

Was Creation Out of Nothing?

Commentary for May 15, 2022 — Did God Create All Things *Ex Nihilo*?

This Commentary expands on a short 300+ word commentary I wrote for September 24, 2005. The original title was: "[Was the Creatio ex nihilo?](#)" A reader asked a good question:

Question: "Do you believe that God created all things from nothing? In other words, do you believe in any form of the *creatio ex nihilo* teaching? Please explain or refer me to something that explains your position."

Answer: God **did not** create *ex nihilo* (a medieval theological concept meaning "out of nothing"). God created all physical and spiritual creation from Himself, from the expression of His mind and His mouth which was (and is) His word. The word of God is not nothing. It is power. It is substance. It is most definitely "something."

The first "thing" created was the Word and Image of God, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, through whom the rest of creation was brought forth (**John 1:1–4; Colossians 1:15–17; Revelation 3:14**). Other, subsequent created beings, such as other sons of God and even the angels apparently had a hand in performing some "finishing" work of the physical creation as God delegated it to them.

Creation is continuing at present (even new species of animals), in the spiritual as well as in the physical realm. See Question #3: "[A New Creation of Animals after Noah](#)." This is elaborated on in a longer article by Dr. Ernest L. Martin, "[The Creation of Life in Contemporary Times](#)."

The final purpose of creation is for God to expand His family. God the Father is the ultimate Creator, Christ Jesus is the Son of God, and we who believe are many times called sons and daughters of God. Being called "children of God" is not poetic speech, it is our reality. It will be the future situation for every human being once God's creation plan is completed. Read Dr. Martin's article "[Salvation and the Biblical Doctrine of Deification](#)." It explains the goal and fulfillment of God's creation in YOU, me, and in all human beings.

Explaining More About God's Creation

While I am content with my answer back in 2005, I want to present the verses mentioned that prove my case:

- the Gospel of the apostle John 1:1–4 (written in the early 90s AD):

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men."

• **John 1:1–4**

- the apostle Paul in Colossians 1:15–17 (written in 63 AD¹) says about God’s Son ...

“Who is the image of the invisible God,

[1] **the firstborn of EVERY creature: For**

[2] **by Him were ALL THINGS created,**

that are in heaven, and

that are in earth, visible and invisible,

whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers:

[3] **ALL THINGS were created by him, and for Him: And**

[4] **He is before ALL THINGS, and by Him ALL THINGS consist.”**

• Colossians 1:15–17

- Revelation 3:14, given to John in 60–61 AD and again later in the early 90s AD.²

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God.”

• Revelation 3:14

Now note this verse about other “gods” (*elohim*) that do exist, but they will “perish.”

“But YHWH is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. Thus shall you say unto them,

‘The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens.’”

• Jeremiah 10:10-11

God the Father Created Everything Through His Son

God the Father was and is the ultimate creator. There is none before Him. God delegated the power to create everything through His Son. Other beings were created, and they were delegated to perform other tasks.

Everything created came out of the Father, and not *ex nihilo*, Latin for “out of nothing.” God is not nothing. God is everything. The mechanism of creation was the Father’s first creation, the Word, a personality, the Son of God who later **“emptied Himself”** (Philippians 2:6–11). He became flesh when He was born of Mary, and was called Jesus and Immanuel [meaning **“God with us”**].

He shall save all humanity and finish making them to be mature children of God just as Christ is now. Truly, we all have a glorious future ahead of us.

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¹ This is explained in Dr. Martin’s article, [“The History of the Revelation of the Mystery.”](#)

² See Dr. Martin’s [“Chapter 20: When Was the Book of Revelation Written?”](#)