



One Foundation (1)

Creation

(Elbing Catechism) (Workbook)

Who is God? (theology)

Who are we? (anthropology)

How are we saved? (soteriology)



Commitment
→ Learning
→ Reorienting



[Paul] **witnessed** to them
from morning till evening,
explaining about the kingdom of God

Acts 28:23 (NIV)



Apostle's Creed



Nicene Creed

Apostle's Creed, ~700 a.D. Nicene Creed, 325



Elbing Catechism in German



Mennonite Catechism

Elbing Catechism Nef 1924
(Global Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Encyclopedia Online)

One Foundation (Elbing)

1. **Creation** (who God is) (wk 1)
2. **Fall** (who we are) (wk 2)
3. **Redemption** (how we are saved)
 - a. Divine **Provision** (wk 2-3)
 - b. Human **Response**
 - **Faith** in Christ (wk 3-4)
 - **Life** and Conduct (wk 4)
 - c. **Consummation** (wk 4-5)

The Chief Aim of Man

- Q1: What should be our **chief aim** in this life?
- A: To live in God's **fellowship**, enjoy His **favour**, and obtain eternal **happiness** thereafter.



You shall **love** the Lord your God
with all your **heart**
and with all your **soul**
and with all your **mind.**

You shall **love** your **neighbour** as yourself.

Matthew 22:37,39 (ESV)

