THE READER'S DIGEST BIBLE

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ment from the waters which were above it. And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and morning, a second day.

God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters he called Seas. God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation, plants yielding seed, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind." It was so, and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and morning, a third day.

God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to separate day from night; let them be for signs and seasons and days and years, and let them give light upon the earth." God made the two great lights, the greater to rule the day, the lesser to rule the night; he made the stars also, and set them in the heavens. God saw that it was good. And there was evening and morning, a fourth day.

God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly across the heavens." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird. And God saw that it was good, and blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply." And there was evening and morning, a fifth day.

God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth." So God made the beasts of the earth, and the cattle, and everything that creeps upon the ground according to its kind. And

God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over all the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every living thing that moves upon the earth." And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast and every bird, to everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw that everything he had made was very good. And there was evening and morning, a sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and on the seventh day God rested from all his work. God blessed and hallowed the seventh day, because

on it he rested from all his work of creation.

When the Lord God made the earth and heavens, no plant was yet in the earth, no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the ground—then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.