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# Something is Missing in Genesis!

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Something is missing in the Creation story.

The Bible (Genesis 1:1) opens with the famous verse, *“In the beginning God created the Heavens, and the Earth.”* It then continues (Genesis 1:2) to say how the Earth was in a state of *“tohu v'bohu”* often translated as chaos and void. Yet, the Bible never states how this state of tohu v'bohu/chaos and void came about.

Some may dismiss this as insignificant, however it was not insignificant to the later Biblical prophet Isaiah. The prophet wrote (Isaiah 45:18), that the Earth was not created in a state of tohu/chaos.

Isaiah 45:18 states, *“For so says YHWH, the Creator of heaven, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, He established it; not in chaos was it created, to be inhabited was (it) formed, “I am God, and there is no other.”*

The original Hebrew states, *“Lo Tohu B'ra'ah,”* which translates as, *“Not in chaos was it created.”* The following phrase in the original Hebrew states, *“La'shevet Y'tza'ra,”* which translates as, *“To be inhabited was it formed.”* Many will simply read this last section of Isaiah 45:18 as, *“not in chaos was it created, to be inhabited was (it) formed,”* as a single thought in the greater context about creation, and salvation. In this context, the simple, literal phrase, *“Lo Tohu B'ra'ah”* gets overlooked, and ignored. But we cannot ignore a literal, and overt contradiction of Genesis 1:2!



If this contradiction is so, thus *“In the beginning, God created in the Heavens and the Earth,”* (Gen. 1:1), and according to Isaiah 45:18, *“Lo Tohu B'ra'ah”* (it was not created in chaos), how then did the Earth find itself in chaos in Genesis 1:2, *“And the Earth was tohu/chaos.”*

Something must have happened between Verses One, and Two that the Bible fails to record. If the Earth was not created in tohu/chaos, then how did it get that way? If God didn't create it this way, then the chaos had to come from somewhere, from something, and for some reason?

The Sages of old did indeed notice this contradiction, and they revealed to us a most profound revelation. The Sages of old opened their discourse with what sounds like a simple, and benign question. They asked, “what was God doing before He created the Heavens, and the Earth?” Their response was that before creating our world, God was busy creating, and destroying other worlds.

*“Rabbi Judah b. R. Simon said: 'Let there be evening' is not written here, but 'And there was evening'; hence we know that a time-order existed before this." Rabbi Abahu said: "This proves that the Holy One, blessed be He, went on creating worlds and destroying them until He created this one, and declared, 'This one pleases Me; those did not please Me.'" Rabbi Pinchas said: "This is R. Abahu's reason: 'And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good' (Genesis 1:31). This pleases Me, but those did not please Me.”* (Midrash Rabbah - Genesis III:7)

So, we have established that there were other “worlds” before ours. But what exactly does this mean? And, whatever happened to them? Were these worlds inhabited, and if so what happened to their inhabitants? Needless to say, the Sages of old were also not quiet about this. Again, in their subtle manner, they concealed profound revelations in a seemingly moralistic story.

The Sages began by quoting some verses from Psalms, *“He has remembered His covenant forever, the word He commanded to a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham, and his oath to Isaac. And confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant.”* (Psalms 105:8-10).

Based upon the peculiar words, *“the word He commanded to a thousand generations,”* the Sages asked, what “thousand generations” is the Psalm referring to? According to Biblical chronology, the Torah was given to Moses at Mt. Sinai in the twenty-sixth (26<sup>th</sup>) generation after Adam. So, what were these “thousand generations”? Twenty-six generations are accounted for from creation to Sinai, when God's covenant (the Torah) was given, so then what happened to the remaining 974 generations? The Talmud (Hagigah 13b-14a) states the following:

*“Rabbi Shimon the Pious said: “These are the nine hundred and seventy four generations who pressed themselves forward to be created before the world was created, but were not created. The Holy One, blessed be He, arose and planted them in every generation, and it is they who are the insolent of each generation.”*

There are numerous understandings and interpretations about these “nine hundred and seventy four generations who pressed themselves forward to be created before the world was created, but were not created.” Many of the Sages of old, masters of the Hebrew language, recognized that just because these generations were not “created,” it does not mean that they were not “formed,” or “made.” These two other Hebrew verbs (yetzirah, asiyah) indicate actual physical creations, but that do not contain a certain spiritual element indicated by the creation verb (beriah).

What we can conclude from this is that there were indeed “hundreds of generations” of “people” before Adam ever walked the Earth. And possibly because they were of a lower spiritual origin, what they did, and how they lived turned the Earth into chaos, and void! This is the foundation of the Kabbalistic teachings of the Pre-Adamic civilizations that ruled the world in ancient times.

These same ancient human peoples destroyed their world, causing God to look out over the *tohu v'bohu* (chaos and void), that these generations had wrought, and to begin creation anew, with a higher spiritual man, Adam.

Man before man? Human beings before Adam? The Bible does leave the opening for this possibility. The Sages of old clearly hinted to this. The ancient Kabbalists revealed in their secret works that indeed, there were such men. And more so, the Kabbalists reveal much about these men, what were their deeds, and what was their fate.

The ancient Kabbalists even point out that a remnant of these ancient humans did survive, and were taken under Divine protection as rewards for their righteousness. The ancient Kabbalists believe that the descendants of the ancient humans still interact with us, Adamic man, who they view as their spiritual younger brothers and sisters.

All these revelations are inspiring, and mysterious. As for how much of them is literal truth, who today can say? Yet, we do discover archaeological finds all over the world which seem to validate the presence of intelligent human beings thousands of years prior to the Biblical chronology. We now can see that none of this contradicts the Bible.

It is important for us to conclude that there are still many mysteries in the Bible, and in our world that we have not yet solved. Only those with open eyes to see, and open hearts to receive will ever reveal the hidden truths that God has placed out there for us to discover.

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