

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 AD
Nicene Creed, 325 AD

Elbing Catechism in German

Mennonite Catechism


Elbing Catechism Nf. 1924
(Global Anabaptist Mennonite Bible Encyclopedia)

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**

An aerial photograph of a vast, arid landscape. The terrain is a mix of brown and tan hues, with numerous small, dark patches of scrubby vegetation scattered across the cracked earth. The horizon line is visible in the upper third of the frame, showing a thin blue layer of the atmosphere against a dark, clear sky.

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

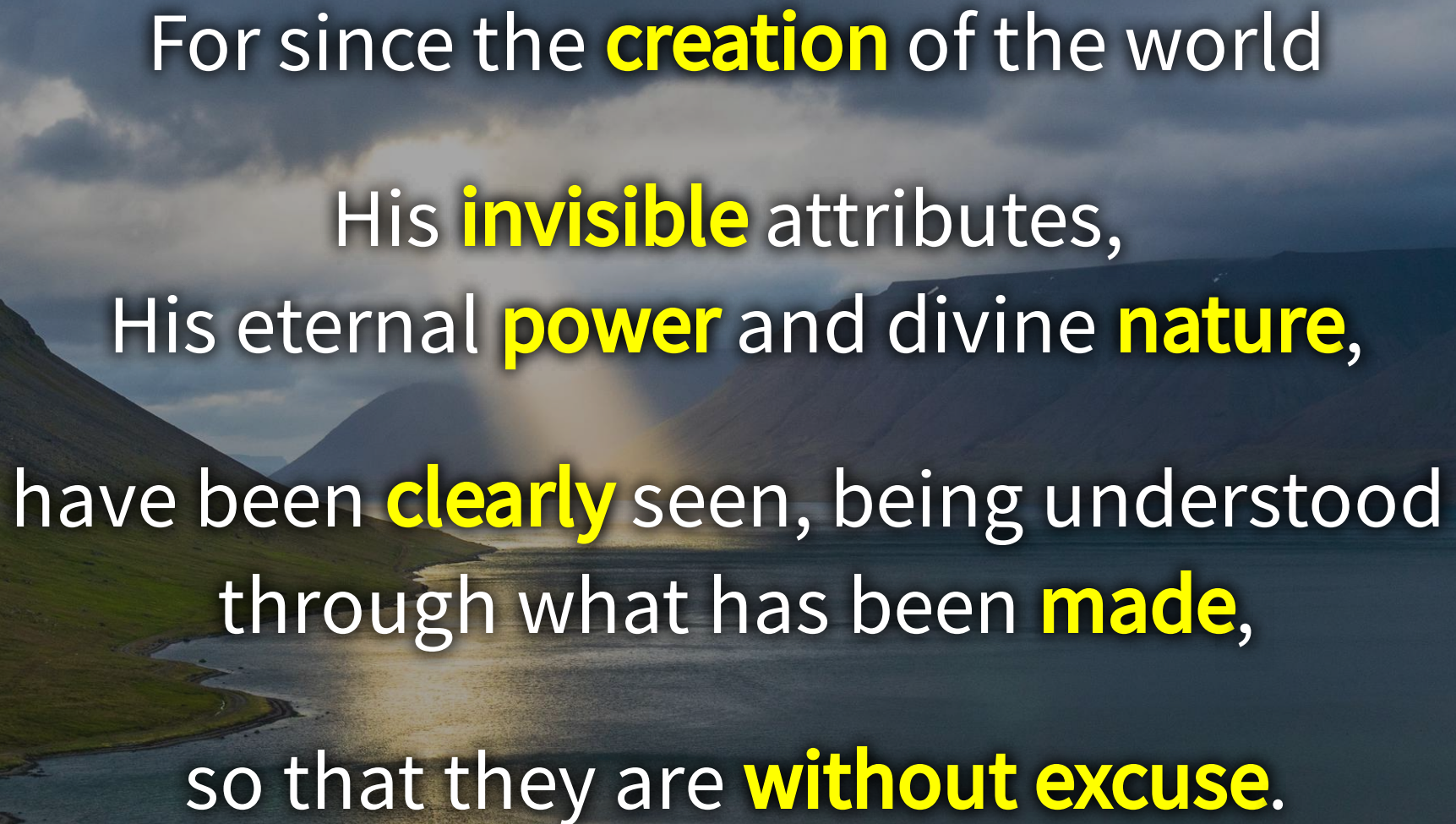
Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

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)



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
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 - 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)

An open Bible with hands resting on the pages, overlaid with text. The Bible is open to a page with text in two columns. The hands are resting on the pages, and the text is overlaid on the image. The background is a wooden surface.

