

14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. 16 God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, 18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19 And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

14 - 19 | We find here that God creates the lights; The Sun, the Moon and the Stars. What curious language is used here to describe their function(s) and their multi-faceted purpose(s). As we look at these lights that God places in the expanse of the sky, there 3 literal and spiritual aspects which enable us to see God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and His divine nature from them.

The 3 aspects are:

Truth, Time and Authority

Regarding the Truth aspect - One of the central Biblical concepts or themes throughout scripture equates "light" with truth. When speaking about light's physical qualities, we are talking about being able to see all things that are visible within the light's radius. When speaking about light spiritually and symbolically, we then are speaking about "truth" and the "understanding" of truth. Christ, in John 14:6, claims that He is the truth and we also see at the beginning of John's Gospel, John claims to be a witness to the "light" (Jesus), that came from heaven and brings life to all mankind. When studying the great light in the sky (the sun), you cannot gloss over how the rest of life is dependent upon the light and the warmth of the sun. This reflects the truth that all life in creation is dependent upon God. The Egyptians and many other civilizations have made this connection regarding the sun and life and have deified the sun and worshipped it. This is where they exchanged the immortal God for a lie, "their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened." For they worshipped the created rather than the Creator.

Regarding the Time aspect – From the beginning, all the main civilizations have used the sun, moon and stars to create daily, monthly, and yearly calendars and to track the seasons of spring, summer, fall and winter. This speaks to the order, precision and consistency of these lights in the vault of the sky and these three qualities reflect the Creator who created them and set them in place. For God is a God of order, He is precise, and He is immutable (He doesn't change). Again, the lights separate the day from the night and in doing so, they create a way to measure the passing of time. And the question is why is it so important to be able to acknowledge time's existence and the importance of tracking it? The first thing that comes to mind is prophecy. Those who are placed within creation are governed by it and therefore cannot predict what is going to happen in the

future. Only God who is outside of His creation could see all things past, present and future and therefore would be the only one who could with absolute 100% accuracy declare the things yet to come. This ties back into "Truth" and reveals also the "Sovereignty" of God's Will being put into effect as prophecy is declared and fulfilled in the passing of time as revealed through the Word of God. This is to give mankind certainty and evidence of God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and His divine nature. These lights are to serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years. The Sabaoth is a sacred weekly day and later on other sacred times and events like the Passover Feast and the 7 year Jubilee. Consider...

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8:

1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, 3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, 6 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, 7 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, 8 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Regarding the Authority aspect – As mentioned before, those who are placed within creation are governed by it. This is another way of simply defining authority. Noticed that the lights are put above the earth and they are to govern the day and the night. Again, we see how their literal function of giving light is tied to the idea of "Truth". They symbolize that "Truth" is to govern over all of creation and all "Authority" is establish upon "Truth". The sun is the source of light which in turns symbolically represents that Christ is truth and light and is the source of all authority. The moon reflects the sun's light which in turns symbolically represents the Church who is under the authority of Christ and reflects the truth, the life and light of Christ. And one does not have to look to far in Scripture to see how the stars are symbolically portrayed as angels which are the holy agents of God and who play a significant role in the authority structure of creation in both the spiritual and physical realms (Take time to consider these verses in regards to angels – (Hebrews 2:7, Hebrews 2:9, Galatians 3:19, Matt 24:31, Revelation 1:20, Revelation 8:2-6/Trumpets, Revelation 15:1/Bowls of God's Wrath). (For those who truly want to dig deeper: 1 Corinthians 11:7-12 is a difficult passage that I believe, specifically verse 10, can only be rightfully understood within the context of understanding the authority structure as it relates to creation.)