

DAY THREE -- LAND, SEAS AND TREES

Sunday, October 4, 2026 -- GENESIS 1-11 series -- msg 7 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

GENESIS 1:9-13

English Standard Version (ESV)

9 And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. **10** God called the dry land **Earth**, and the waters that were gathered together he called **Seas**. And God saw that it was good.

11 And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. **12** The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **13** And there was evening and there was morning, **the third day**.

REVIEW:

Day One: God created light and separated light from darkness.

Day Two: God separated the waters from the expanse.

Day Three: God makes another key separation and creates more.

KEY OBSERVATIONS FROM THE TEXT:

1. Notice God’s MAIN ACTIONS of Day Three:

1st – God separates the waters from the dry land.

2nd -- God names them: Earth and Sea.
God declares them good.

3rd – God creates the various kinds of vegetation (procreative plants).
God declares them good.

When we looked at Day One we asked ourselves what creation would be like without the key element that was created by God that day: LIGHT.

Now again, we can ask ourselves what our world would be like without DRY LAND or VEGETATION.

(There are worlds like this! Think of Jupiter’s moon Europa – ice covered saltwater ocean. Or the fictional Miller’s Planet from Interstellar)

What kind of a world would any of these be?

Would you want to live there? Could you live there?

2. God separates the WATERS from the LAND. vs 9-10

9 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. 10 God called the dry land **Earth**, and the waters that were gathered together he called **Seas**. And God saw that it was good.

Consider the magnitude of the oceans.

The weight of water. The crushing pressure of mere depth.

The power of the tides.

The enormous force of wind and waves together.

Amazing basic facts:

About 71% of the earth is covered by ocean.

Average depth of the oceans is 2.3 miles deep (12,144 feet)

352,000,000,000,000,000,000 gallons (352 quintillion gallons)

Deepest point: Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench 36,000 feet deep.

Or nearly 7 miles deep. or 16,000 PSI.

If all land was even, water would cover the earth 1.7 miles deep!

About 97% of earth's water is in the oceans. 3% in lakes and rivers.

ISAIAH 40:12:

"Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand...?"

JOB 38:8-11

⁸ *"Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,*

⁹ *when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,*

¹⁰ *and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,*

¹¹ *and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?*

PSALM 104:6-9

⁶ *You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.*

⁷ *At your rebuke they fled;
at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.*

⁸ *The mountains rose, the valleys sank down
to the place that you appointed for them.*

⁹ *You set a boundary that they may not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.*

- God sets the boundaries of the sea for His good design and purposes.

3. God causes the DRY LAND to appear. vs 9-10

*9 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. 10 God called the dry land **Earth**, and the waters that were gathered together he called **Seas**. And God saw that it was good.*

God does not tell us HOW He accomplished this,
but He does tell us that He did it.

So his method is not as important as his sovereign command and ability.

- God names the dry land EARTH and the gathered waters SEAS.
- God names the great realms (Day, Night, Heaven, Earth, Seas).
- God shares His dominion with Adam to name the animals.

See His GENEROSITY!

4. God covers the land with vegetation vs 11-12

11 And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. 12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Day Three moves from FORMING to FILLING.

Day Three sees LIFE come into the creation.

We go from physical science to biology.

Notice the emphasis on progressing production.

vs 11 *sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed,
fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed*

Notice this LIFE had continuation and reproduction build into it.

Notice this LIFE had variety and various kinds from the start.

This is very specifically stated. Almost as a refutation of Darwinism from the start.

5. DAY THREE again reveals GOD's ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY.

verse 11 we hear God's command.

verse 12 we see Creation's response.

PSALM 33:8–9:

*Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!
For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.*

We would do well to follow creation's example.

6. DAY THREE is revealing the WISDOM and PROVISION of GOD.

God is preparing the world for the creatures He will make.

Before birds there are trees.

Before cattle there is grass.

Before Adam there is food.

Before Eve there is fruit.

PSALM 104:14

*You cause the grass to grow for the livestock
and plants for man to cultivate,
that he may bring forth food from the earth.*

MATTHEW 6:25-32 Jesus refers to God's wise provision for you...

*25 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 **Look at the birds of the air**: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? **Consider the lilies of the field**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and **your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.***

7. DAY THREE: See the GOODNESS of GOD. vs 10 & 13

And God saw that it was good.

Twice we see that God's work is good in Day Three.

We not only see His great power but we see His great goodness.

He is revealing this standard of things being as they ought to be.

PSALM 104:24

***"O LORD, how manifold are Your works!
In wisdom have You made them all."***