

In the Beginning

The Creation Story

What is the biggest present you ever got?

Did you know that there are some presents so big that nobody notices them? They are so huge that they are hard to see. Sometimes the only way to see them clearly is to go right back to the beginning... or maybe a little before the beginning.

In the beginning... in the beginning there was nothing much. In the beginning there was... nothing.

Except, perhaps a huge smile... there was no one there to see it. [SEP]

Then on the first day God gave us the gift of light. Now there wasn't just darkness anymore, there was light and dark. Now when I say light, I don't mean just the light in the light bulb or in the car lights at night. I mean all of the light that is light. God gave us the gift of the light that all light comes from.

When God saw that light, God said, 'It is good.' And that was the end of the first day.

On the second day God gave us the gift of water. Now, when I say water I don't mean just the water in a water glass or the water in a bathtub or shower. I don't mean just the water in a river or a lake. I don't even mean just the water in the ocean. I mean all of the water that is water. This is the firmament. It divides the waters above from the waters below.

When God saw all that water, God said, 'It is good.' And that was the end of the second day.

On the third day God gave us the gift of the dry land. God divided the waters from the dry land and gave us the gift of green and growing things.

When God saw the dry land and the green and growing things, God said, 'It is good.' And that was the end of the third day.

On the fourth day God gave us the gift of day and the night. God gave us a way to count our days. Here is the light that rules the day, the sun, and here are the lights that rule the night, the moon and the stars.

When God saw the day and the night, our way to keep time, God said, 'It is good,' and that was the end of the fourth day.

On the fifth day God gave us the gift of all the creatures that fly in the air. Not just the birds, but all of the creatures that fly. And all of the creatures that swim in the water.

When God saw all of the creatures that fly and all of the creatures that swim, God said, 'It is good.' And that was the end of the fifth day.

On the sixth day God gave us the gift of all the creatures who walk the earth: those with two legs, like you and me, and the creatures that walk with many legs.

When God saw all of the creatures that walk the earth AND the gifts of all the other days. God said, 'It is VERY good.' And that was the end of the sixth day.

On the seventh day God rested. and gave us the gift of a day of rest. People go to different places to remember all the great gifts. You can try and remember your favorite place. It might be in your back garden by a tree, in a park, or in your room. It could be in the mountains or by a river or a lake. I don't know where your favorite place is. Only you know that. What I do know is that this day is so special, that the Jewish people mark it with Shabbat.

Now I wonder which day you like best.













