

# Origins

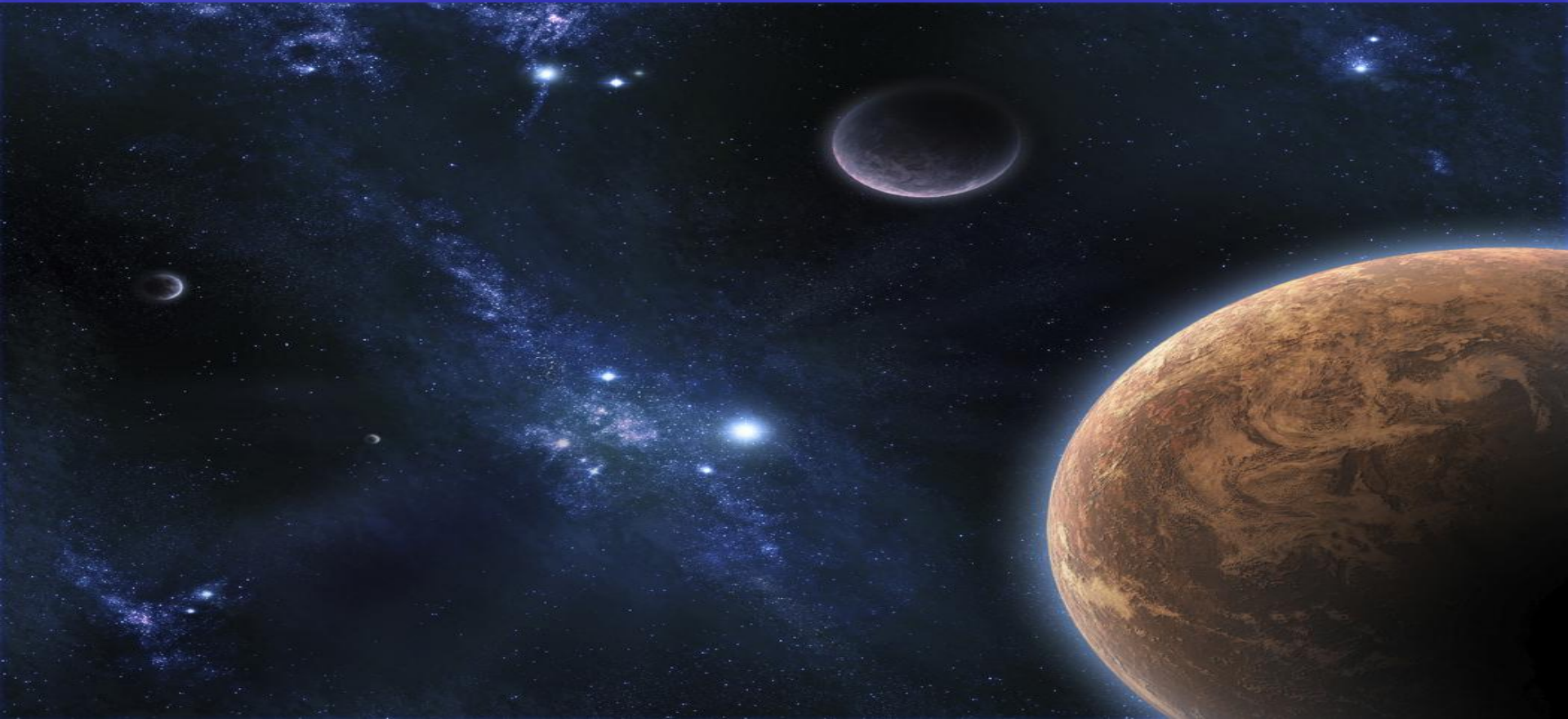
Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

# Introduction:

- Man has always been intrigued with the theme of origins.
- Science, however, cannot satisfy that curiosity, for it cannot deal with the question of origins.
- The first verse of the Bible, though, by divine inspiration, answers the human longing: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

# I. IN THE BEGINNING

- The "beginning" is the beginning of the creation of the universe.



# I. IN THE BEGINNING

- The expression in the beginning clearly reveals that the universe is not eternal.
- Hebrews 1:10, 11 And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment,

# I. IN THE BEGINNING

- This initial phrase focuses upon the commencement time. Prior to this event, time did not exist.



# I. IN THE BEGINNING

- The universe is not billions of years old, as alleged by evolutionary date-setters. The fact is, the universe and humankind share a genesis within the same week.