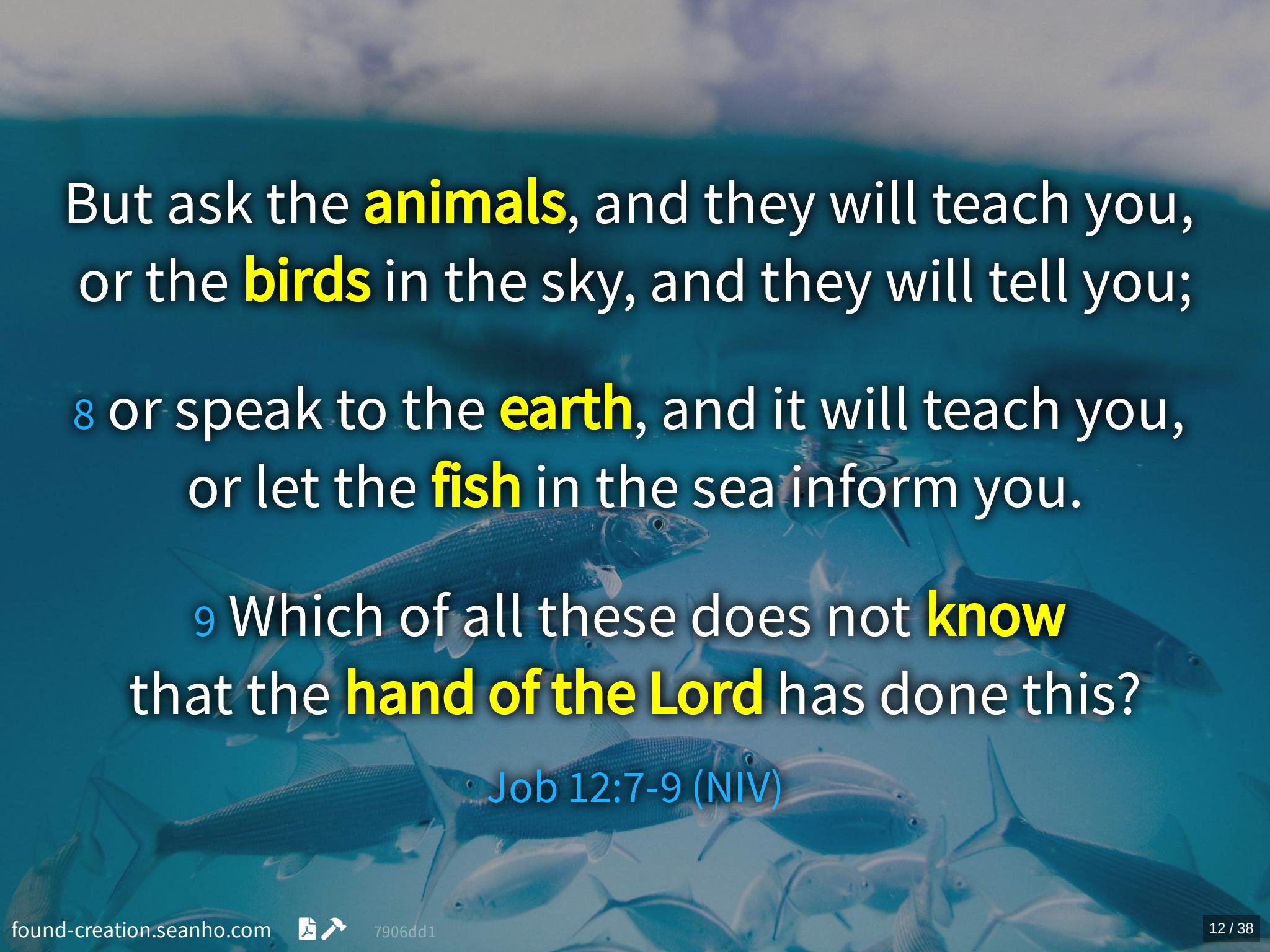
Outline for today: Creation

1. God the **Creator**
 - a. Revealed in His **Works**
 - b. Revealed in His **Word**
2. God as **Trinity**
3. God's **Creation**
 - a. Creation of **Man**
 - b. Creation of **Angels**
4. God the **Sustainer**

The background of the slide is a photograph of Earth as seen from space. The horizon line is visible at the top, showing the blue of the atmosphere and the white of the clouds. Below the horizon, the planet's surface is visible in shades of brown and green, representing land and vegetation. The lighting suggests it might be early morning or late afternoon.

In the **beginning** God created
the **heavens** and the **earth**.

Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

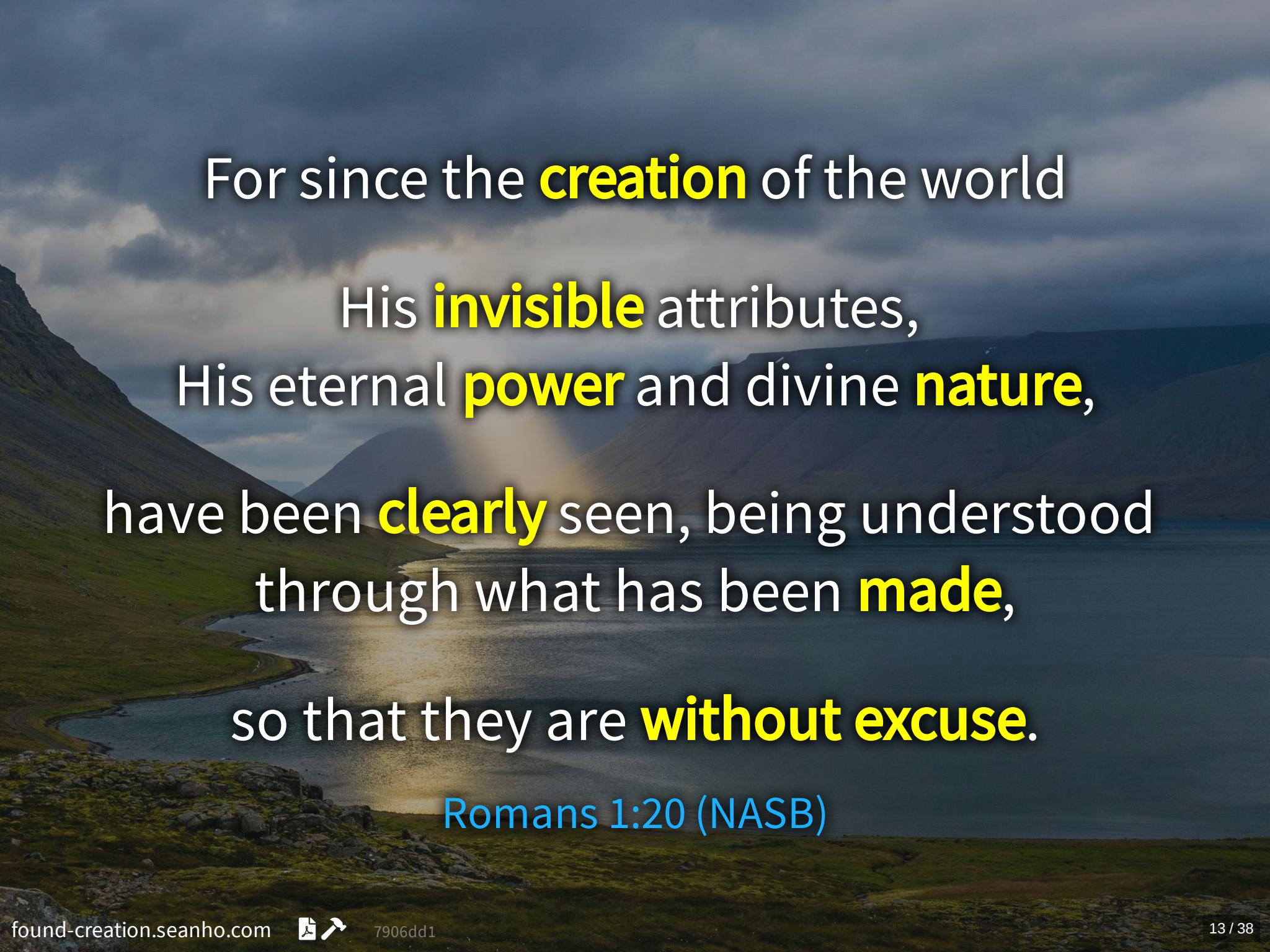
A large school of fish, likely striped bass or similar, swims in the clear blue water of the ocean. The sky above is filled with white and grey clouds.

