

less fortunate are not less valuable to God. Human beings are not defined by their intellectual or physical capacities or limitations.

When we worship God as the Creator, we acknowledge the sanctity of life. Every human being is unique. To lightly regard life is a sin against the Creator. The call to worship the Creator is the call to understand the value of every human being.

The Basis for Personal Fellowship and Intimate Relationship

Creation speaks of our value in God's sight. We are not alone in the universe. We're not some speck of cosmic dust. We did not evolve. We are not a genetic accident.

Jesus is worthy of our worship not only because He created us, but also because He redeemed us. Creation and redemption are at the heart of all true worship. This is why the Sabbath is so significant. It speaks of a Creator's care and a Redeemer's love.

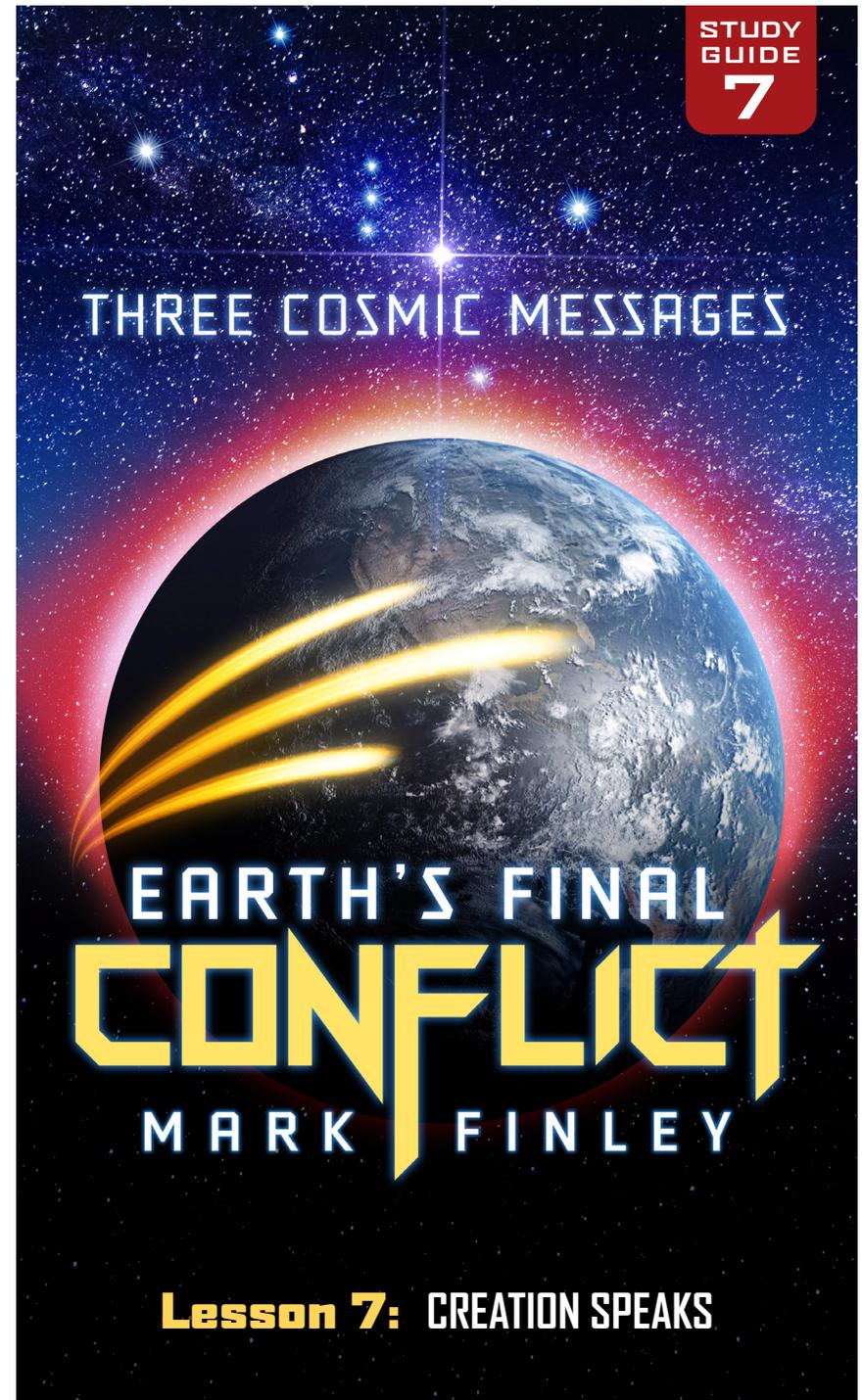
5. What major event took place at the end of creation week?