**The Beginning**

# I. IN THE BEGINNING

- Mark 10:6 But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'
- Romans 1:20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

## II. GOD

- The eternal source behind the universe is God.
- No explanation is offered for the presence of God. He is simply depicted as the existing Creator.
- The Hebrew term Elohim probably derives from a root meaning strong.



## II. GOD

- The name, as used in Genesis 1:1, is plural.
- Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

## II. GOD

- Genesis 3:22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—"
- Geneses 11:7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."

## II. GOD

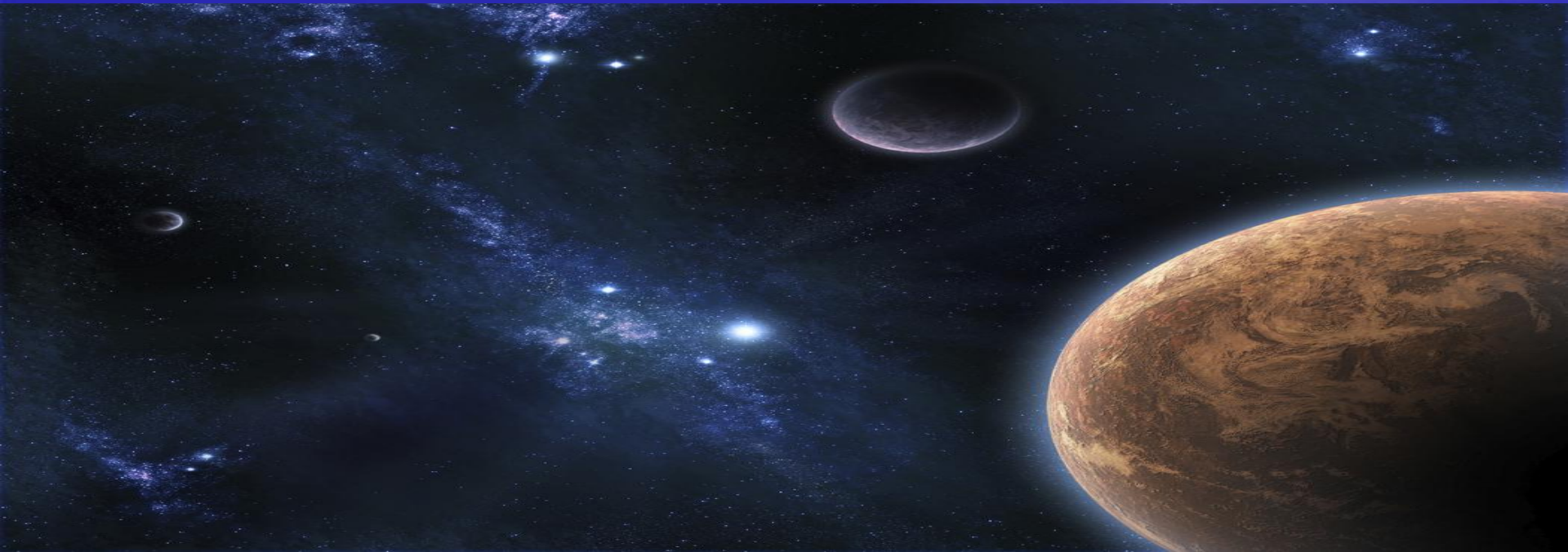
- The New Testament makes it clear that the pre-incarnate Christ was a key figure in the creation.
- John 1:3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- Hebrews 1:2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

## II. GOD

- Colossians 1:16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- The "heavens and earth" refer to the universe as we know it (i.e., the sky above with all that is in it and the earth below).



# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- The universe was not self-created



# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- The action of Genesis 1:1 involved a creation out of nothing.
- Psalm 33:9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
- Hebrews 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- Romans 4:17 as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.



# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- Though Scripture does not specifically mention it, apparently even the angels were made at this time, for we are later informed that the entire creation was accomplished within the first week.
- Exodus 20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- and that the angels “shouted for joy” when the “foundations of the earth” were laid.
- Job 38:4-7 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy

# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- This verse is important because it contradicts six popular philosophies:
- 1. Atheism (the doctrine or belief that there is no God) —God does exist.
- 2. Pantheism (the doctrine that God is nature)—God is distinct from His creation.
- 3. Polytheism (the doctrine of or belief in more than one god or in many gods)—"Created" is singular in the text.

# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- 4. Radical materialism (matter is eternal)—Matter had a supernatural origin.
- 5. Naturalism (evolutionism)—Creation took place when someone outside nature intervened.
- 6. Fatalism (the acceptance of all things and events as inevitable; submission to fate )—A personal God freely chose to create.

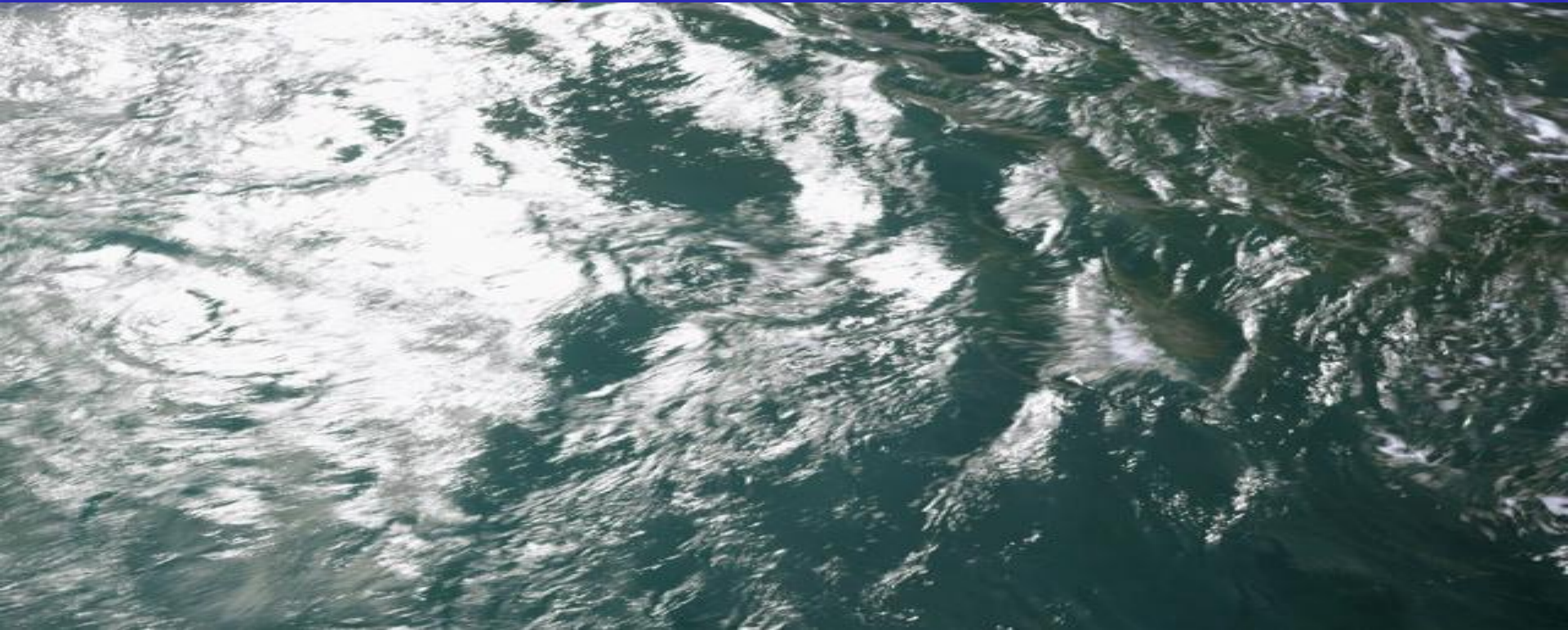
# III. CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH

- The emphasis in this verse is on the origin of the universe.
- God created it.
- He alone is eternal, and everything else owes its origin and existence to Him.



