

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

EMPTY AND FILLED (PART 1) GOD'S GREATEST DREAM

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1. Why did God _____ anything in the first place?

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." -Genesis 1:1-3

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." -James 1:17

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." -John 1:1-2,14a

"God's aim in human history is the creation of an inclusive community of loving persons, with himself included as its primary sustainer and most glorious inhabitant." -Dallas Willard

2. God wanted His community to have a _____ place to live.

There is an infinite difference between the
Creator and the creation, an infinite gap.

"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen." -Romans 1:25

"And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light 'day,' and the darkness He called 'night.' And there was evening, and there was morning--the first day." -Genesis 1:3-5

"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, and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.' And it was so. 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. God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day." -Genesis 1:14-19

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech." -Psalm 19:1-2

3. The climax of creation is the creation of _____.

"From dust we are made, to dust we return." -Genesis 3:19b

*"In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."
-Genesis 1:27*

"I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it." -Genesis 1:29

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." -Genesis 2:15

"The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" -Genesis 2:18

"The man said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called "woman," for she was taken out of man.'" -Genesis 2:23