



UNDERSTANDING

Creation

~~LITERAL VIEW~~

~~GAP VIEW~~

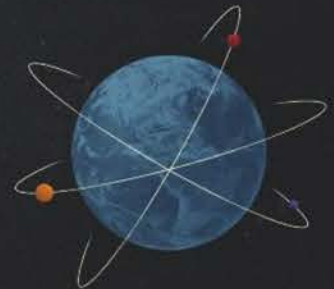
~~DAY/AGE VIEW~~

LITERARY FRAMEWORK VIEW



**“IN ESSENTIALS UNITY,
IN NON-ESSENTIALS LIBERTY,
AND IN ALL THINGS CHARITY.”**

- Rupertus Meldenius

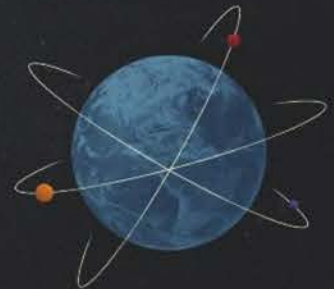




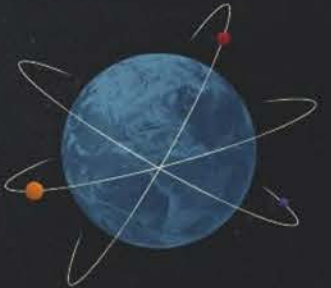
LANCE LAWSON

Lance and his wife, Donya, have attended CCCC since 2009. After 9 years in the construction industry, Lance joined the CCCC staff in 2011. He currently serves as an elder, campus pastor and director of marriage and family ministry.

Lance's childhood dream was to become an astronaut. That didn't pan out, so now he builds NASA themed Lego sets with his kids and reads nerdy books in his free time.

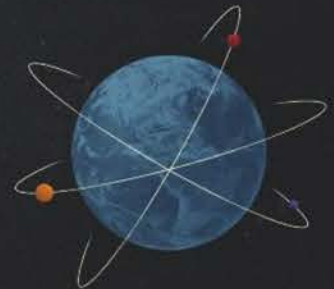


Literary Framework



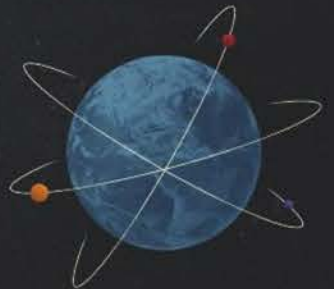
Before We Start

- I hold this view, but it is not the official position of CCCC
- The approach this view takes toward Scripture is fundamentally different than the others



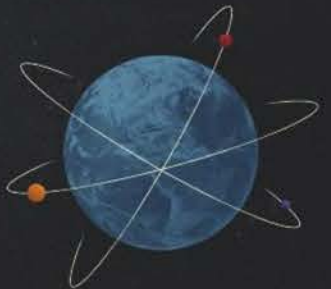
Approach to Scripture

- The purpose of the Bible – “A unified story that leads to Jesus.” – Tim Mackie
- Context is everything
 - Types of literature and literary structure
 - Author/audience
 - Culture
 - How it fits in storyline that points to Jesus



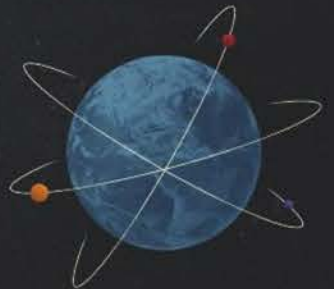
Types of Literature and Literary Structure

- The Bible communicates truth through different types of literature and with many literary devices



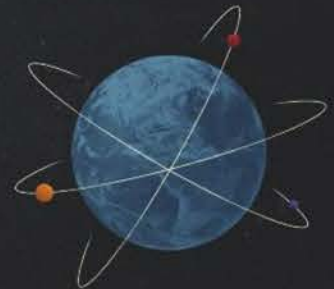
Approach to Scripture

- The purpose of the Bible – “A unified story that leads to Jesus.” – Tim Mackie
- Context is everything
 - Types of literature and literary structure
 - Author/audience
 - Culture
 - How it fits in storyline that points to Jesus