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**?

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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)



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**?

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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)

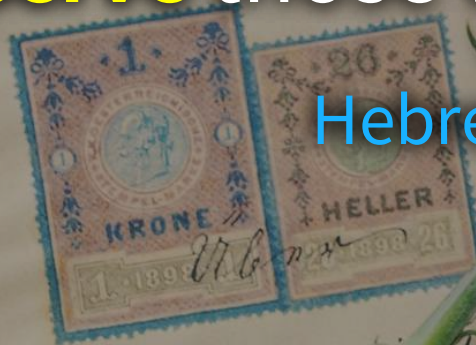


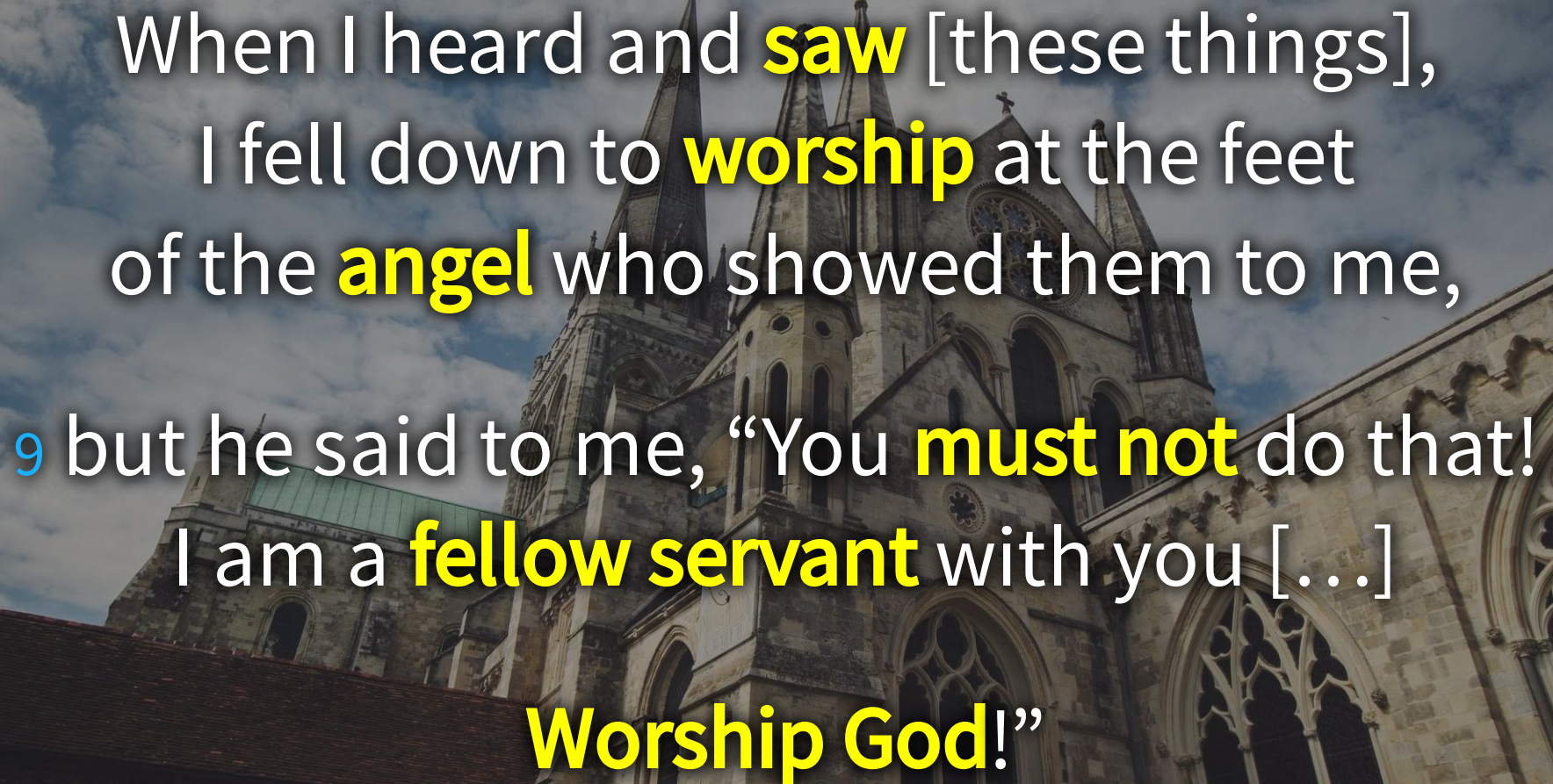
So **God** created man in his own image,
in the **image of God** he created him;
male and **female** he created them.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV)

