

## The Westminster Larger Catechism – Creation

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**Q15. What is the work of creation?**

**A. The work of creation is that wherein God did in the beginning, by the word of his power, make of nothing the world, and all things therein, for himself, within the space of six days, and all very good.**

**(Also the entire first chapter of Genesis. The account of the work of creation.)**

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

**(The universe created out of nothing; not formed from preexisting materials)**

**Hebrews 11:3:** By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

**(God made all things for himself)**

**Proverbs 16:4:** The LORD has made everything for its purpose,  
even the wicked for the day of trouble.

**(All things created by God for his own pleasure)**

**Revelation 4:11:** “Worthy are you, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honor and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created.”

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**Q16. How did God create angels?**

**A. God created all the angels spirits, immortal, holy, excelling in knowledge, mighty in power, to execute his commandments, and to praise his name, yet subject to change.**



**(All the angels created by God)**

**Colossians 1:16:** For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

**(The angels are spirits)**

**Psalm 104:4:** he makes his messengers winds,  
his ministers a flaming fire.

**Hebrews 1:7:** Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,  
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

**(The angels are immortal)**

**Matthew 22:30:** For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

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### **(The knowledge of the angels)**

**2 Samuel 14:17:** And your servant thought, ‘The word of my lord the king will set me at rest,’ for my lord the king is like the angel of God to discern good and evil. The LORD your God be with you!”

**Matthew 24:36:** “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

### **(The angels’ power)**

**2 Thessalonians 1:7:** and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels

### **(The functions of the angels)**

**Psalms 103:20:** Bless the LORD, O you his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his word,  
obeying the voice of his word!

**Hebrews 1:14:** Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

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**(The angels created subject to change)**

**2 Peter 2:4:** For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment;

**Jude 6:** 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—

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### **Q17. How did God create man?**

**A. After God had made all other creatures, he created man male and female; formed the body of the man of the dust of the ground, and the woman of the rib of the man, endued them with living, reasonable, and immortal souls; made them after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness and holiness; having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it, with dominion over the creatures; yet subject to fall.**

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#### **(Mankind created male and female)**

**Genesis 1:27:** So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

#### **(Adam's body made of dust)**

**Genesis 2:7:** then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

#### **(Eve made of Adam's rib)**

**Genesis 2:22:** And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

#### **(Mankind created with living souls)**

**Genesis 2:7:** then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

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### **(Mankind created with intelligent souls)**

**Job 35:11:** who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth  
and makes us wiser than the birds of the heavens?’

### **(Mankind created with immortal souls)**

**Ecclesiastes 12:7:** and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

**Matthew 10:28:** And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

**Luke 23:43:** And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

### **(Mankind created in God’s image)**

**Genesis 1:27:** So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

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### **(God's image includes knowledge)**

**Colossians 3:10:** and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

### **(God's image includes righteousness and holiness)**

**Ephesians 4:24:** and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

### **(Mankind created with the moral law written on their hearts)**

**Romans 2:14-15:** <sup>12</sup> For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. <sup>13</sup> For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. <sup>14</sup> For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. <sup>15</sup> They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

### **(Mankind created with the power to fulfill God's law)**

**Ecclesiastes 7:29:** See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.

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### **(Mankind given dominion over the creatures)**

**Genesis 1:26:** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

**Psalm 8:6-8:** <sup>6</sup>You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under his feet,  
<sup>7</sup> all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
<sup>8</sup> the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

### **(Mankind created subject to the possibility of a fall into sin)**

**Genesis 3:6:** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate

**Romans 5:12:** Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—