Genesis 1:14-23

Day 4 – The Lights In The Heavens

Sunday Evening June 27, 2010 Pastor Stuart Fraser

I. Introduction

A. So far, we have studied the first 3 days of creation: Day 1 God created Light (day & night); Day 2 God created the firmament (atmosphere); Day 3 God created dry land, trees, and plants.

1. **Ps 8:3-4** – "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained. What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?"
2. **Job 26:14** – "Behold, these are the fringes of His ways; And how faint a word we hear of Him! But His mighty thunder, who can understand?"

B. On day 2 God made the hydrosphere and atmosphere, day 3 the lithosphere and biosphere, day 4 the astrosphere - the domain of the sun, moon, and stars.

II. Day 4 – The **sun**, **moon**, and **stars** (**vv. 14-19**)

A. Note the correlation to Day 1 of creation in **v. 3** – "Let there be light"; here – "Let there be lights…" **(v. 14)**

1. There is a parallel between the first 3 days and the last 3 days of creation.
   - Day 1 – light — Day 4 – lights
   - Day 2 – firmament & waters below — Day 5 – birds & fish
   - Day 3 – dry land — Day 6 – land animals

B. God created a **mature** universe. It did not take billions of light years for stars lights to reach the earth. God created the light-trail from the star to the earth and the star.

C. To **divide** the day from the night (**v. 14a**)

1. The sun is the **greater** light that rules the day.
   - *Illustration:* Photos of the sun from the Hubble telescope (Slides 1-5).
   - *Illustration:* Show solar flare on You Tube collected just this last month.
   - If the sun's output changed even a few percentage points we would freeze or fry.
2. The moon is the **lesser** light that rules the night
   - *Illustration:* Photos of the sun from the Hubble telescope (Slides 6-7).
3. The stars: They are only mentioned in **minor** importance to the sun and moon.
   - Note **v. 16** – "He made the stars also" – Some of these stars are 1 million times larger and brighter than the sun, but they are much simpler in substance.
   - *Illustration:* Photos of the stars from the Hubble telescope (Slides 8-26).
   - *Illustration:* Photos of the stars from the Hubble telescope (Slides 27-67).
4. Does it really make sense to believe that these came into existence by chance?

D. To **regulate** time and seasons (**v. 14b**)

1. They were to be for signs and seasons, days and years – the Bible recognized it first.
   - Because the Earth rotates on an axis the sun's rays hit the Earth at different angles throughout the year creating **seasons**, vital for rejuvenation of life.