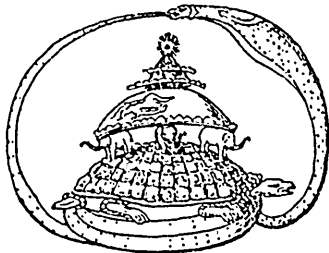


Lesson I.

GOD THE CREATOR

January 6, 1907



INDIAN REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSE

This picture represents the ancient Hindu's grotesque view of the world. The heavens rest on the earth, the earth on elephants, the elephants on a tortoise, while the whole is surrounded by a serpent swallowing its tail, the symbol of eternity.

Memorize vs. 1-3.*

THE LESSON PASSAGE—Genesis 1:1-25.

Read John 1:1-5.

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was ¹without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the ²Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And ³the evening and the morning ⁴were the first day.

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were above the firmament from the waters which were below the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And ⁵the evening and the morning ⁶were the second day.

9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, ⁷the herb yielding seed, and ⁸the fruit tree ⁹yielding fruit after ¹⁰his kind, ¹¹whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

12 And the earth brought forth grass, ¹²and herb yielding seed after ¹³his kind, and ¹⁴the tree ¹⁵yielding fruit, ¹⁶whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

13 And ¹⁷the evening and the morning ¹⁸were the third day.

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And God made ¹⁹two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: ²⁰he made the stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth:

18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

19 And ²¹the evening and the morning ²²were the fourth day.

20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and ²³fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

21 And God created ²⁴great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their ²⁵kind, and every winged fowl after ²⁶his kind: and God saw that it was good.

22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

23 And ²⁷the evening and the morning ²⁸were the fifth day.

24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after ²⁹his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after ³⁰his kind: and it was so.

25 And God made the beast of the earth after ³¹his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after ³²his kind: and God saw that it was good.

26 And ³³the evening and the morning ³⁴were the sixth day.

27 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the earth, and let them multiply in the earth.

28 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is upon the face of the earth, and every tree which hath seed-bearing fruit, I have given it to you.

29 And to the beast of the earth, and to every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, I have given every green herb for food.

30 And to the man, I have given every herb yielding seed, which is upon the face of the earth, and every tree which hath seed-bearing fruit, I have given it to you.

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A FOREWORD—The Lessons for the year are from the Old Testament, which was originally written in Hebrew, and contains 39 books in all, divided, in the Hebrew Bible, into: The Law, 5 books; The Prophets, 21 books; The Writings, 13 books. Perhaps the most convenient division is into 17 Historical Books—Genesis to Esther; 5 Poetical—Job to Song of Solomon; 5 Major Prophets—Isaiah to Daniel; 12 Minor Prophets—Hosea to Malachi. The opening Lessons are from Genesis, the Book of Beginnings, as its name signifies. The successive epochs in the period covered by the year's Lessons are marked by the great names, Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Joshua and Samuel.

GOLDEN TEXT—In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.—Genesis 1:1.

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THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. THE BEGINNING.—1, 2. The beginning; refers to the commencement of time and the origin of the world as it now exists. God; who was before all things (Ps. 90: 2), and who will abide, when they shall all have passed away, Ps. 102: 25-27. Created; a word used only of a divine act, and

expressing the origin of something absolutely new. The heaven and the earth; the whole visible universe, in its completed state. Without form, and void; a shapeless, confused mass. Such was the "earth" before God formed out of it the present world of order and beauty. Deep; the mass of

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Lessons are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. They will be found in the Supplemental Lesson Leaflets.