But ask the **animals**, and they will teach you,
or the **birds** in the sky, and they will tell you;

⁸ or speak to the **earth**, and it will teach you,
or let the **fish** in the sea inform you.

⁹ Which of all these does not **know**
that the **hand of the Lord** has done this?

Job 12:7-9 (NIV)

A wide-angle photograph of a rugged landscape under a dramatic sky. In the foreground, there's a mix of dark, rocky terrain and patches of green grass. A river or stream winds its way through the center of the frame, reflecting the light from behind. The background features large, dark mountains, with one prominent peak on the left and others receding into the distance. The sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds, with some lighter areas suggesting a setting or rising sun.

For since the **creation** of the world
His **invisible** attributes,
His eternal **power** and divine **nature**,
have been **clearly** seen, being understood
through what has been **made**,
so that they are **without excuse**.

Romans 1:20 (NASB)

One Foundation: **Creation**

1. God the Creator
 - a. Revealed in His Works
 - b. **Revealed in His Word**
2. God as Trinity
3. God's Creation
 - a. Creation of Man
 - b. Creation of Angels
4. God the Sustainer

The LORD, the LORD God,
compassionate and gracious, [...]

7 who keeps **lovingkindness** for thousands,
who **forgives** iniquity, transgression and sin;

yet He will by no means
leave the **guilty** unpunished

Exodus 34:6-7 (NASB)

A photograph of an open Bible lying on a wooden surface. A person's hands are visible, one holding the left page and the other resting on the right page. The Bible has a blue cover with a white floral pattern. The text on the pages is in a light color, possibly white or cream, and is partially obscured by the hands.

No **prophecy** of Scripture
is a matter of one's own **interpretation**,

21 for no prophecy was ever made
by an act of **human will**,

but men **moved** by the Holy Spirit
spoke from God.

2 Peter 1:20-21 (NASB)

**What is my attitude
toward creation?**

One Foundation: **Creation**

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Go therefore
and make **disciples** of all the nations,
baptizing them in the name of
the **Father** and the **Son** and the **Holy Spirit**

Matthew 28:19 (NASB)

A photograph of a simple wooden cross standing against a backdrop of a blue sky filled with white and grey clouds. The cross is made of dark wood and has a rough, natural texture.

May the **grace** of the Lord **Jesus** Christ,
and the **love** of **God**,
and the **fellowship** of the **Holy Spirit**
be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)

When the **Advocate** comes,
whom I will **send** to you from the Father –
the **Spirit of truth**
who **goes out** from the Father –
he will **testify** about me.

John 15:26 (NIV)

Is God a person
or a force?

Who is Jesus?
The Holy Spirit?

