

## Reading and Praying “In the Beginning”

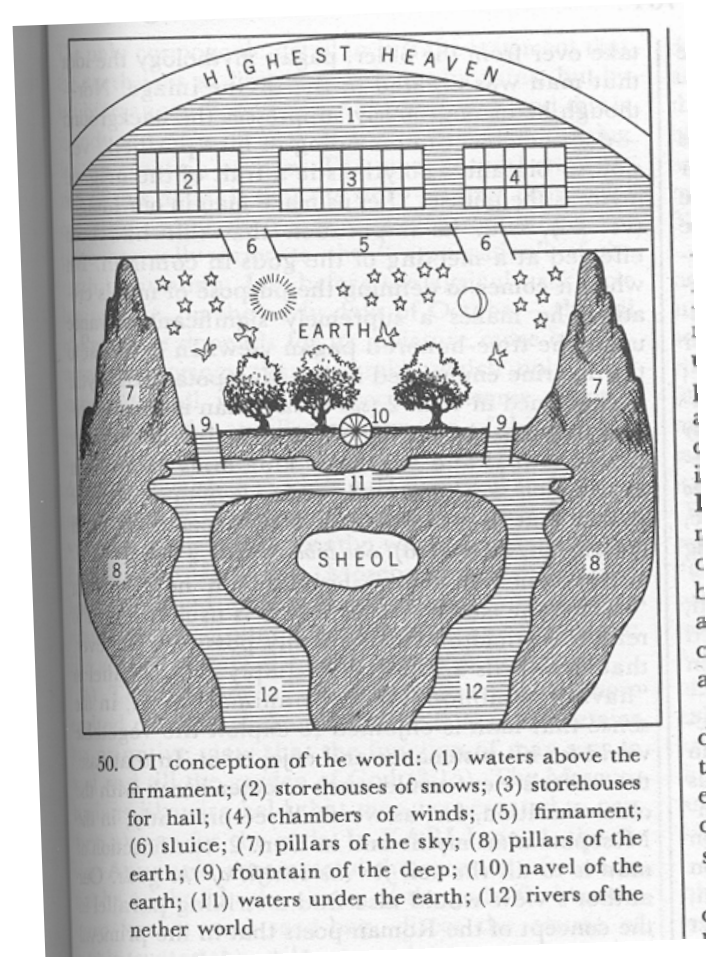
### In the Beginning...God

Group 1: Selected verses from Genesis 1:1–31 (NRSV)

Group 2: Selected verses from John 1:1–18 (NRSV)

1. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
  2. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
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1. The earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep.
  2. *The Word was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.*
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1. A wind from God swept over the face of the waters.
  2. *What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.*
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1. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.
  2. *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it... The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him.*
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1. Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness...” So God created humankind in his own image.
  2. *And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.*
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1. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it.”
  2. *From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*
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1. And it was so. God saw everything he had made, and indeed, it was very good.
  2. *No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.*

## How Ancient Peoples Viewed the World



## Reading Genesis 1:1-2:3 and Genesis 2:4-25

How long did creation take?

Where did creation take place?

When in the process was man created? From what substance?

When in the process was woman created? From what substance?

What is the relationship between male and female?

What is the relationship between humans and God?

What is the main point or idea of the story?