

## CREATION STORIES FROM THE BIBLE AND QURAN:

We begin this contemplation of the past with quotes from various scriptures concerning the creation of Man. This will help us grapple with the mystery of both Adam and the creation of man. (At times, due to limitations of length in a work of this nature, some scripture will be paraphrased. The reader can access original contents from their respective sources.)

Beginning with **Genesis 1:1-8,NIV**

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. Then God saw the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night". And there was evening and there was morning- the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning- the second day."*

**Genesis** goes on describing the remaining "five days" of a "seven day" creation story. Day "three" God creates land and seas along with all forms of vegetation in the plant kingdom.

**The fourth day: Genesis 1:14-19:NIV** *"And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights- the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning- the fourth day."*

The fourth day is of special interest. It may give us a glimpse at what ancient astrology was all about- not originally worshipping stars and constellations but rather, simply using their positions in the sky as a celestial calendar to chart the seasons (Gen 1:14). Also, the "stars" (Gen 1: 17-18) could also be a metaphor for messengers of God or holy people.

It makes no sense for the stars to be created after the earth or its plant life. It also makes little sense to “set stars in the sky to give light to the earth, to govern the day and night.” If “light and dark” are seen as “good and evil” and “stars” are seen as God’s messengers giving light to the world then Genesis makes perfect sense and even can agree with modern science. (Jesus said he came to bring light to the world.)

The fifth day God creates aquatic animal life and birds. He bids them to be fruitful and multiply. (Notice birds were created before the larger beasts.) These God created on the sixth day at which time God made wild animals and livestock.  
It is at this point God creates Man.

**Genesis 1:26-27:NIV** *“Then God said,” let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”*

**There appears to be a second creation story in the bible.**

**Genesis 2:4-7:** describes the creation of Adam specifically while  
**Genesis 1:26-27:** (above) talks of man as a species being created as the final product in a long line of evolutionary creation (generally from the simplest to the more complex).

**Genesis 2:4-7: NIV**

*“This is the account of the heavens and of the earth when they were created. When the Lord God made the earth and the heavens- and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground- the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”*

**(The Qur'an (Pickthall tr), Sura 2 - The Cow)** may be a lesson of the allegorical meanings behind the creation stories in Genesis.

*164 “Lo! In the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the difference of night and day, and the ships which run upon the sea with that which is of use to men, and the water which Allah sendeth down from the sky, thereby reviving the earth after its death, and dispersing all kinds of beasts therein, and (in) the ordinance of the winds, and the clouds obedient between heaven and earth: are signs (of Allah's Sovereignty) for people who have sense.”*

Note: In the above Sura: "heavens and earth" may mean the spiritual and material realms. "Night and day" could refer to darkness of sin and the light of the Word of God. "The ships, which run upon the sea" Likely refers to the ark or ships of God's Covenant. (See Noah's Ark and Baha'u'llah's Tablet of the Holy Mariner.) God is the captain of the ship. The people who are within the ship are sheltered by the Covenant from the storms and trials of life.

**The Hidden Words #3: Baha'u'llah:** gives a different perspective on creation:  
*"Veiled in My immemorial being and in the ancient eternity of My essence, I knew My love for thee; therefore I created thee, have engraved on thee Mine image and revealed to thee My beauty."*

Now let's turn to Adam, Who to many represents the first creation of Man. See > <http://onenessbecomesus.com/Adam.pdf>