

## FINAL STUDY NOTES - THIS WEEK'S STUDY – 4/8-9/24 - (Gen 1:1-26-2:25)

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PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING** Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

**MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484**

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**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING** Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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### OPENING PRAYER

**Review: (Genesis 1:1) – In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth!**

- (Exo 20:11) For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.
- **The Sabbath:** (Exo 31:17) It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.' "
- **“It was good!”** Five days! Five times, God said, **“It was good!”**

**ON DAY SIX, creation was finished! God said, it was very good!**

**Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."**

- It is evident that God intends to impress the mind of man with a sense of something extraordinary in the formation of his body and soul, when He introduces the account of His creation.
- ***Let us make man in our image, implying*** human likeness to the triune Godhead. Man was not only to have a body of the created "earth," and a consciousness of the created "soul," but man was also to possess a third created entity, the image of God, an eternal spirit capable of communion and fellowship with his Creator.
- ***According to Our likeness. Man was not only created in God's spiritual image, but he also was made in God's physical image.*** His body was specifically planned to be most suited for the divine fellowship (an erect posture). Furthermore, his body was designed to be like the body which God had planned from eternity that He Himself would one day assume. (*1Pe 1:20*) *He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.*
- ***Let them have dominion over.*** The "dominion" man was to be over both "the earth" and also "all" the other living creatures on the earth. Man's dominion was under God as a stewardship, not as an autonomous sovereign. Man was to care for the earth and its creatures, developing and utilizing the earth's resources, not to waste or deplete them for his selfish pleasure.

**Gen 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.**

- ***He created him male and female.*** Details of their physical formation is given in the next chapter. Both equally possess an eternal spirit capable of personal fellowship with their Creator. All those spiritual attributes, not shared by animals; moral conscience, abstract thought, appreciation of beauty, emotional feelings, language, and the capacity for worshipping and loving God, are to be shared by man and women!

**Gen 1:28 Then God blessed them (male and female), and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."**

- ***Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.*** God's first command to man was that of producing abundant offspring, sufficient to fill the earth! The function of subduing the earth and having dominion over it would necessarily require some time—first, for the growth of a large enough population to fill the earth; and second, for the acquiring of enough knowledge and skill to enable man to bring it under full control and development.
- ***Have dominion over.*** This primeval commission to mankind has never been rescinded, but was specifically renewed and extended after the Flood.
- ***Note that no instruction was given to exercise dominion over other men, but only over the earth and the animals.*** If man had not rebelled against God's Word, all would have remained in perfect fellowship with God and consequently with one another! This situation radically changed at the Fall, and God's commandment was accordingly expanded officially after the Flood.

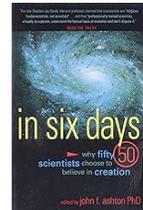
**Gen 1:29 And God said, "See, I have given you (man) every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.**

- ***I have given you every herb.*** Both men and animals were originally intended to be vegetarian and herbivorous in their appetites. There was adequate nourishment and energy value available in the fruits and herbs, enabling them to do the work God had given them. The supply could not be exhausted, since these plants were designed to replicate themselves through the seeds they produced.
- ***Of all the earth.*** The fact that their food would be available everywhere, "which is on the face of all the earth," showing that in the originally created world there were no deserts or other uninhabitable regions, no frozen tundra or ice caps, no rugged high mountain ranges. With lush vegetation everywhere, the animals no doubt soon had populated all the earth.
- ***Shall be for food.*** The question as to how or when some of the animals became carnivorous is not known, since the Bible does not say. In the future kingdom age, there will again be no plundering or struggling between animals or between animals and men (*Isa 11:6-9; Hos 2:18*)

