

Genesis 1:20-31 New Living Translation (NLT)

20 Then God said, “Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.” **21** So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. **22** Then God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

23 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

24 Then God said, “Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals.” And that is what happened. **25** God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, “Let us make human beings[a] in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth,[b] and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

27 So God created human beings[c] in his own image.

In the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

28 Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

29 Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. **30** And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life.” And that is what happened.

31 Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

Footnotes:

a 1:26a Or *man*; Hebrew reads *adam*.

b 1:26b As in Syriac version; Hebrew reads *all the earth*.

c 1:27 Or *the man*; Hebrew reads *ha-adam*.

Questions:

1. What does God fill the waters of the earth with?
2. What does God fill the sky with?
3. Describe all the different kinds of animals that God created.
4. In what image are human beings created to be like?

How does being created in God’s image affect how you view yourself? Explain.

How does knowing that everyone is created in God’s image affect how you treat others? Explain.

5. How does God describe everything He made at the end of this passage?