One Foundation: **Creation**

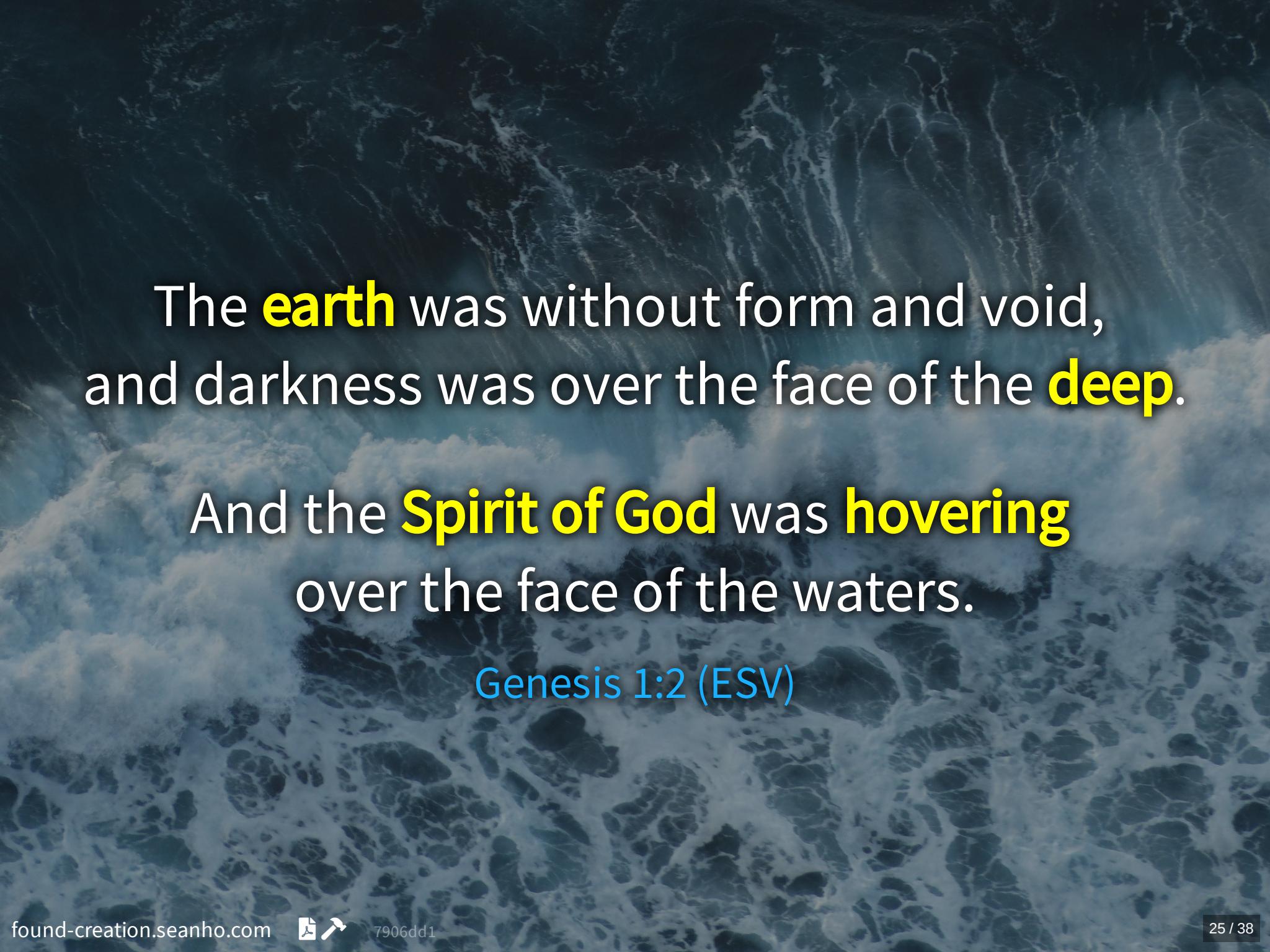
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In the beginning was the **Word**,
and the Word was **with God**,
and the Word **was God**.

2 He was with God in the **beginning**.

3 **Through** him all things were made

John 1:1-3 (NIV)



The **earth** was without form and void,
and darkness was over the face of the **deep**.

And the **Spirit of God** was **hovering**
over the face of the waters.