*Gen 1:30 Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so.*

*Gen 1:31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.*

- **This one verse precludes any interpretation of Genesis which seeks to accommodate the geological ages in its system!** The “geological ages” are identified by the fossils found in the sedimentary rocks of the earth’s crust, which supposedly depict a billion-year history of the evolution of life on the earth, with simple fossils are found in ancient rocks and more complex fossils in younger rocks. But fossils really depict a world in which death reigns! Fossils are the remains of dead organisms, from amoebae to man, representing a world full of suffering and death, not a world pronounced by God as “very good!”
- **Indeed it was very good! Six times before in this chapter, God had judged His work to be “good.”** Now, after completing everything (even the “host of heaven”—see *Gen 2:1*), He declared it all to be “very (exceedingly) good.” The evolutionary ages of geology represent a billion years of wasteful inefficiency and profound cruelty if they were, indeed, a part of God’s work. They would completely discredit God as a God of order, intelligence, power, grace and love! Death, represents as in (*Rom 6:23*) *For the wages of sin is death*, not of divine love.
- **Thus, the “gap theory” (placing the geological ages *before* creation week) and the “day-age” or “progressive creation” theory, incorporating the geological ages *during* creation week, in effect imply that the Creator is either a bumbler or a monster. In reality, the geological ages are nothing but evolutionary delusions; the fossils are much more realistically explained in terms of the flood.**
- **Recommended reading: *UNFORMED AND UNFILLED*, Weston W. Fields, ISBN: 0-9641659-0-2 Critique of the Gap Theory**
- **Exo 20:11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.** For in six days! That rule has to be 24-hour days. It's numerical, for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is and rested on the 7<sup>th</sup>; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and holiday, Moses says right there *in six days*. These are 24-hour days. God made everything. And the 7th day, which is a 24-hour day was the Sabbath. Man is supposed to rest, exactly the same offer Moses, under the same inspiration tells us.
- ***IN SIX DAYS*, Ashton, John. Master Books. Kindle Edition.** This is a great book called *In Six Days*, Why fifty scientists choose to believe in creation, written by fifty scientists, all with PHD's. Throughout the book, each one of them tells why they believe in a six-day creation that is recent, not billions of years ago. It's a great, fascinating, book, laying out that these were six 24-hour days, not billions of years.



**EXAMPLES OF A YOUNG EARTH:** (taken from “*In Six Days*”)

- ***BREAK-UP OF COMETS:*** Dr. Harold S. Slusher (born 1934). Geophysicist. Astrophysicist. Young earth creationist. Studies the breakup of comets. He says by the way they break up, being swept out of our universe by magnetic forces in the bigger planets, that our universe can't be any more than 10,000 years old.
- ***THICKNESS OF MOON DUST, Apollo 11 landing – Dr. Slusher*** was also part of the team that studied the moon dust of the Apollo 11 moon landing, July 1969. Scientists figured they knew how many tons of dust settle on the moon per year. And if the universe might be 4 billion years old, there could have been moon dust 400 feet deep. So they made the engines not to clog up with dust. On that afternoon, if you see the whole pictures of the astronaut Neil Armstrong jumping out, you'll notice he hangs onto the ladder, thinking he might sink way down. As he hit the ground, you see his legs jam, because there was only an eighth of an inch to three inches all across the moon of moon dust! By their own figures, that tells them that the moon can't be all any older than 7,000 to 8,000 years old.
- ***STALAGMITES, STALACTITES*** - When visiting large caves, guides will tell you the long stalagmites and stalactites took millions of years to form. However, the Washington National Monument was finished in 1923. During a cleansing of the base area in 1968, 45 years later, they found five-foot-long stalactites!
- ***ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD DECAY*** – Dr. Thomas G. Barnes, University of El Paso physicist, studied the decay of the magnetic field, showing how the magnetic field around the Earth is decaying. How does it breakdown? He says he came to these figures that during every 1400 years it breaks down in half. So 1400 years ago, in 580 AD, the magnetic field of the earth was twice as strong as it is today. Back in 820 B.C., 1400 years earlier, it was four times what it is today! Going back 20,000 years, the earth, heated by the magnetic charges, the earth would be too hot, almost molten, to supply any life. So by his figures, the Earth

is somewhere between 6,000 and 15,000 years old. Evolutionists try to explain that every 10,000 years or so, it is recharged?? Who recharges it? With what kind of system do they recharge it?