Author and Audience

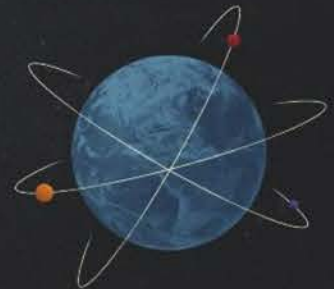
- Time of Moses, after the exodus
- Recently freed slaves
- First of five books (Pentateuch)



Author and Audience

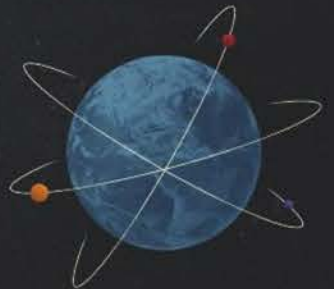
We must ask:

“What is it that the author and his audience understood?”



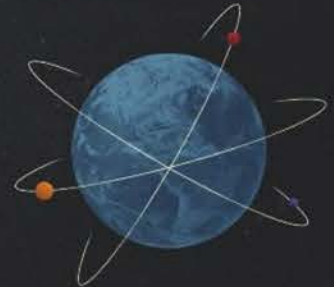
Approach to Scripture

- The purpose of the Bible – “A unified story that leads to Jesus.” – Tim Mackie
- Context is everything
 - Types of literature and literary structure
 - Author/audience
 - Culture
 - How it fits in storyline that points to Jesus



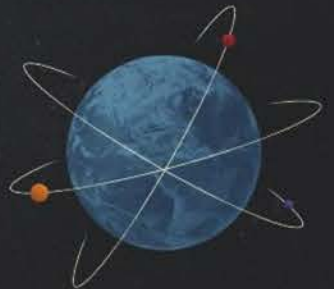
Culture

- It is not enough to translate the language. Culture must also be translated.
- If we don't know the background of the ancient world, we fill in the gaps from our modern world.
- Cultural River – John H. Walton
- Ancient Israelites had more in common with Egyptians, Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and others than they do with us.



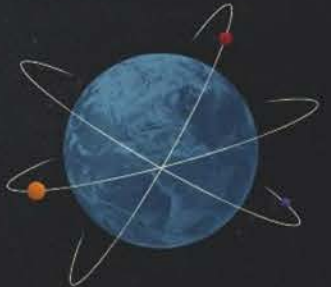
Approach to Scripture

- The purpose of the Bible – “A unified story that leads to Jesus.” – Tim Mackie
- Context is everything
 - Types of literature and literary structure
 - Author/audience
 - Culture
 - How it fits in storyline that points to Jesus

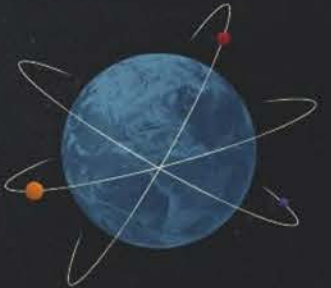


Genesis 1-2

- We must ask, what kind of origins account is this?
- CLAIM: Genesis 1-2 describes functional origins, not material origins.
- Genesis 1-2 is focused on theology, not science

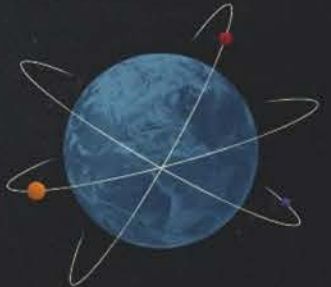


Is this a house story or a home story?



