

## Christian Beliefs about Creation

1	Light & Dark
2	Clouds & Oceans
3	Sun, Moon, & Stars
4	Land, Plants, & Trees
5	Fish & Birds
6	Man & Animals
7	God Rested

**Literal Interpretations** - the story is literally true. God created the world in 7 days (24 hours)

**Liberal Interpretations** - the story is metaphorical (holds symbolic truth). God could have created/started the Big Bang.

**Dominion** - control over something  
**Stewardship** - managing resources in a responsible way

**Role of the Spirit in Creation**  
 'the spirit of God' hovering over the waters. Suggests the presence of the Holy Spirit at the beginning of creation.

**Role of Jesus in Creation**  
 John 1:1-18 - in this extract the experts believe 'The Word' is referring to God the Son (Jesus)



## Influences of the Creation Story today....

- Literal readings - hard to trust science.
- Metaphorical readings can see science as religion complimenting themselves.



- Liberal account emphasises God's power.
- If people see God as creating the world for humans they may feel they can do what they want with it (Dominion).
- Other may feel they need to look after it on behalf of God (Stewardship)

## Sin

- Sin is an action or thought that is against God's will.
- Sinful thoughts can lead to sinful actions.
- All humans sin - no one is perfect.
- Consequences of sin - death & hell unless they are confessed and forgiveness is asked for.

**Original Sin** - human beings are born with an in-built tendency to do wrong.

## Adam & Eve: The Fall

Disobeyed God's instruction not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge and became aware of sin.

- As punishment God banished them from the Garden of Eden.
- Humans became mortal.
- This original sin was passed on through generations.



## Literal Interpretations

- The story is 100% true.
- The snake was the devil in disguise.
- It is the devil who tempts people to do wrong.
- The cows the beginning of man's fall (separating from God).

## Liberal Interpretations

- Teaches Christians the God gave humans free will.
- If sinful actions chosen they will be separated from God & punishment served.
- Good actions are rewarded.
- More a moral teaching.