- **CARBON DATING** can be a great thing when it works. But it does not always work. For example they took a live clam and on carbon dating on it, they said the clam was 3,000 years old! They took a seal carcass that was only 30 days old. The seal had died! The carbon 14 dating said the seal was 4,600 years old.
- **RADIOHALO RINGS** – Dr. Robert Gentry, Oakridge Labs is a geologist, who said the Earth can only be several thousand years old because of the radiohaloes they've discovered inside of the Precambrian granites, which if there were long periods of time, they would not be there.
- **HELIUM IN THE ATMOSPHERE** - Dr. Melvin A. Cook, physical chemist, said the amount of helium in the atmosphere doesn't break down. It doesn't escape, so the amount of helium in the atmosphere is measurable, which tells us how long the atmosphere has existed. He said by the measurement of helium in our atmosphere, the Earth has to be maximum of 10,000 to 15,000 years old.
- **SALINE CONTENT OF THE MINERALS IN THE OCEAN** demonstrates the present rate which is being added over time as the shores breakdown and so forth. Because nitrates and uranium don't break down, they don't recycle by the level of minerals in our oceans. Based on that, scientists figure that the Earth is between 6,000 and 10,000 years old.
- **DEPLETION OF SUN'S ENERGY** – Since 1836 the United States Naval Observatory and the Royal Greenwich Observatory have done over 100 observations of the Sun, measuring the Sun, measuring against the eclipses, indicating the diameter of the sun is shrinking 5 feet per hour, which equates to burning 4 million tons of mass per second being given off the sun. Based on these two observatories, in more than 100 studies since 1836, that 100,000 years ago the Sun would have been twice its present! Size and life on Earth would not have been able to exist, due to the extreme heat. They figured 20 million years ago the surface of the sun would have been touching the surface of the Earth! ...Numerous examples of a young earth!

## CHAPTER 2

- **Chapter 2 is a recapitulation of chapter 1, filling in some details**, especially that of the creation of man. These are not conflicting accounts. It is the typical Hebrew method of teaching. For example, Jesus followed that method in His Sermon on the Mount.

### THE SEVENTH DAY, God Rests!

**Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.**

- **All... were finished.** Note the strong emphasis in these verses on the completion of all of God's creating work, which clearly refutes both ancient evolutionary pantheism and modern evolutionary materialism! Both of which seek to explain the origin and development of all things in terms of natural processes and laws innate to the universe. Creation is complete, not continuing, except in miracles, of course. If evolution takes place at all, it would require continuing miraculous intervention in the present laws of nature.

**Gen 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended His work** (all matter was put in place, no more to be added) **which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.**

- **Not that He was tired, but He had completed the work of creation, and so He had ceased His acts of creation!** Now having created it, He energized it, setting in operation, the laws of thermodynamics and entropy. The First Law states essentially the universe is not now being created but is being conserved, with neither matter nor energy being created or destroyed. The Second Law is the universal law of increasing disorder, that the earth is winding down.
- **He placed the sun out there at the exact distance to give its light and energy and heat to the earth.** In giving off the light, the heat, and the energy, the sun is dissipating about 4 million tons of mass every second, gradually wearing down. We see the gradual decay, the loss by movement, friction loss. The universe is like a giant clock that had once been wound up, but is gradually winding down. We don't have to worry that in that when it gets down to a certain place, God is just going to wipe it out and He's going to create a new heavens and a new earth (*Rev chapter 21*)! He can go on doing this to infinity! Just think that the next heaven and earth that He creates will not know anything of sin and rebellion, which is going to be a great place to live, forever!
- **God finished His creative acts, and now everything is set in motion!** The trees have the capacity of reproducing; the creeping things, the insects, and all life forms are marvelously designed to all reproduce so they can perpetuate themselves. Now as man has played with his environment and as the environment has been damaged through various catastrophes, some of the species that has God created have become extinct.