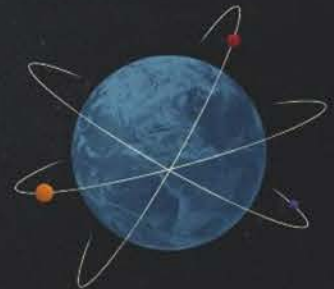
Genesis 1-2

- We must ask, what kind of origins account is this?
- CLAIM: Genesis 1-2 describes functional origins, not material origins.
- Genesis 1-2 is focused on theology, not science



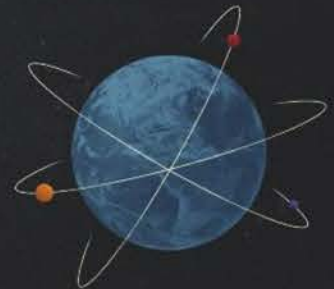
Evidence

- Bārā = create
 - Used 50 times in OT, both materially and functionally
- Light
 - In ANE, light wasn't a material, it was a condition
- “It was good”
 - Moral? Craftsmanship?
 - Adam



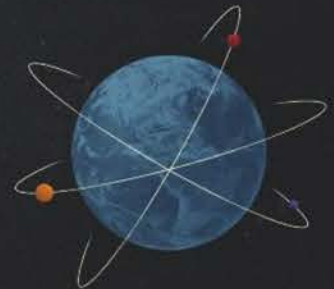
Days 1-3 Establish Functions

- Day 1
- Day 2
- Day 3



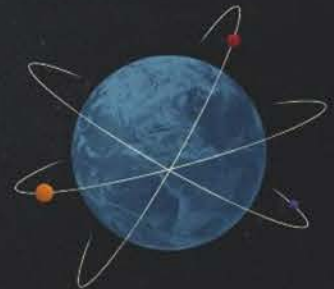
Days 1-3 Establish Functions

- Day 1 – Time
- Day 2
- Day 3



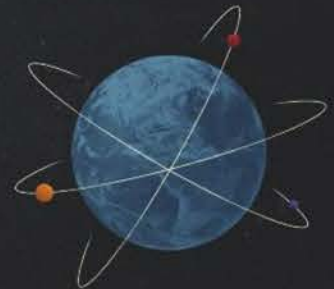
Days 1-3 Establish Functions

- Day 1 – Time
- Day 2 – Weather
- Day 3



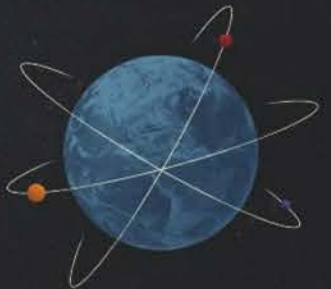
Days 1-3 Establish Functions

- Day 1 – Time
- Day 2 – Weather
- Day 3 – Food



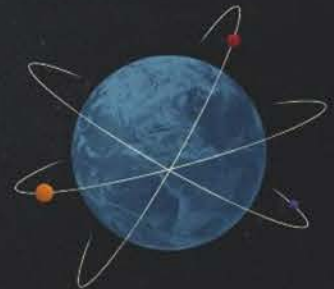
Days 4-6 Establish Functionaries

- Day 4 – Lights
 - Assigned the role of governing seasons, days, years
- Day 5
- Day 6



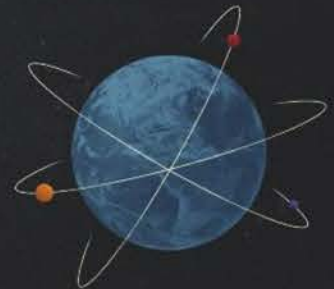
Days 4-6 Establish Functionaries

- Day 4 – Lights
 - Assigned the role of governing seasons, days, years
- Day 5 – Fish and Birds
 - Assigned the task of multiplying
- Day 6



