

# Genesis 1:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

## Analysis

**And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thi...** This verse is part of the creation account that establishes God's sovereign power and purposeful design. The structured pattern of the seven days reveals divine order, intentionality, and progressive development from formless void to a world prepared for human habitation.

The recurring phrases "And God said," "and it was so," "And God saw that it was good" create a liturgical rhythm emphasizing:

1. creation by divine decree
2. immediate fulfillment of God's word,
3. divine evaluation of creation's goodness.

This pattern refutes both polytheistic chaos-and-conflict creation myths and modern materialistic chance-based origins.

Each stage builds toward the climax of human creation in God's image. The theological themes include divine transcendence and immanence, purposeful design, creation's inherent goodness, and humanity's unique role as God's image-bearers and stewards. The creation account provides the foundation for understanding work and rest (Sabbath), male and female relationships (marriage), human dominion (stewardship), and moral accountability to the Creator. These

opening chapters establish the worldview framework for all subsequent biblical revelation.

## Historical Context

---

Genesis 1 stands in stark contrast to ancient Near Eastern creation accounts like the Babylonian Enuma Elish, Egyptian creation myths, and Ugaritic texts. While these portrayed creation resulting from conflicts between deities or sexual generation of gods, Genesis presents a sovereign monotheistic God who creates effortlessly by divine decree. This would have been revolutionary to ancient readers accustomed to polytheistic cosmogonies.

The Hebrew text's literary structure (seven days, recurring formulas) suggests careful composition as theological proclamation rather than primitive mythology. Archaeological discoveries of creation tablets from Mesopotamia (2000-1500 BCE) reveal that Genesis addresses similar questions but provides radically different answers about the nature of God, humanity, and the cosmos. The absence of theogony (origin of gods) and theomachy (conflict between gods) distinguishes Genesis from its ancient Near Eastern context.

For Israelites emerging from Egyptian bondage or later facing Babylonian captivity, this truth that Yahweh created everything would have been profoundly liberating and countercultural. The gods of Egypt and Babylon were mere creations, not creators. Genesis 1 establishes that Israel's God alone is supreme, rendering pagan deities powerless and their worship futile.

## Related Passages

---

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this verse contribute to the biblical doctrine of creation, fall, or redemption?
2. How does this passage challenge modern cultural assumptions about identity, purpose, or morality?
3. How does this passage point forward to Christ and the gospel of redemption?

## Interlinear Text

---

לְמִן הָיָה יְמִינָה אֱלֹהִים תַּזְכֵּר אֶל־צְבָא אֶל־פְּשָׁע וְפִתְּחוֹן כְּלִי־מִן־הַבָּהָם כְּלִי־מִן־הַבָּהָם  
said And God bring forth Let the earth creature and beast after his kind  
H559 H430 H3318 H776 H5315 H2416 H4327  
cattle and creeping thing and beast Let the earth after his kind  
H929 H7431 H2416 H776 H4327 H1961 H3651

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Job 40:15** (Parallel theme): Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox.

**Genesis 6:20** (Parallel theme): Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

**Genesis 8:19** (Parallel theme): Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.