Some of them are in danger now of becoming extinct. But, basically in the beginning, God had created all the varieties and the capacity of reproduction, and *it was very good!* Now He watches the universe as it perpetuates itself, according to His design and plan.

**Gen 2:3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified** (set apart) **it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.**

- **He rested from all His work.** We note the verb “rested” is in the past tense, “rested,” not “is resting!” His blessing and sanctifying of the seventh day could not apply to this present age of sin and death, but only to the “very good” world He had just completed.
- **Nevertheless, this “sanctifying” or hallowing of every seventh day was for man’s benefit (Mar 2:27) And He said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.** It was obviously intended as a permanent human institution, not controlled by the heavenly bodies which mark days, months, seasons and years, but by the physical and spiritual need of all men for a weekly day of rest and worship, in thankfulness for God’s great gift of creation, and later for His even greater gift of salvation! The Sabbath, literally “rest” day, was incorporated in the Mosaic covenant with Israel in a special way, but its use preceded Israel and will continue eternally (*Isa 66:23*) *And it shall come to pass That from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me,” says the LORD.* . The emphasis is on a “seventh” day, not necessarily Saturday. Since Christ’s resurrection, in fact, most Christians have identified their weekly cycle as centering on the first day of the week. The age-long, worldwide observance of the “week, not contingent on the movements of the sun and moon, but rather is quiet testimony to its primeval establishment as a memorial of God’s literal seven-day creation week!
- **A Sabbath rest of the land gives increase in fertility and productivity. (Lev 25:4) but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard.** The great material advantage of the institution must have been the increased fertility of the soil from its lying fallow one year out of seven, at a time when neither the rotation of crops nor the art of fertilizing were understood.

### **The Creation of Man and Woman**

**Gen 2:4 This is the history** (generations) **of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God** (first use, *Yahweh, Elohim*) **made the earth and the heavens,**

**Gen 2:5 before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground;**

- **The History - “Generations” (Hebrew *toledoth*) is the word from which the book of Genesis gets its name.** In the Septuagint it is rendered by the Greek *genesis*, which in (*Mat 1:1*) is translated “**genealogy.**” This is the first occurrence of the formula which marks the key subdivisions of the book: “*This is the genealogy....*” The others are at (*Gen 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10,27; 12,19; 36:1,9*) In all except this first one, the name of a specific patriarch is attached. Parallels with the terminology of the ancient Babylonian tablets indicate that these names are actually the signatures of the original writers of the particular tablets.
- **That is, each of these patriarchs kept the narrative records of his own generations,** inscribing them on stone or clay tablets, then appending his name at the end, when he was ready to turn over the tablets and the task of writing the *toledoth* to the next in line. They eventually came down into Moses’ possession, who wrote the last section of Genesis, (Gen 37:3), obtaining the information from “the sons of Jacob” (*Exo 1:1*), as well as organizing and editing all the rest under divine inspiration, so that the entire collection finally became, in effect, the first of the five books of Moses!
- **Since the first tablet (Gen 1:1-2:4a) tells of events prior to the existence of any witness to record them, God Himself either wrote this section directly or specifically revealed it to Adam.** It describes the generations of no person, therefore, but rather those of the cosmos itself!
- **In the day.** As per the ancient Babylonian practice, the next tablet, beginning at (*Gen 2:4*), keys in to the previous one by a phrase which both associates with the preceding histories and initiates the new narrative. The “*day*” of this verse does not necessarily refer to the entire creation week, as day-age theory advocates allege. It more likely refers to the first day of that week, when God created the earth and the heavens, as just stated in *Gen 2:4*, then proceeded also to “*God made*” them through the rest of the six days.
- **Before any plant of the field was in the earth. This statement clearly teaches the fact of a mature creation,** or creation of apparent age. The first plants did not grow from seeds, but were created fully grown!

