Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning of the space-time continuum God <u>created</u> [בָּרָא (*bara'*)] the universe and the earth.

v. 2 - <u>But the earth became</u> [וְ הָ אֶרֶץ הָיָה (*waw-ha-'erets hayah*)[1]] <u>formless and void</u> [*tohu wabohu*], and <u>darkness</u> [חֹשֶׁךְ (*chashach*)] was over the surface of the <u>deep</u> [תְּהוֹם (*tehom*)]; and the Spirit of God was <u>moving</u> [רָחַף (*rachaph*)] over the surface of the waters.

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[1] "In Hebrew syntax a sequential construction is expressed by a וְ (*waw*) + verb + noun word order. A disjunctive or contrastive construction is expressed by a *waw* + noun + verb word order as in Genesis 1:2" (Bruce K. Waltke and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* [Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990], 650–51). **"Grammatically, this introduces three circumstantial clauses in verse two which describe the circumstances that preexisted verse three when God spoke and began the first day of restoration"** (R. B. Thieme, Jr., *Creation, Chaos, and Restoration* [Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 1995], 10n9).

Isaiah 45:18 - For thus says the Lord, who <u>created</u> [בָּרָא (*bara'*): *ex nihilo*] the <u>heavens</u> [שָׁמַם (*shamaim*): singular universe] (He is the God who <u>formed</u> [יָצַר (*yatsar*): to mold] the earth and <u>made</u> [עָשָׂה (*'asah*): according to a pattern] it, He <u>established</u> [כּוּן (*kun*): stabilized] it ~~and did~~ not ~~create it~~ a <u>waste place</u> [תֹּהוּ (*tohu*)], but <u>formed</u> [בָּרָא (*bara'*): *ex nihilo*] it to be <u>inhabited</u> [יָשַׁב (*yashav*)]), "I am the Lord, and there is none else." (NASB)