Genesis 1:2 (ESV)

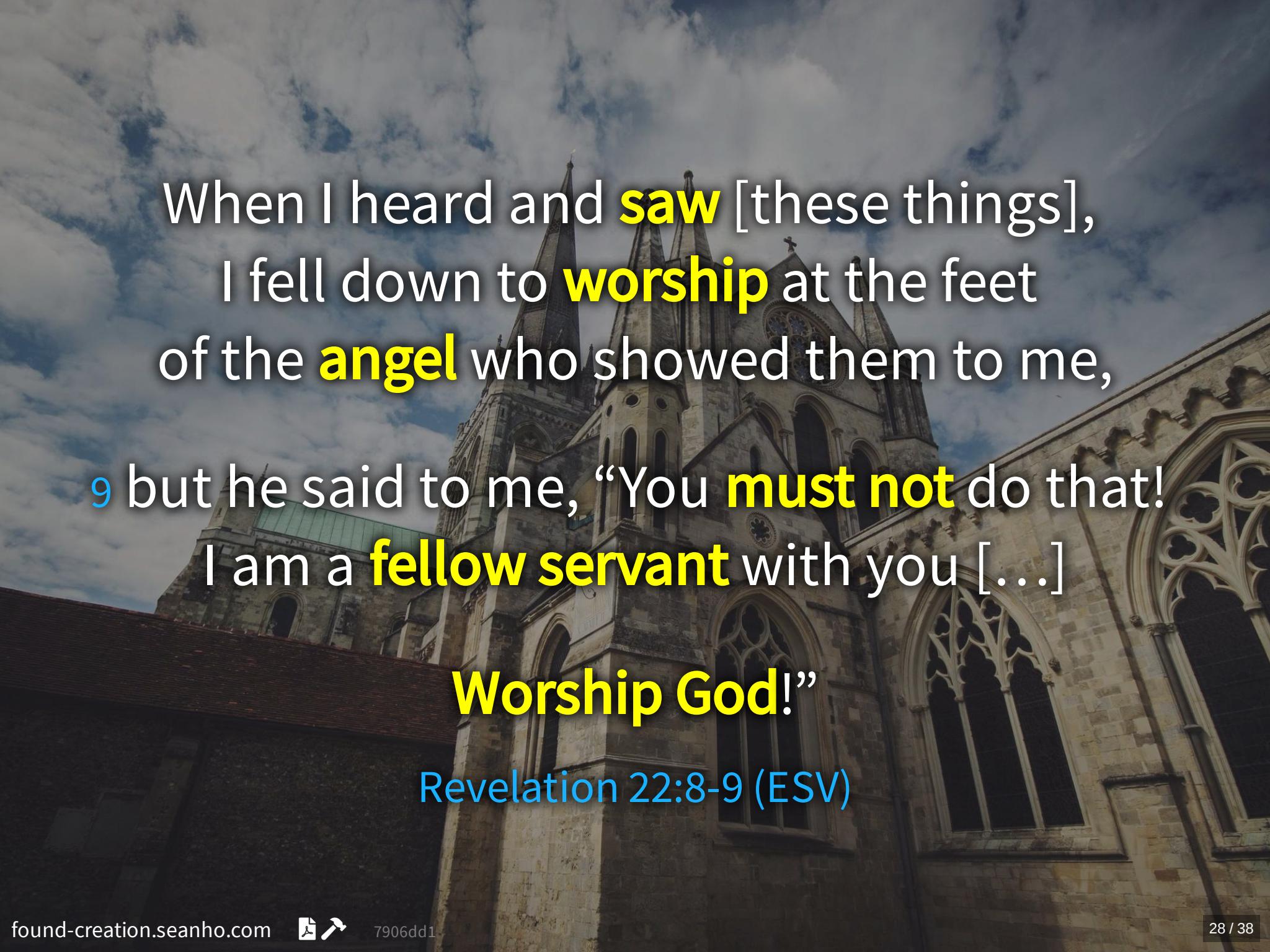


So **God** created man in his own image,
in the **image of God** he created him;
male and **female** he created them.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV)

Are not all angels **ministering spirits**
sent to **serve** those who will inherit salvation?

Hebrews 1:14 (NIV)



When I heard and **saw** [these things],
I fell down to **worship** at the feet
of the **angel** who showed them to me,

9 but he said to me, “You **must not** do that!
I am a **fellow servant** with you [...]”

Worship God!”

Revelation 22:8-9 (ESV)



And the **angels** who did not stay within
their own position of **authority**,
but **left** their proper dwelling,
he has **kept** in eternal chains under gloomy
darkness
until the **judgment** of the great day

Jude 1:6 (ESV)

Where did people
come from?

What are angels?