- **To rain on the earth.** The primeval hydrological cycle was subterranean rather than atmospheric. The absence of rain being a consequence of the water vapor above the firmament and the uniform temperature which it maintained over the earth. Rain today is dependent on the global circulation of the atmosphere, transporting water evaporated from the ocean inland to condense and precipitate on the lands. This circulation is driven by worldwide temperature differences in the atmosphere and would be impossible with the global warmth sustained by the canopy.

**Gen 2:6** *but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.*

- The “mist” was not a river. The Hebrew word simply means water vapor. Compare (**Job 36:27**) *For He draws up drops of water, Which distill as rain from the mist.* It refers merely to the local daily cycle of evaporation and condensation occasioned by the day/night temperature cycle.

**Gen 2:7** *And the LORD God formed man of the dust (the same 17 elements make up our bodies) of the ground, and breathed (puffed, blow hard in or to) into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.*

(**Joh 20:22**) *And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.*

- **He speaks now of the creation of man himself, forming man out of the dust of the ground.** The seventeen elements that you find in the dirt outside are the same seventeen elements that make up our bodies.
- **There are questions about the resurrection. How are the dead raised and with what body do they come?** There are some people so attached to these bodies that they don't like the thought of losing them, and hoping some way that this body itself is going to be resurrected. This body is going to be changed, a metamorphosis, change of body. Personally, I wouldn't want to spend eternity in this present body. I'll be very happy to have a new building of God, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens!
- **But the idea of this body somehow being resurrected does create a lot of problems that the skeptics have brought up in past generations.** This body does go back to the dust, and in reality, if your body is just buried in the ground, it becomes fertilizer. We know that when this body is dissolved, out of the dust, God said, I created you, and to dust you're going to return. (**Gen 3:19c**) *For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.* He is talking of the body and not the spirit of man. But the spirit of man moves into the new body, (**2Co 5:1**) *For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*
- **The breath of life.** Though animals also possess the “breath,” *neshama*—(**Gen 7:22**) and the “soul,” *nephesh*, breathing creature—(**Gen 1:24**), man's breath (same word as “spirit”) and soul were imparted to him by God *directly*, rather than indirectly, as imparted to the animals.
- **A living soul. Evolution is again refuted at this point.** If man's body had been derived from an animal's body by any kind of evolutionary process, he would already have possessed the *nephesh*, rather than “becoming a living being” when God gave him the breath of life!

**Gen 2:8** *The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.*

- Eden was evidently a region somewhere east of where Adam first received consciousness, so that he could watch as God “*planted*” a beautiful garden there for his home. Though this was to be his base, he was actually instructed to “*subdue*” and “*have dominion over*” the whole earth. This verse is a summary, with (**Gen 2:9-14**) going back to give more details concerning Adam's home.

**Gen 2:9** *And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*

- **The tree of life was an actual tree, with real fruit** (**Gen 3:22; Rev 22:2**) whose properties would have enabled even mortal men to live indefinitely. Though modern scientists may have difficulty in determining the nature of such a remarkable food, they also have been unable so far even to determine the basic physiological cause of aging and death. Thus it is impossible to say scientifically that no chemical substance could exist, which might stabilize all metabolic processes and thereby prevent aging.
- **The tree of knowledge.** The same cautions apply to any discussions of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, which likewise was genuinely physical. It is conceivable that the fruit contained substances capable of catalyzing physiological decay processes in the body, perhaps affecting even the genetic system.

Whether or not this was the case, a “*knowledge*” of evil would necessarily follow its eating, since evil is fundamentally merely rejection of God’s Word. Man had abundant knowledge of good already, since everything God had made was “*very good*,” but disobedience would itself constitute an experimental knowledge of evil.