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

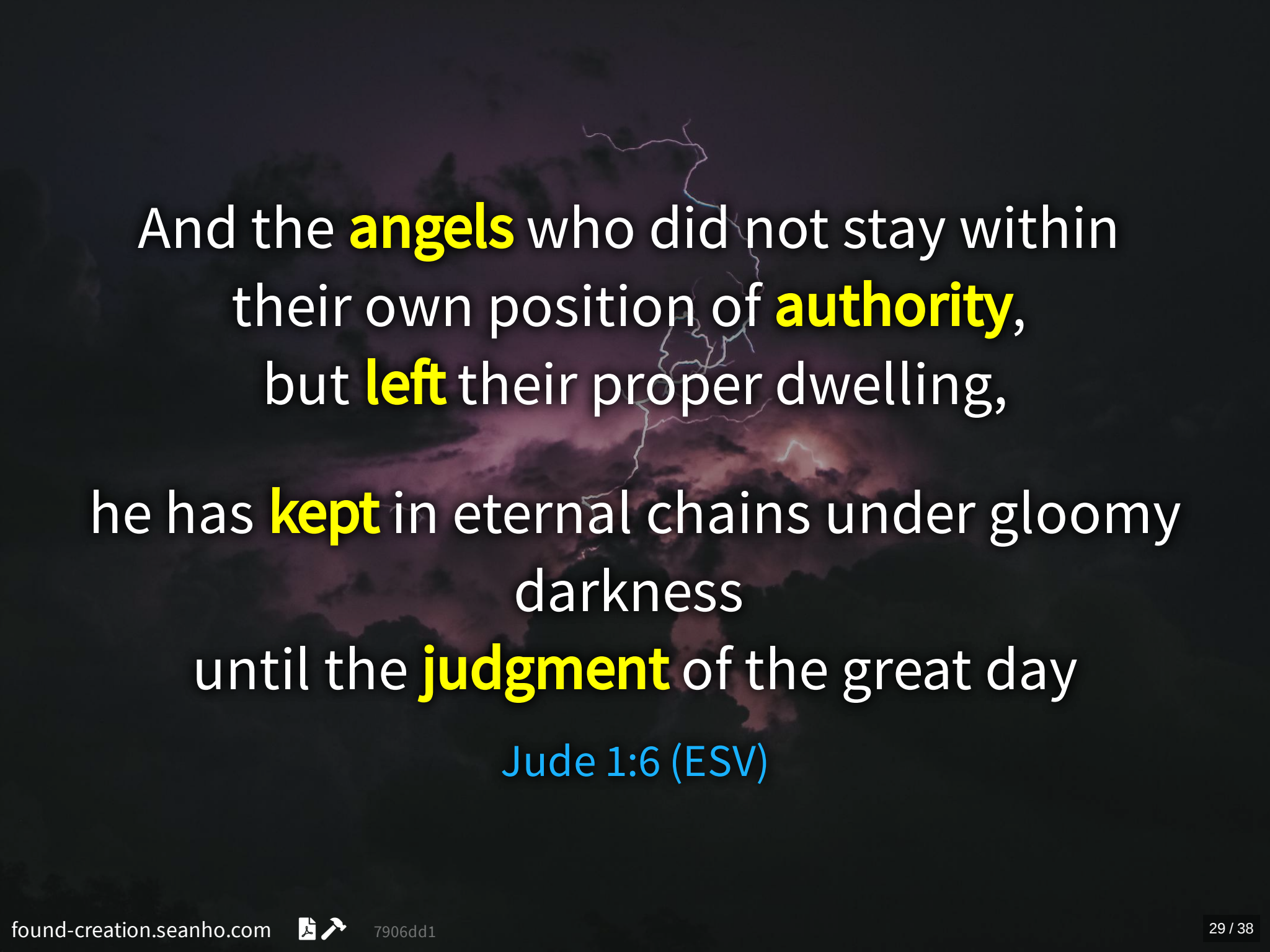
Hebrews 1:14 (NIV)





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)

A dramatic, dark sky with swirling purple and black clouds. Several bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking downwards from the top of the frame. The overall atmosphere is ominous and powerful.

