

Series title: The biblical basis
for our responsibility to be
good stewards of God's
Creation

Part 1

Created in God's image.

Question 1

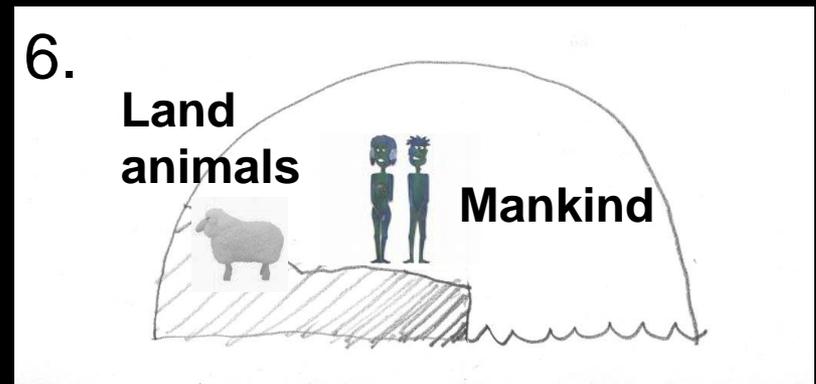
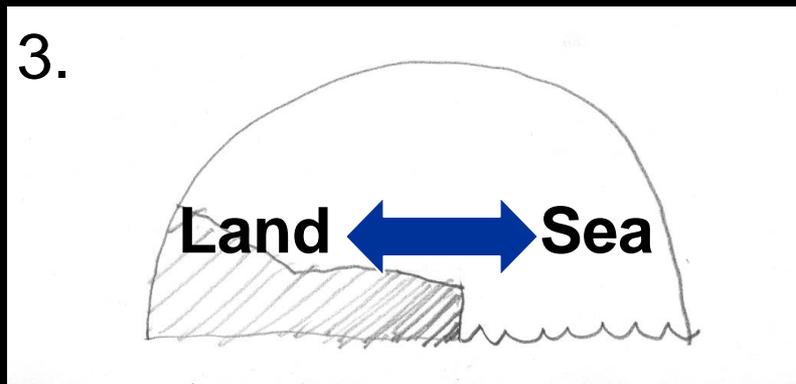
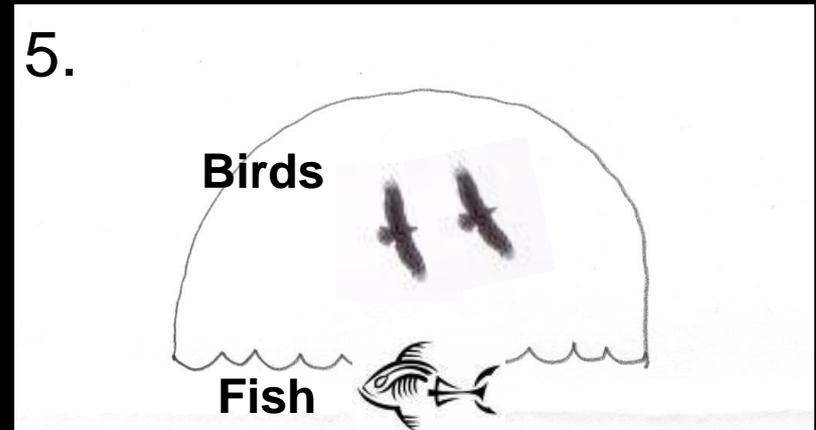
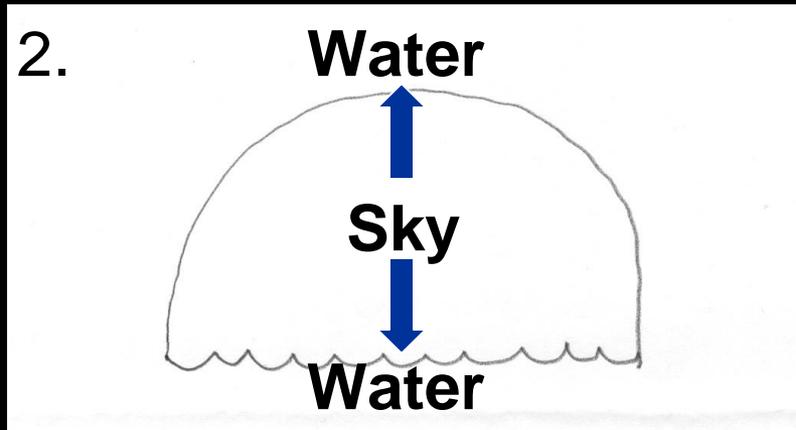
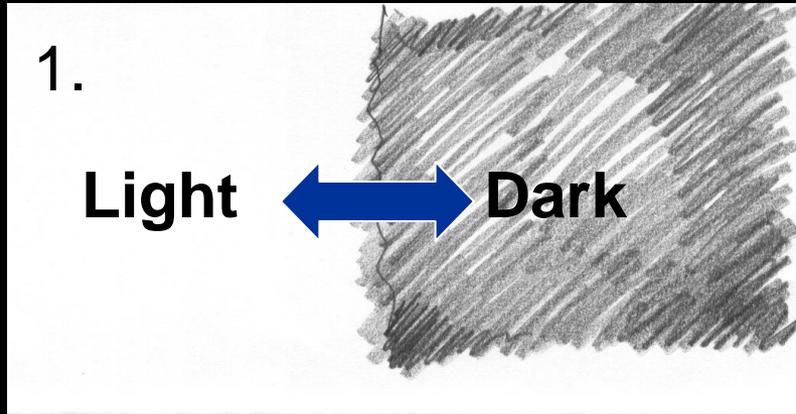
The account of Genesis instructs Man to “fill the earth and subdue it”. This doesn’t sound like a call to look after the Earth as stewards. Why is this not an accurate understanding of our responsibilities ?

Genesis 1:28 “Be fruitful, increase,...
fill the earth and **subdue** it...
(order the chaos)
rule over it all...”

Genesis 1:2 “**Formless**” = chaotic, unruly
“**Empty**” = void

Form (expanse): subdue chaos

Fill the void



Question 2

What does it mean to be made in the image of God ?

Made in God's Image:

- *like* God
- authority
- **rule** as his delegate
- accountability



“Humanity exercises God’s rule over his creation in the same way that he would”

Discussion Break Out: Read Genesis 1

[Try to put aside discussion about the length of the 6 'days', and issues of creation vs evolution. For now, treat Genesis' message as "world-view" rather than scientific]

Q1. Reading the text on its own terms, how do God's creation actions address the problem of a 'formless' and 'empty' cosmos? (v 1-2)

Q2. How does the idea of bearing God's image (v26-28) inform the way we should care for the rest of creation?

Q3. To what extent do you think your actions impact the environment in which you live?

Question 3

What is the practical
significance of Genesis 1 for
us today ?

“The Bible shapes a world-view that calls humanity to apply its best environmental science to nurture creation...”



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Q1. Reading the text on its own terms, how do God's creation actions address the problem of a 'formless' and 'empty' cosmos? (v 1-2)

Q2. How does the idea of bearing God's image (v26-28) inform the way we should care for the rest of creation?

Q3. To what extent do you think your actions impact the environment in which you live?

Q4. What choices could you make around your home that reduce consumption, re-use resources and recycle waste? Create a list and share with your group.

Q5. What motivates you to want to implement these choices?

For more information, or to learn how St Andrew's Roseville seeks to apply the lessons that we have discussed, please visit www.standrews.net.au/eag