***Gen 2:10 Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four riverheads.***

- ***A river went out of Eden.*** The geography described in these verses obviously corresponds to nothing in the present world, although some of the names sound familiar. The Noahic Flood was so cataclysmic in its effects (***2Pe 3:6***) by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. We note that the primeval geography was obliterated, with the post-Flood continents and oceans completely different.
- ***The similarity of certain names (Ethiopia, Euphrates) is best explained*** in terms of the ascribing by Noah or his sons of these names to postdiluvian features which reminded them of antediluvian geographic features, just as the explorers of America often gave European names to American sites.
- ***Became four river heads.*** The rivers described in this section could not have derived their waters from rainfall, so they must have been fed by artesian springs, or controlled fountains from the great deep, which implies a network of subterranean pressurized reservoirs and channels, fed from the primeval seas and energized by the earth’s internal heat.

***Gen 2:11 The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one which skirts the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.***

***Gen 2:12 And the gold of that land is good. Bdellium and the onyx stone are there.***

- ***Is good.*** The present tense here may indicate it to be an eyewitness account, and thus most likely a record originally from Adam himself. However, the past tense of “*went*,” in verse 10 may suggest that, at the time when Adam actually wrote it, the garden of Eden was no longer there.
- ***Bdellium*** was evidently a precious gum, likened to the manna sent to the Israelites in the wilderness.

***Gen 2:13 The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one which goes around the whole land of Cush (Ethiopia).***

- ***At this point, probably, all of the land mass was still just in one land mass.*** This was before the flood, which did cause tremendous geographical changes as the waters were changed as the sea beds inundated the land. Under the weight of water, the land, sunk and new mountain ranges were thrust upwards. The evidences of them are all over the world. A good example of the thrust is down in the Andes. Lake Titicaca there in Peru shows how the thrust has created an angle of where the lakebed used to be and things of this nature.
- ***Today, trying to find the Garden of Eden would be futile,*** because the whole structure has been so dramatically changed that it would be impossible to locate the Garden of Eden. So we read of it and of the rivers that came out of it, and of those areas. Even the present Euphrates Rivers may not be where it was then in the time of the Garden of Eden.

***Gen 2:14 The name of the third river is Hiddekel (Tigris - Dan 10:4); it is the one which goes toward the east of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates.***

***Gen 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.***

- ***To tend and keep it.*** The ideal world, both before the entrance of sin and after the removal of sin (***Rev 22:3***) *And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him*, is not one of idleness and frolic, but one of serious activity and service. Adam was placed in an ideal environment and circumstances, so he had no excuse for rejecting God’s love and authority.
- ***It was man's duty to develop the garden. He was put in the garden with the purpose of developing it, to tend it, to dress it, to keep it, to develop the potentials that are there. God put the raw materials there, and now it's up to man to develop it. (Eph 2:10) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. God has created us to be productive!***

**Gen 2:16** *And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;*

**Gen 2:17** *but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

- **Now remember, there were two trees that were specifically mentioned: *the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*.** Man, created in the image of God with the power of choice, with one prohibition. Here it is, *the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*, you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat you will surely die. He commanded Adam to keep that which God created, to develop it. Man, in the image of God, made out of the dust, he's part material; God breathed into him the breath of life, he is spiritual. So there is conflict now on what side of the nature will he live? The physical, material, fleshly side, or the spiritual?
- ***You may not freely eat.*** For true fellowship with God, having been created in His image, man must be free to reject that fellowship. The restriction imposed here by God is the simplest, most straightforward test that could be devised for determining man's volitional response to God's love. There was only one minor restraint placed on Adam's freedom and, with an abundance of delicious fruit of all types available, there was no justification for his desiring the one forbidden fruit. Nevertheless, he did have a choice, and so was a free moral agent, capable of accepting or rejecting God's will.
- ***You shall surely die!*** In the very day that he would experimentally come to "know evil," through disobeying God's Word, he would die spiritually, being separated from God's direct fellowship. Adam would also begin to die physically, with the initiation of decay processes in his body which would ultimately cause his physical death. Without man having a choice, to obey or disobey, our obedience really means nothing to Him, for it is a forced obedience, just like being a robot! Just think what an interesting place it is for us to be in right now.
- **Without that choice of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve would have remained obedient, but they would never have been righteous!** In order to be actively righteous, I must have the opportunity to be unrighteous, and then choose not to be unrighteous, but choose to obey the Lord! Then I am able to be righteous before God!

