

**Study Questions for the October 10, 2021 Sermon:
“The Filling of Creation”
Genesis 1:14-25**

1. Psalm 147:3 states: *He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.* The next verse states: *He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.* Is the writer just abruptly changing the subject here? If not, what point is the writer making about the nature of God? (It may be helpful to read verses 1 through 5.)
2. In the 19th century, there was a teaching called “Natural Theology”, which maintained that the creation is a manifestation of the creator. Consequently, everything that people need to know about God can be determined by studying His creation; there is no need for inspired writings. State whether you agree or disagree with this teaching and support your stand with scriptures.
3. Pastor Paul made the point that God created far more than was needed to merely sustain us. The world is filled with innumerable delights to our senses of taste, vision, touch, hearing, and smell. Read 1 Corinthians 2:9. What might we be expecting in heaven?
4. Pastor Paul said that in reproducing, humans reflect on a small scale the creative powers of God. This affirms that we are made in his image and likeness. Discuss some other ways that we demonstrate that we are made in God's image and likeness.
5. Deuteronomy 4: 15 to 19, is one of many scriptures cautioning believers to discern between the creator and creation, and to not worship the creation.
 - a. Name some of the other verses that express this idea.
 - b. Why is this command repeated so many times in both the Old and New testament?
6. What are we told about fish and bird reproduction in 1:21 that is similar to plants?
(From the David Pratte *Bible Study Questions on Genesis*.)
7. In verses 14 – 18, what do we see as the reason for the sun, moon, and stars?
(From the David Pratte *Bible Study Questions on Genesis*.)

8. In verse 22, God commands the animals to *be fruitful and multiply*. He repeats that command to humanity in verse 28. Some people use these verses to support the teaching that all contraception (actions to prevent fertilization during intercourse) are sinful. Use scripture to support or reject this teaching.