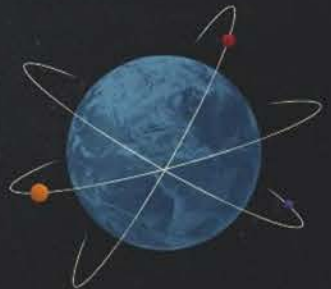
Days 4-6 Establish Functionaries

- Day 4 – Lights
 - Assigned the role of governing seasons, days, years
- Day 5 – Fish and Birds
 - Assigned the task of multiplying
- Day 6 – Land Creatures
 - Assigned the task of multiplying
 - Man ('Adam) in God's image to rule and multiply



Day 7 – Rest

- What does this mean?
- Deity rests in a temple
- The seven days in Genesis 1-2:3 are an inauguration ceremony
- The cosmos is a temple

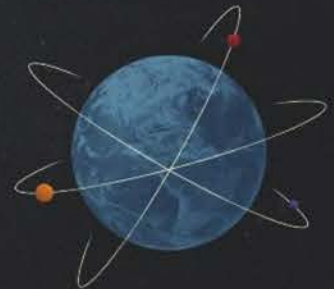


Isaiah 66:1-2

Thus says the LORD:

“Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool;
what is the house that you would build for me,
and what is the place of my rest?

² All these things my hand has made,
and so all these things came to be,
declares the LORD.

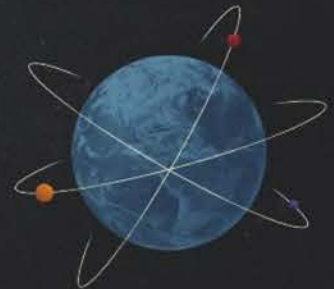


Psalm 132:7-8, 13-14

“Let us go to his dwelling place;
let us worship at his footstool!”

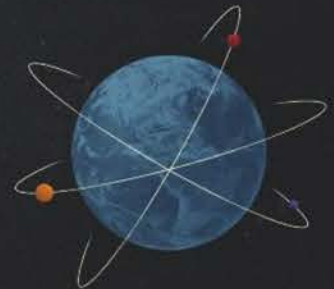
Arise, O LORD, and go to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might.

For the LORD has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his dwelling place:
“This is my resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.



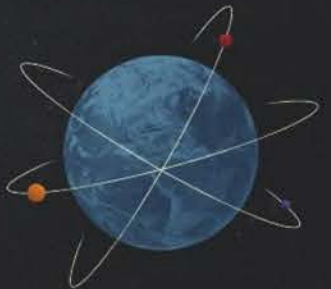
Genesis 1 – Before and After

- Before: God's Spirit was active over nonfunctional cosmos
- After: God has taken up residence in an ordered and functional cosmos
- The cosmos is a temple



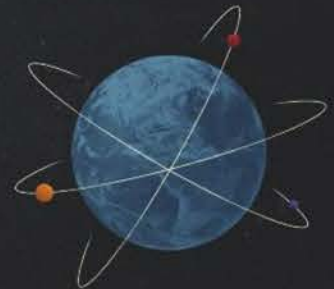
Chapter 2

- Chapter 2 is a sequel to chapter 1, not a retelling of day six
- 2:4 is a toledot
- Adam and Eve are meant to be understood as archetypes
- Chapter 2 is about identity, not physicality



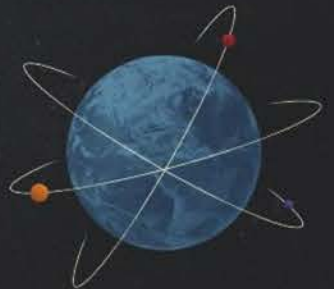
'ADAM

- 34 occurrences in Genesis 1-5
- *Without definite article*
 - 6 as a personal name (4:25, 5:1a, 3, 4, 5 4:1)
 - 5 as humanity (1:26, 2:5, 5:1b, 2, 1:27)
- *With definite article*
 - 20 archetypal individual (2:7-3:24)
 - 3 with preposition (2:20, 3:17, 21)



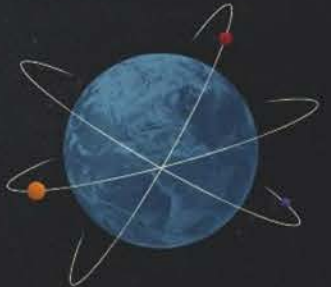
Chapter 2

- Form (v7)
 - Used 42x in OT. More than ½ are unrelated to material
- Dust (v7)
 - Composition? Chemistry?