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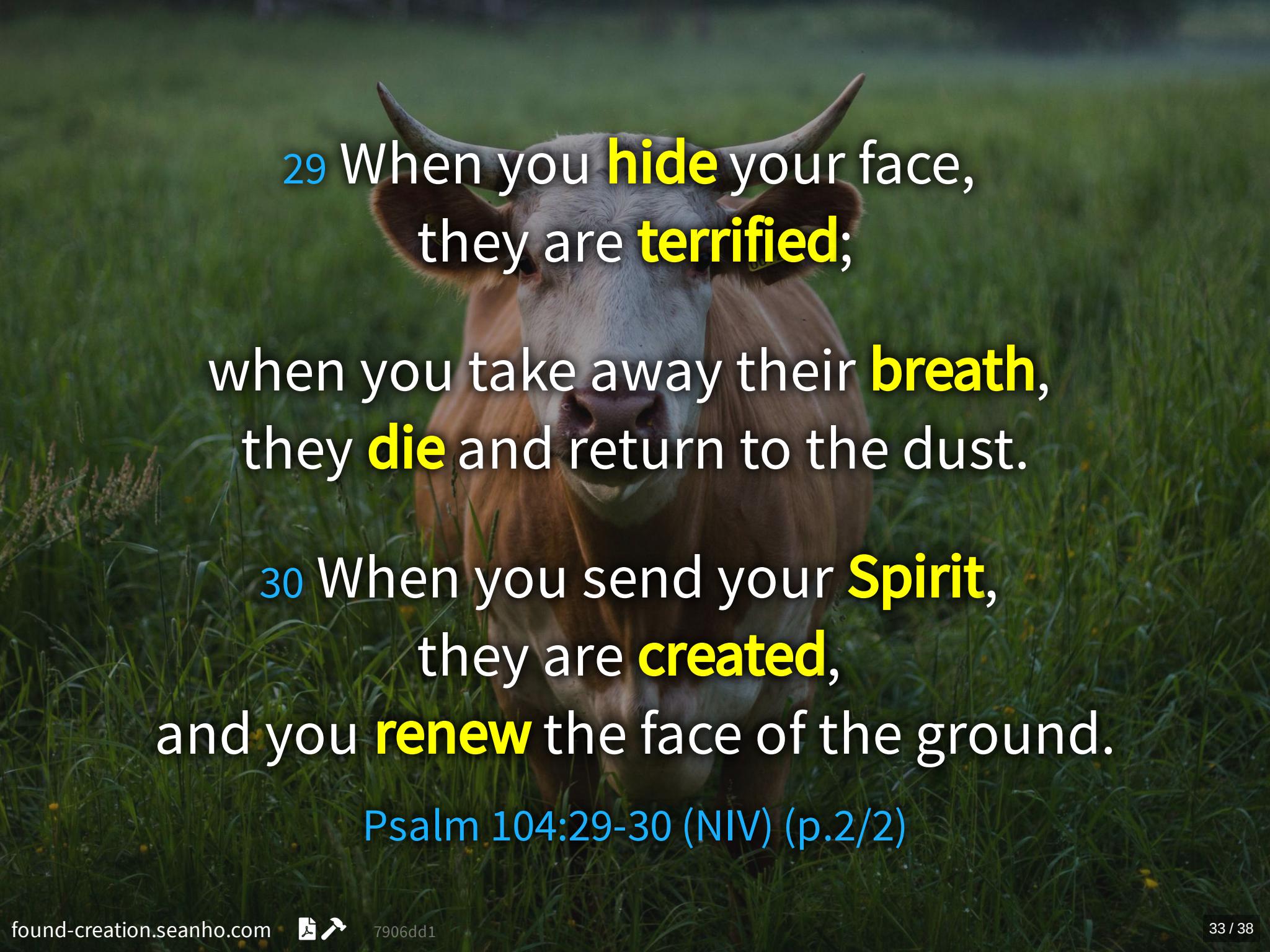


All creatures **look to you**
to give them their **food** at the proper time.

28 When you **give** it to them,
they **gather** it up;

when you **open** your hand,
they are **satisfied** with good things.

Psalm 104:27-28 (NIV) (p.1/2)



29 When you **hide** your face,
they are **terrified**;

when you take away their **breath**,
they **die** and return to the dust.