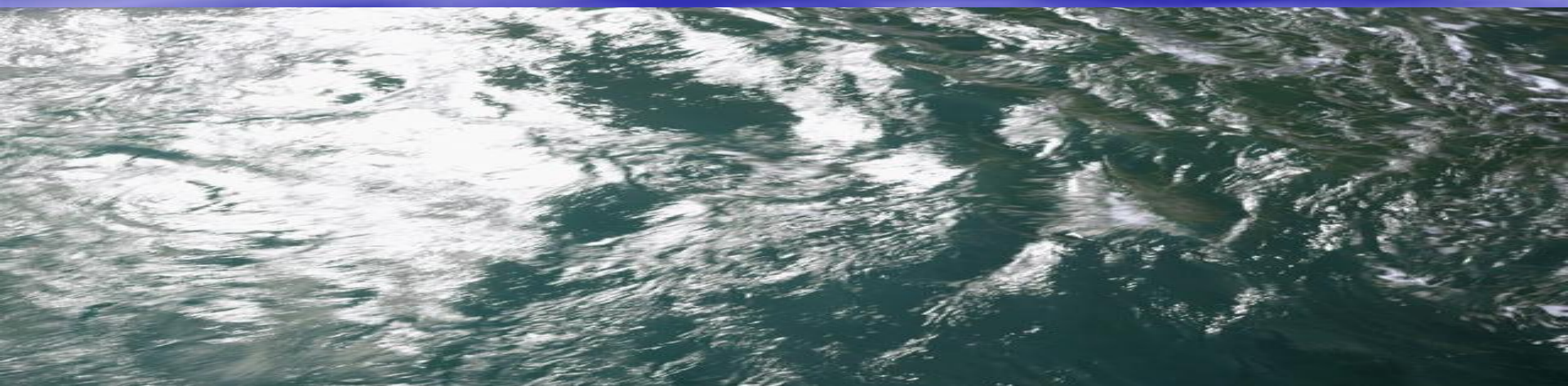
# IV. THE EARTH WAS WITHOUT FORM AND VOID

- Verse 2 describes the condition of the earth before God prepared it for human beings.



# IV. THE EARTH WAS WITHOUT FORM AND VOID

- Here we learn that the earth was "formless and empty" (meaning thoroughly disorganized, unproductive, and uninhabited) before God graciously prepared it for human habitation.



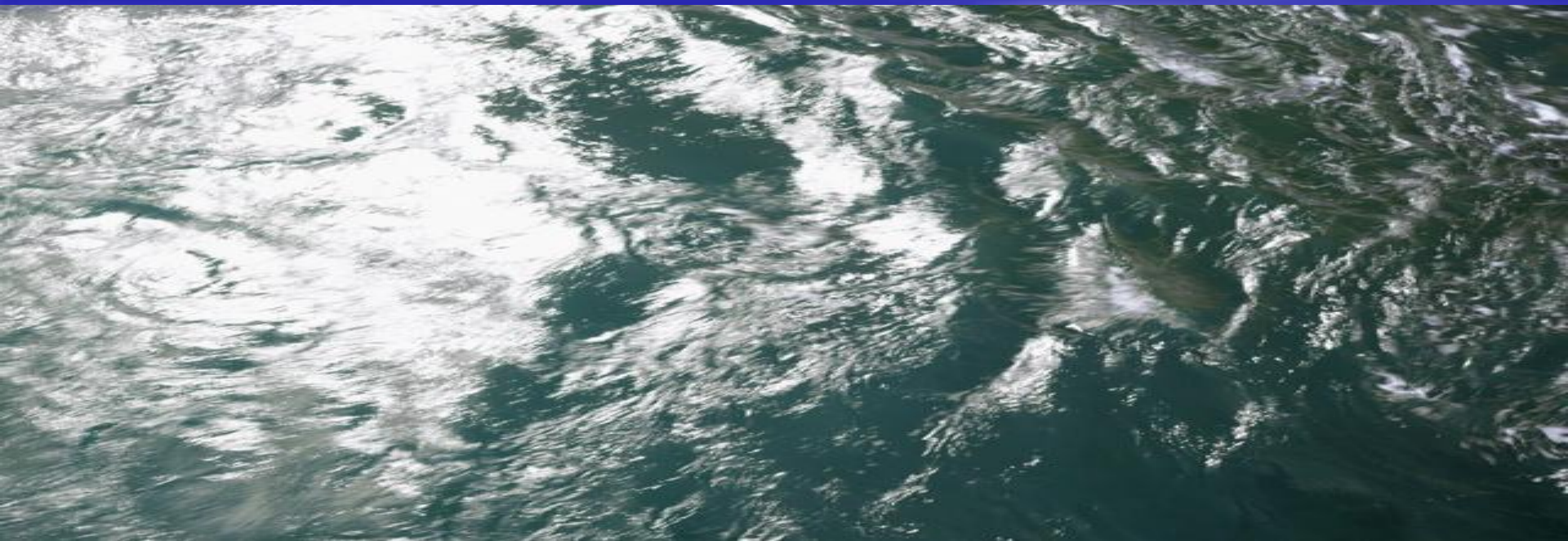
# IV. THE EARTH WAS WITHOUT FORM AND VOID

- Jeremiah 4:23-27 I looked on the earth, and behold, it was without form and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and behold, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and behold, there was no man, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and behold, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger. For thus says the LORD, "The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.