**Gen 2:18** *And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man (Adam) *should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable* (suitable) *to him."**

- ***It is just not good. God said it! Man by himself could never be complete,*** so God said, "*I will make him a helper comparable to him.*" The events described here all took place on the sixth day of the creation week, after which God pronounced all things "very good." All the animals had been created "*male and female*" and instructed to "*multiply on the earth,*" but man still needed a "*helper comparable to him.*"
- **Husbands need wives for companionship, for a helper, and procreation (Gen 1 28b) Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion.**

**Gen 2:19** *Out of the ground the LORD God formed (had formed) every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.*

- ***God formed, or God "had formed."*** Thus there is no contradiction with the order of creation in animals before man, (*Gen 1:1-31*). The first chapter of Genesis gives a summary of the events on all six days of creation; the second chapter provides more details of certain events of the sixth day.
- ***And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.*** An expression for dominion by Adam and for a purpose of recognizing them, coming in pairs, preparing him for the woman, God is going to bring into Adam's life. The animals to be named included only birds, domesticable animals, and the smaller wild animals that would live near him. It would be possible for him to name about three thousand of the basic kinds of these animals in about five hours, one every six seconds, and this would be adequate both to acquaint Adam with those animals and also to show clearly that there were none who were sufficiently like him to provide companionship for him. This is still further proof that man did not evolve from any of the animals, even those that were most directly associated with him.

**Gen 2:20** *So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable (suitable) *to him.**

- **It was obvious to Adam that the animals came in pairs and he had no mate.** God deliberately had Adam name the animals to show him that no creature, yet formed, could make him a suitable companion. After seeing his need for a partner, (*Gen 2:18*), God used this to prepare Adam to receive the gift of a woman.

**Gen 2:21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs** (side), **and closed up the flesh in its place.**

- **The “deep sleep” was not simply an anesthetized state to prevent pain**, since there was as yet no pain in the world. It was most likely ordained as a primeval picture of the future death of the second Adam, Jesus Christ, whose sacrificial death would result in the formation of His bride (*2Co 11:2; Eph 5:30-32*).
- **The “rib” was actually the “side” of Adam** (*tsela* occurs thirty-five times in the Old Testament, nowhere else translated “rib.”) The side contained both “bone” and “flesh” (*Gen 2:23*), but it may be that both are implied in the blood that would necessarily flow from the opened side. The “*life of the flesh is in the blood*” (*Gen 9:4; Lev 17:11*) and a primeval blood “transfusion” would more perfectly fit the event as a type of the opened side of Christ on the cross (*Joh 19:34-36*). Even if the operation did actually extract a rib from Adam, this would not suggest that men should have one less rib than women, since “acquired characteristics” are not hereditary.

**Gen 2:22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her** (first marriage) **to the man.**

- **He made into a woman.** This remarkable record of the formation of the first woman could hardly have been invented by human imagination! Neither can it be interpreted in the context of theistic evolution, even if one could interpret the formation of Adam’s body from the dust in evolutionary terms. Its historicity is confirmed in the New Testament, (*1Ti 2:13*) *Adam was made first. Then Eve was made. (1Co 11:8) The man did not come from the woman. The woman came from the man.* All other men have been born of woman, but the first woman was made from man. We also know the Bride of Christ comes from the wound made in the side of the second Adam, Jesus Christ!
- **And He brought her to the man:** God brought Eve to Adam and created Eve out of Adam. He was first – the source and the head. She was created to be a helper, perfectly suited to him. Thus the subordinate relationship of wives to husbands is found before the curse, not only after it. