

II. Analysis of Genesis (see outline on pgs 13-15)

A. The Beginnings of Human History (1:1-11:2)

1. Introduction: Creation (1:1-2:3)

i. Primary summary statement (1:1)

a. This statement gives a refutation of 3 false teachings

1) A refutation of materialism

- i) Materialism says that matter is eternal.
- ii) But there is no way that matter can be eternal with this verse.

2) A refutation of pantheism

- i) Pantheism says that God is everything and everything is God.
- ii) But notice God created the heavens and the earth.
- iii) It does not say God is the heavens and the earth.
- iv) God is distinct from the heavens and the earth.

3) A refutation of polytheism

- i) Polytheism says that there are many gods.
- ii) The word God is the Hebrew word Elohim which is plural.
- iii) Elohim can refer to:
 - a) The one and only true God
 - b) False gods
 - c) Men who are judges who are called gods (Psalm 82)
- iv) The plural here in 1:1 is used to indicate the one and only true God. The way we tell that is because the verb that is used is singular.

ii. The days of creation (1:2-2:3)

a. 1:2

- 1) The earth was without shape and without content.
- 2) The earth was in an ocean like a sponge in water as Hendricksen said.
- 3) God is going to take the earth, shapeless and formless and empty, and he is going to give it shape and form and fill it so it will no longer be without content.
- 4) This happens in the following days of creation.

b. Day 1

- 1) God creates the light.
- 2) He separates the light from the darkness.
- 3) The light he calls day and the darkness he calls night.

the word "created" is in the singular,
through the word "God" is in the plural,
which facts are in beautiful
harmony with the latter revelation
concerning the triune God.

i) when the earth is without content,
it is God who fills it with
grass, herbs, trees, and
animals.

ii) when the earth is without
definite form, it is God who
imparts to it a definite and
visible form by means of
a threefold separation process.

- 1) Dividing light from
darkness
- 2) Dividing waters above
from waters below
- 3) Dividing seas from
dry land