

## Do You Believe?

Written by Dan Henderson

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*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **Genesis 1:1***

Thus begins God's history of mankind. This simple sentence teaches us how life came into existence. Do you believe it?

This statement is one of, if not, the most disputed in the Scriptures. Yet in it is found the very basis of our salvation. Atheists would have us believe there is no God; evolutionist, humanist, and the popular media would have us believe there may be a God but He didn't create us, we created Him. Theistic evolutionist would have us believe there is a God and He created all we know but, He lied about how He did it.

The Bible tells us simply "God created". Following this statement the passage in simple, easy to understand language, shows He created all we know in six days.

*...And the evening and the morning were the first day. **Genesis 1:5***

*And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. **Genesis 1:31***

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How long were those days? In Exodus God commanded Israel to work six days and rest on the seventh because He worked six days in creating the world and rested on the seventh.

*Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. **Exod 20:8-11***

How long is your work day? Why is it so difficult for men and women to believe this?

First, if we believe this first sentence we are forced to believe in accountability to God. Since God created us, He is above us in authority. Even the atheist understands the chain of command. Our basic instincts teach us that the most powerful is in control. Since God created us we are no longer "top dog".

When we find ourselves under the authority of another, we understand that we must obey them. Since God created us we must be obedient. We are accountable to God.

Second, realizing our accountability to God we are no longer able to do as we please. It is not what we want that matters. God is in control, yet as human beings we don't like the idea that we can't control every aspect of our lives. When we believe "God created" we must accept that we are no longer number one.

Some people are so caught up in self that they will not accept the authority of someone else. If they admit belief in God they must relinquish control and stop their evil practices. Men and women refuse to believe "God created" because belief necessitates obedience.

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What about you? Do you believe Genesis 1:1? Have you obeyed God?

*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. **Hebrews 11:6***

*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. **Romans 10:17***

Hearing and believing are but the beginning of salvation. They are though, absolutely necessary to salvation.

*For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. **Hebrews 3:16-4:2***

If we do not believe "God created" we are doomed to eternal destruction.

Once we believe we must change in repentance.

*And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: **Acts 17:30***

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*Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **Acts 2:37-38***

We must confess Christ as the Son of God.

*And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. **Acts 8:37***

*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **Romans 10:9-10***

We must be obedient in baptism.

*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **Mark 16:16***

*Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **Acts 2:37-38***

*Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: **1Peter 3:20-21***

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Again I ask, do you believe? Have you demonstrated and completed your belief in obedience to the simple Gospel of Christ?