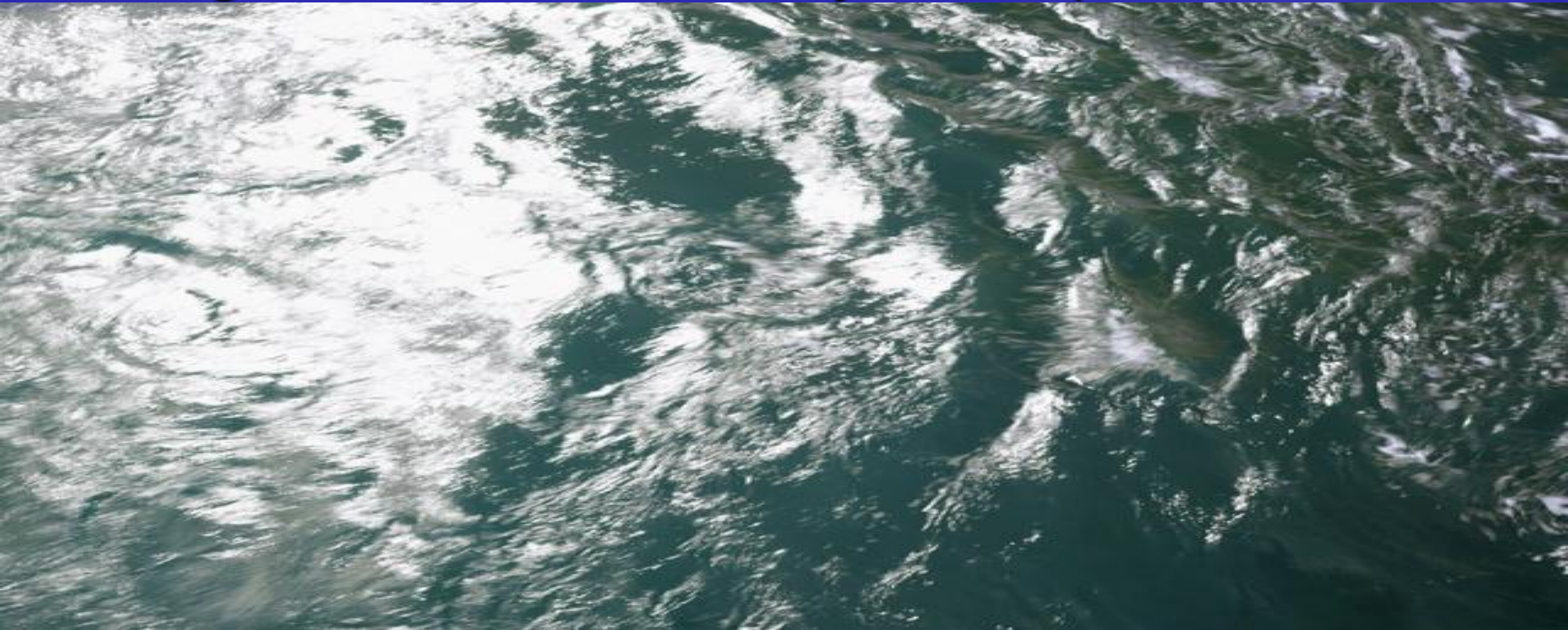
# V. AND DARKNESS WAS OVER THE FACE OF THE DEEP.

- The original creation was shrouded in darkness as the Spirit of God began to fashion the earth into a place for biological habitation.



# V. AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD WAS HOVERING OVER THE FACE OF THE WATERS.

- All is static, lifeless, immobile. Motion, which is the essential element in change, originates with God's dynamic presence.



# Conclusion:

- Verse 1 explains the origin of the universe.
- Verse 2 describes conditions that existed on earth when God created it originally.
- Verses 3-31 describe this original condition in more detail and explain the process of creation by which God formed what was formless and filled what was void.

# Conclusion:

- These verses refer to the beginning of the world as we know it; it affirms that it is entirely the product of the creation of God.
- The creation account is theocentric, not creature centered. Its purpose is to glorify the Creator by magnifying him through the majesty of the created order.