(Genesis 2:1–3)

As we worship on the Sabbath, we receive the special blessing God placed on that day that He placed on no other day. The Sabbath reminds us that we are not cosmic orphans on some spinning globe of rock. It points us to a Creator who fashioned us with purpose and loved us too much to abandon us when we drifted from that purpose.

The Sabbath is an eternal symbol of our rest in Him. It is a special sign of loyalty to the Creator (see Ezekiel 20:12, 20). Rather than being an arbitrary, legalistic requirement, it reveals that true rest from righteousness by works is found in Him. The Sabbath speaks of a God who has achieved so we can rest in His achievements. The message of Revelation 14, God's end-time message, calls us to rest in His loving care each Sabbath. It calls us to remember the One who created us and to give Him glory.

The Sabbath is also the eternal link between the perfection of Eden in the past and the glory of the new heavens and the new earth in the future. Until that day, as we worship Him with all our hearts as Creator of heaven and earth, we rest in His everlasting love, praise Him for His grace, and long for the day that He will soon return and make all things right.



IN THE 1840'S, SOCIAL, POLITICAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND RELIGIOUS REVOLUTIONS

changed the world as we know it. Charles Darwin published his first essay articulating the theory of evolution in 1844. By 1859, the impact of the theory of evolution was already incalculable.

During the same time period, Karl Marx and Fredrick Engels were rocking the world with the publication of the Communist Manifesto in various languages throughout the world. Evolution and communism both placed an extremely low value on human life by dismissing the concept of a personal Creator.

A Message for the Hour

God would not allow the world to be without a witness. It was at this precise time period that God raised up a divine movement to proclaim His last-day message to a world longing to discover meaning, purpose, and identity. A group of Bible-believing Christians from multiple faith backgrounds began studying the age-old prophecies of Daniel and Revelation. They discovered a message tailor-made for the times—a message that answered the great questions of a generation anticipating the soon return of Christ.

The central issue in the book of Revelation is worship. We all worship something or someone. True worship of our Creator gives us not only something to die for but, more significantly, something to live for. “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of waters” (Revelation 14:7).

Worship the Creator

In our last few presentations, we discovered that the expression “Fear God and give glory to Him” speaks of making God, rather than ourselves, our central focus. This absolute loyalty to God results in living lives of obedience to His will and pleasing Him in all that we do—a commitment made even more urgent in the blazing light of eternity.

1. Who are we called to worship? What significance does this have in light of evolution and atheistic communism? (Revelation 14:7)

This is a clarion call to worship the Creator at a time when most of the scientific and religious world has accepted the Darwinian theory of evolution.

Why Creation Matters

Let's return to the beginning of the Bible so we can better understand the end. Read the first verse of Genesis: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). This verse is the foundation for all of Scripture.

The Hebrew word for “create” in this passage is *bara*. God has the ability—the awesome power—to create something out of nothing. God speaks, and the earth comes into existence. He speaks, and the earth is carpeted with living green. He speaks, and trees and flowers appear. He speaks, and the sun, moon, and stars instantly appear in the sky.

God delivered His people from Egyptian bondage, guided them in the wilderness, fed them with manna, caused the walls of Jericho to collapse, and defeated Israel's enemies. This same God unleashes creative power to defeat the enemy who battles for our souls. We are transformed, changed, and made new by the unlimited, infinite power of the Creator.

2. What assurance do we have regarding God's creative power in our lives? (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Creation speaks of a God who, in the last days, gives us the strength to overcome Satan's fiercest temptations, enticements, and deceptions. Revelation's call to worship the Creator is a call to live praise-filled lives, rejoicing in the strength He gives us to face each day.

Creation speaks of a God of intricate design and careful planning—the originator of life. It speaks of a divine plan. Since He created us, we are valuable in His sight. Whatever the circumstances of our lives, we are special to God.

3. As you meditate on the fact that you were created special by God, what significance does that knowledge have for you? (Psalm 139:15–18)

God thinks about us more times each day than there are grains of sand by the seaside. He sustains our lives and works through all the circumstances of our lives, good or bad, to draw us closer to Him.

Creation as the Basis of Our Worship

4. What is the basis of all worship? (Compare Revelation 4:11 with Psalm 139:14)

True worship acknowledges the God who created all things through Jesus Christ (see Ephesians 3:9). Our existence is not the result of blind chance or accidental happenstance. It is the purposeful act of God.

Since we are living in a world of brokenness and sin, we often experience less-than-ideal circumstances. Still, all life is precious to God. Those who are