

# The Light Before The Sun

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The creation account of Genesis 1 presents a dilemma of sorts. First, let's look at the text. *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day...And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day."* (Genesis 1:1-5, 14-19.) The problem presents itself right away. If the sun and heavenly bodies weren't created until the fourth day, what was the light created on the first day? I can confidently say, it is not possible to determine what the light on the first day was. We are not told and this has led to much speculation.

Many attach some spiritual meaning to the light created on the first day. Some say the light on the first day is the creation of angels. Others say it is when Jesus came to life being born or created. But from the context I am sure nothing in the spiritual realm is being discussed. When God made light on the first day, He called it Day and separated it from the Night. This is speaking of the physical universe being created as is all of Genesis 1. It won't do to see "ghosts" where none exist.

There are many scholars who understand this light on the first day as the sun, moon and stars being created but that they did not shine until the fourth day when they were put into their final places. This can't be the case either according to the text. There was day and night on the first day. This means that the light had to be a fixed source and the earth was spinning on its axis so that there could be a light for the day and darkness for the night. That has been the way night and day are determined since the first day of creation.

The original Hebrew of Genesis 1:14 says, *"Between to divide of the heavens in the firmament lights let there be, God said, and years for days and seasons for signs let them be and between the night and between the day."* This sounds to me that on the first day there was a fixed source of light made and on the fourth day, God made the sun, moon, and stars from that original fixed source for it was already there. In other words, the light produced on that first day was distributed and formed into several luminous bodies on the fourth day. The sun, moon, and stars were lights produced from or made out of that light. The sun is the means by which light is brought to earth making the day and when no light is shining, night ensues just as the principle had been from day 1. The rest determined seasons and times. This is the simplest explanation or so it seems to me