

Distinctions: Overview and Introduction

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

1. There is a fundamental and necessary distinction between God, the _____, and everything and everyone in _____.

“Only God exists by virtue of his very nature . . . He was never created and never came into being. He always was . . . All things that exist were made by him.” Wayne Grudem, Bible Doctrine

2. God, the Creator, incorporated further _____ in His created order.

“The earth was without form and void.” Genesis 1:2

God brought order from chaos by _____, _____, and _____ creation.

The Forming and Filling of Creation	
Forming of Creation	Filling of Creation
Day 1: God created light	Day 4: God created the sun, moon, and stars
Day 2: God created the sky & seas	Day 5: God filled the sky and seas with life
Day 3: God created the land	Day 6: God filled the land with life

The Finishing of Creation	
Order of Humanity’s Creation	Special Feature
God created man	First creature God personally breathed life into
God created woman	First creature made out of something living
God created marriage	Only relationship of perfect intimacy

Distinctions: as God created, He established distinctions within the created order.

- *“God separated the light from the darkness.”* Genesis 1:2
- *“God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse.”* Genesis 1:7
- *“Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.”* Genesis 1:9
- *“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.”* Genesis 1:14
- God commanded that living things grow and reproduce *“according to their kind”* in Genesis 1:11, 12, 21, 24, and 25.
- In Genesis 1:26, God gave humans dominion over the rest of the created order.

Distinctions Established in God’s Created Order for His Glory and Our Good		
Distinction	God’s Glory	God’s Goodness to Us
Creator and Creation	The Word of God	Stewardship
Creation and Creatures	The Spirit of God	Authority
Creatures and Humans	The Image of God	Worship
Men and Women	The Fellowship of God	Purpose
Marriage and Singleness	The Love of God	Intimacy

“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.” Genesis 1:31

3. **God's good creation, including the distinctions He established, has been _____ since sin entered the world.**

Attacks on the distinctions in the created order in recent American culture:

- The distinction between the role of the husband and the role of the wife
- The distinction between marriage and family and singleness
- The distinction between the role of men and the role of women
- The distinction between the identity of men and the identity of women
- The distinction between humans and other creatures
- The distinction between creatures and the rest of creation

4. **An attack on God's created distinctions is an attack on the necessary distinction between God, the Creator, and His creation, which is ultimately an attack against _____.**

"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator." Romans 1:25

Key Points to Remember:

- The real enemies are sin and Satan.
- We must be infinitely more concerned about our own sin than the sins of the culture or the sins of those around us.
- We must speak truth, in love, with the goal of shining light in the darkness.
- As a culture rejects God's created order, it rejects God's good gifts to humanity and embraced a path that can only lead to increased suffering.
- God's position as Creator is not in danger from this attack, and neither is His created order.
- The gospel is the answer.

Fill in the Blank Answers

1. Creator, creation
2. Distinctions, forming, filling, finishing
3. Under attack
4. God