–Save This Page as a PDF–

This is the Account of the Heavens and the Earth When They Were Created
2: 4

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created DIG: How does this account of creation compare to the first one (1:1 to2:3)? What differences do you see? What similarities? Why two accounts?

This is the written **account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens (NKJ).** The word for **day** (*yom*) is used without a number attached to it. Thus, it can be used for a period of time, in this case all seven days of the creation week. However, with a number, it would mean a twenty-four hour day (**to read more about this click – here**).

Here we have the first use of the compound name **ADONAI, God** instead of merely **God** in the first chapter. In **Chapters 2** and **3** the name **Lord God** occurs 19 times, except in the story of the temptation where only the name **Elohim** appears. **Adonai, God** appears only one more time **(Exodus 9:30)** in the entire Torah. In fact, it appears only 20 more times in the entire TaNaKh, mostly in the books of **Samuel, Kings,** and **Chronicles.** Whenever **God** wanted to make a special

revelation of **Himself**, **He** used the tetragrammaton **YHVH**, which actually means *the name*. Today, Jews around the world use either **Ha'Shem**, a more formal name like *father* used by the ultra-orthodox, or the more intimate name **ADONAI,** something like *daddy.* It comes from the Hebrew verb *havah,* meaning *to be* or *being.* Throughout this commentary I have chosen to use **ADONAI**. This word is almost exactly like the Hebrew verb, *chavah,* meaning *to live* or *life.* The word **Elohim** may be said to express the general idea of greatness and creative power.[41]

Therefore, in these next several chapters the compound name **ADONAI, God** is especially appropriate. For **He** will make a special revelation of **Himself** and show **His** creative power as **He** fashions the garden of Eden, creates Adam and Eve**,** deals with the issue of sin and death in the world, and foreshadows an acceptable covering for that sin.