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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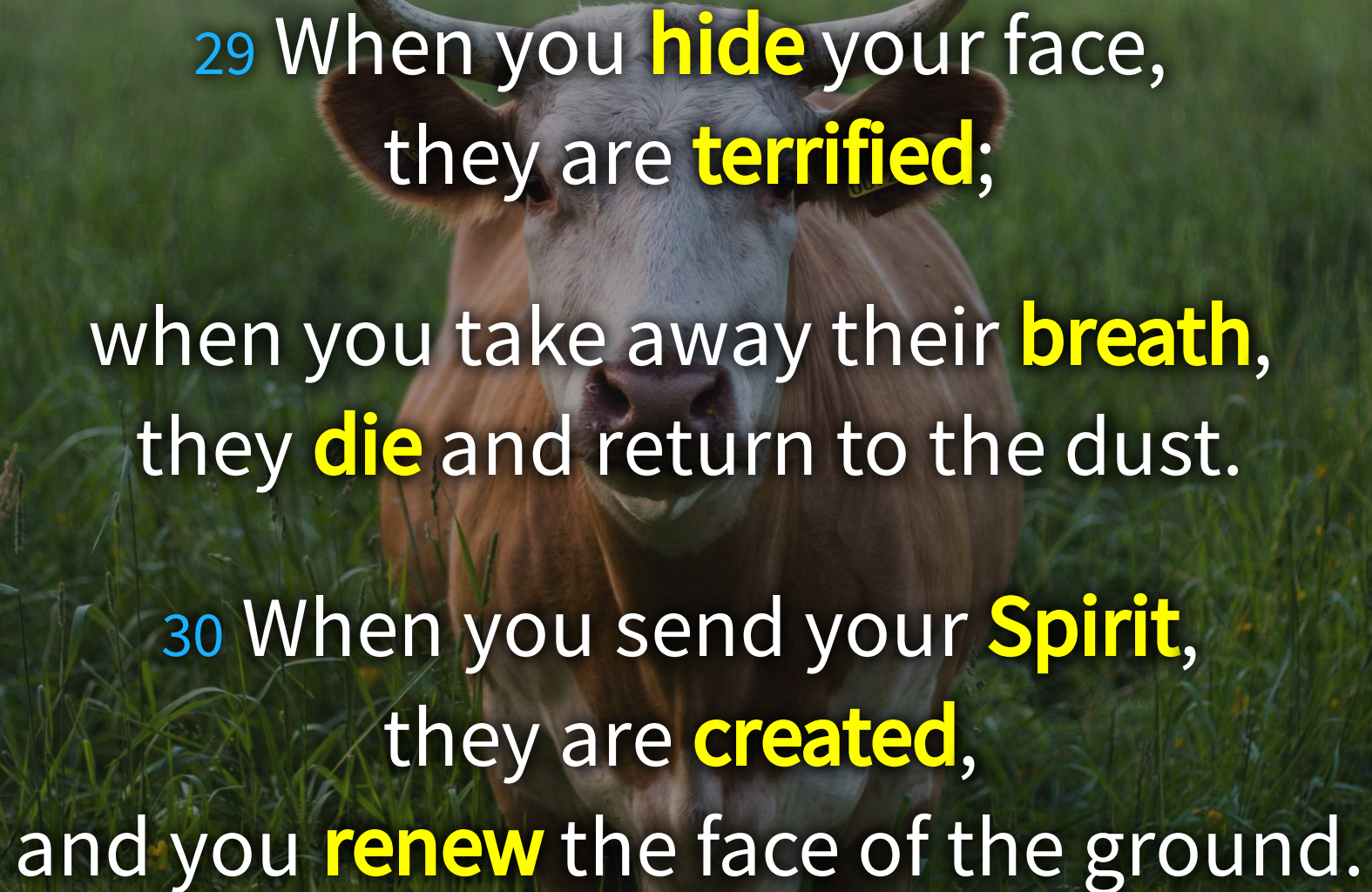


All creatures **look to you**
to give them their **food** at the proper time.