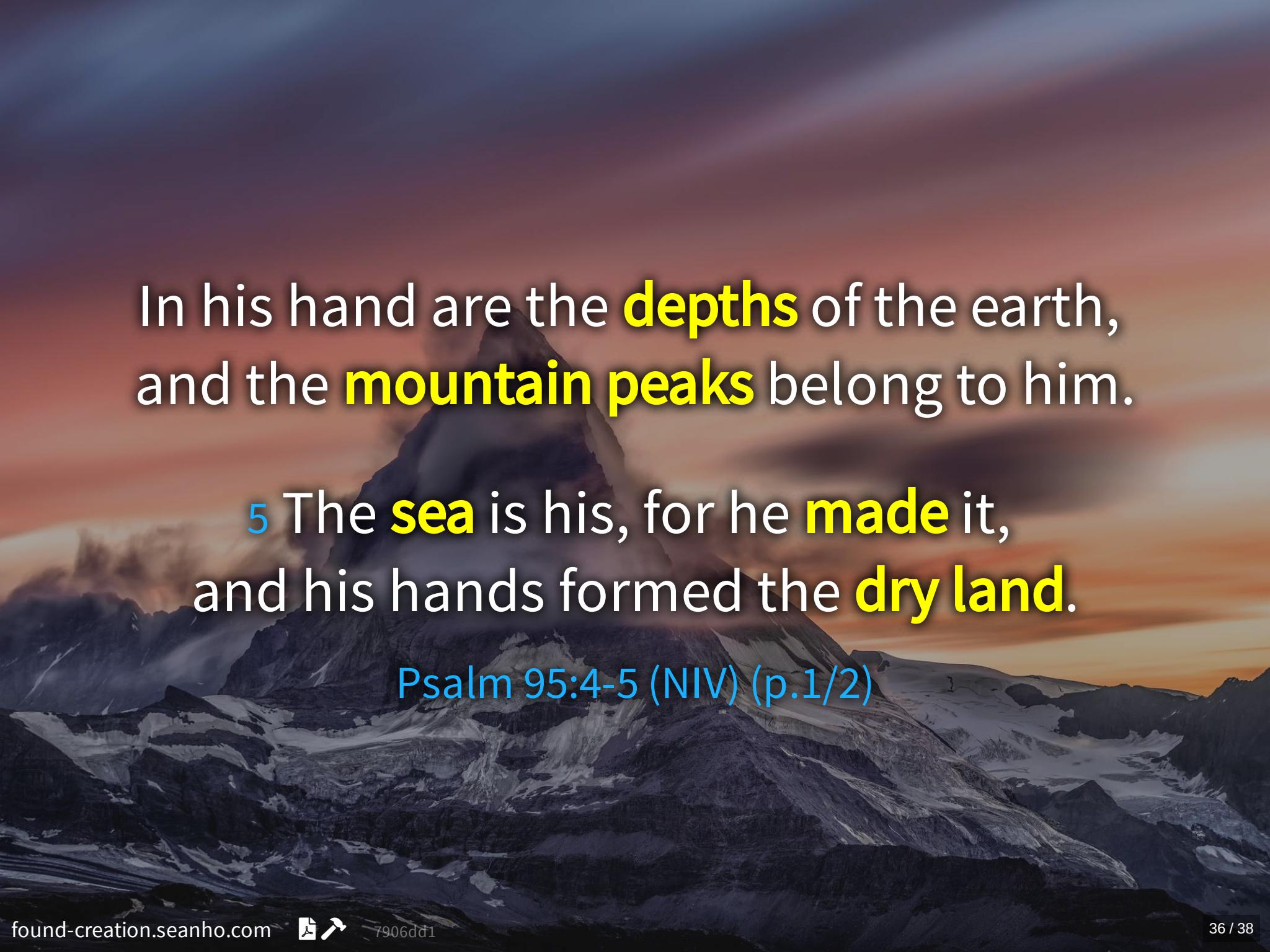
30 When you send your **Spirit**,
they are **created**,
and you **renew** the face of the ground.

Psalm 104:29-30 (NIV) (p.2/2)

Is God still involved
in His creation?

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A wide-angle photograph of a mountain range under a dramatic sky. The sky is filled with warm, orange and yellow hues from the setting or rising sun, which are reflected in the peaks and valleys of the dark, rugged mountains. The foreground shows rocky terrain with patches of snow or ice. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

In his hand are the **depths** of the earth,
and the **mountain peaks** belong to him.

5 The **sea** is his, for he **made** it,
and his hands formed the **dry land**.

Psalm 95:4-5 (NIV) (p.1/2)



6 Come, let us **bow down** in worship,
let us **kneel** before the Lord our Maker;

7 for he is our **God**
and we are the **people** of his pasture,
the **flock** under his care.

Psalm 95:6-7 (NIV) (p.2/2)

