Creation and atheistic evolution. The first presents a creation that was planned, calculated, with nothing left to chance. In contrast, the evolutionary model is all chance. Second, in the biblical account, everything was created for a purpose; God had an end goal, a purpose for what He created. In contrast, evolution works on the premise that there is no final goal, no purpose-driven force motivating what's created. Random mutation and natural selection (products of chance) work together blindly, keeping what functions and discarding what doesn't. Finally, the biblical account teaches that humans were made in the image of God. Evolution teaches that they are made in the image of whatever primate just happened to precede *Homo sapiens*.

This week, we'll look at the biblical doctrine of Creation. If we get Creation wrong, we're all but certain to get many other things wrong. That's how crucial the teaching is to what we believe as Seventh-day Adventist Christians (*Adult Teacher Sabbath School Bible Study Guide p. 17*).

**Statement:** **God created the earth: He formed it and then He filled it.**

**Read:** Genesis 1: 2, 6-8, 20-23

**Meditate** Vertical relationship

**Question:** What do these verses convey about who God is?

**Share in twos:** Horizontal relationship

**Application:** Do you find it easy to believe in evolution?

**Statement:** God claims He is the Creator of the earth.

**Read:** Job 38: 4-7

**Meditate:** Vertical relationship

**Question:** What are the purposes of these rhetorical questions to Job?

**Share in twos:** Horizontal relationship

**Application:** Are there question you would like to ask an evolutionist?

**Statement:** Creation reveals a God who cares for us in spite the effects of sin

**Read:** Psalm 19:1-4

**Meditate:** Vertical relationship

**Question:** How does nature reveals God cares for us?

**Share openly with you teacher**

**Application:** The earth reveals the love and power of its Designer! Has evolution reveal anything to you about its designer?

**Statement:** God who has power to create has power to redeem

**Read:** John 1:1-3, 14, Romans 5:12 and 19

**Meditate:** Vertical relationship

**Question:** How does redemption implies that everything was once “very good?”

**Share in twos:** Horizontal relationship

**Application:** Have you consider the absurdity of evolution in the context of the cross?

**Summary points:**

1. God created the earth: He **formed** it and then He **filled** it.
2. God claims He is the Creator of the earth.
3. Creation reveals a God who cares for us in spite the effects of sin
4. God who has power to create has power to redeem

**General application**

How important is a correct understanding of creation to your appreciation of your origin, significance and destiny?