

This is my Father's world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world  
I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees and skies and seas  
His hand the wonders wrought.  
-Maltbie Babcock, 1901

"In our world," said Eustace, "a star is a huge ball of flaming gas."  
"Even in your world, my son, that is not what a star is, but only what it is made of." - C.S. Lewis, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*

**Assignment:**

1. As you've come now through the first four days of creation in Genesis 1, have you been able to learn a bit more about God's wisdom, power, and goodness? What do these verses teach you about God's wisdom, power, and his goodness?
2. Read Job 38:1-38. What is the effect that God's questions have on Job? What is the effect they have on you?
3. Read Isaiah 40:12-31. How can a meditation upon the power and ability of God bring comfort to those who are fainthearted?
4. Read Jeremiah 5:20-25. What is the relation of God setting boundaries for the seas to wicked evildoers and their iniquities?
5. Read 2 Peter 3:1-7. Why does Peter bring to remembrance the fact that the earth was formed out of water as he is teaching about coming judgment to scoffers?

**Boundary, Bread, Brilliance: Days 2, 3, and 4 of Creation**

Initial thoughts:

1. God creates a world (cosmos) of distinction. (Psalm 148)

2. God creates, and it is all good.

2 Bad Ideas about the Created World:

1. Creation is morally evil.

2. Creation is itself a moral being. Example, Pope Francis, "Care for our Common Home":

"Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also *unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river, and other earth.*"

3. God creates with a direction. (Isaiah 45:18)

### **I. Day 2: The formation of Earth. (Genesis 1:9-10)**

A. Earth: a dwelling place for life.

B. Holding back the sea.

1. Teaches God's power. (Psalm 33:6-9)

2. Teaches God's providence. (Job 38:10-11)

3. Teaches God's judgment. (Jeremiah 5:20-25)

### **II. Day 3: Plants yielding seed, and trees bearing fruit. (Genesis 1:11-13)**

A. What kinds of plants?

1. Grains

2. Fruits

B. A new creation norm:

1. Fruitfulness

### **III. Day 4: Lights to govern. (Genesis 1:14-19)**

A. Purposes of the Heavenly Bodies:

1. They shine. (Matthew 13:43)

2. They signify. (Genesis 37:9-10)

3. They determine seasons. (Lev 23:5-6; Col 2:16-17)

4. They are clocks for days and years.
5. They are sovereign. They rule. (Rev 1:20; Genesis 37:9-10)
6. They are associated with angels (Job 38:7) and saints. (Genesis 15:5; Philippians 2:15)