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)

A brown cow with horns is the central focus, looking directly at the camera. The background is a lush green field with some taller grasses in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the image in white and yellow colors.

29 When you **hide** your face,
they are **terrified**;
when you take away their **breath**,
they **die** and return to the dust.

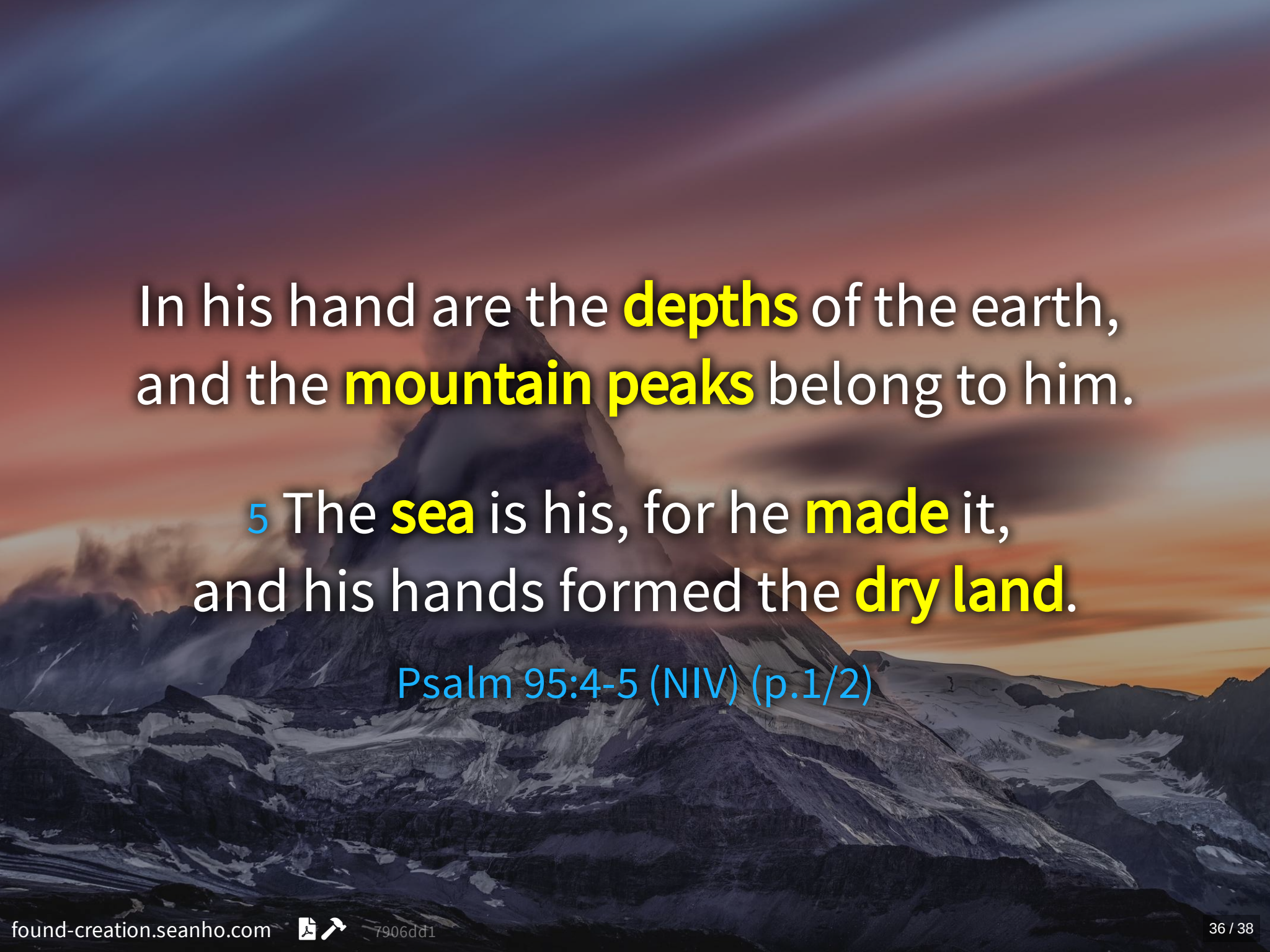
30 When you send your **Spirit**,
they are **created**,
and you **renew** the face of the ground.

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

Is God still **involved**
in His creation?

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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)