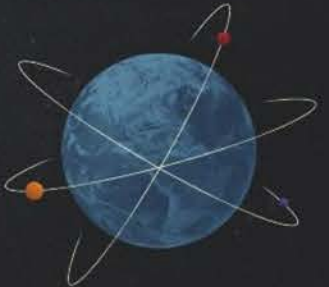
Job 10:8-9

“Your hands fashioned and made me,
and now you have destroyed me altogether.
Remember that you have made me like clay;
and will you return me to the dust?”



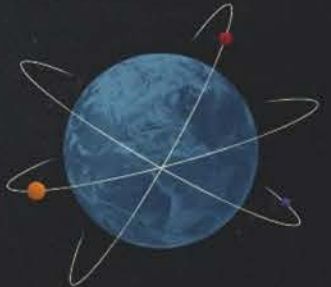
Psalm 103:14

For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.



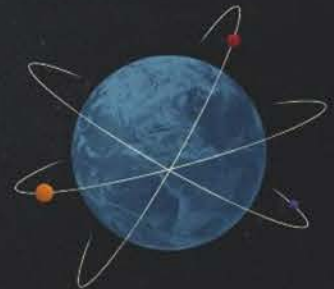
1 Corinthians 15:47-49

The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.



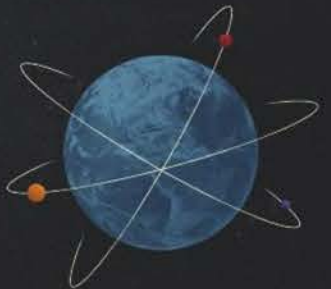
Chapter 2

- Deep sleep (v21)
 - Genesis 15:12, Acts 10:10
 - Trance/vision
- Rib (v21)
 - Used more than 20x in OT. No other uses describe anatomy.
 - Other side/half



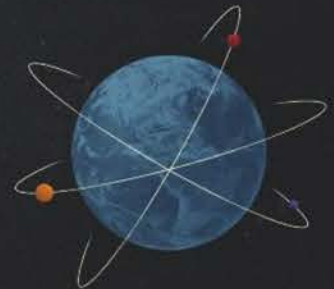
Chapter 2

- Ch 2 is about Adam's and Eve's identity as God's chosen people
- They are given priestly roles in the garden (sacred space) in order to mediate knowledge of God and access to his presence, and to care for the sacred space.
- Adam and Eve are historical people who, in their priestly roles, represent all of humanity (archetypes)
- Consider original audience (Israel) and Tabernacle



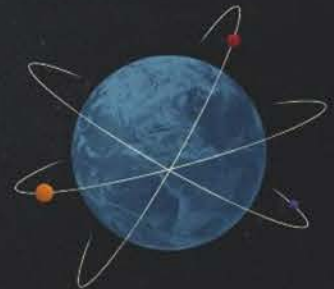
Genesis 1-2 and Science

- This view seeks to understand the text as the original audience would have.
- This view does not seek to reconcile what we read in Scripture with what we observe through science.
- This view allows scientific theories and findings to stand or fall on their own merits.



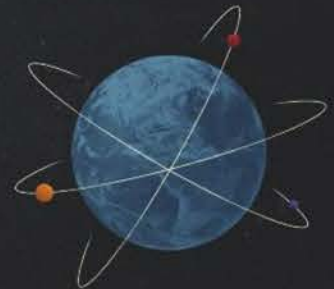
What about...?

- Dinosaurs
- Cavemen
- Evolution
- Flood



Difficulties

- Counter-intuitive
- Translations of Scripture



Resources

- Lost World of Genesis One by John H Walton
- Lost World of Adam and Eve by John H Walton
- Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes by E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien

