

The Creation Epics

Using only the information in each account, answer the questions below for the two Creation Epics. Epic 1 is found in Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a; Epic 2 is found in Genesis 2:4b - 2:24.

Questions	Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a	Genesis 2:4b - 2:24
1. What is the name of the Creator in each account?	(Hebrew = Elohim)	(Hebrew = Yahweh)
2. How long did it take the Creator to complete the task of creation?		
3. From what original “stuff” did the Creator make the world?		
4. In what order or sequence did creation take place? Number & list the order.		
5. How is the creation of humans described?		

6. What is the task of the human creature?		
7. The Hebrew word <i>ruah</i> means “breath,” or “spirit,” or “wind.”	How is <i>ruah</i> used in 1:2?	How is <i>ruah</i> used in 2:7?
8. The Hebrew word ‘ <i>adam</i> means “mankind” or “humanity.”	How is ‘ <i>adam</i> used in 1:27?	How is ‘ <i>adam</i> used in 2:7?
9. By what means does the Creator cause things to come into being?		

10. Try to draw a picture of the cosmologies described in each story, using only the texts given.

Passage	Theology	Anthropology
Genesis 1:1-2:4a	<p>What view of God do you find in this passage?</p> <p>Define “omnipotence.”</p> <p>List the ways in which God’s omnipotence is expressed in Genesis 1.</p>	<p>What view of humankind do you find?</p> <p>Define “dominion.”</p> <p>With this word in mind, explain how the account shows the truth of the following analogy:</p> <p>God : humans ::</p> <p>humans : the creatures of the earth</p> <p><i>(This would be read: God is to humans as humans are to the creatures of the earth.)</i></p>
Genesis 2:4b-2:24	<p>What view of the Lord do you find here?</p> <p>Define “anthropomorphic.”</p> <p>What anthropomorphic qualities are attributed to the Lord in this account?</p>	<p>What view of man do you find in this passage? Of woman?</p> <p>When the man gives names to the creatures, this signifies his ownership of the creatures. How does the naming of the animals in 2:20 complement what God says about humans in 1:28?</p>

Taken together, what do the creation epics tell us about the Creator? What do they tell us about the Creator's intention for the human race?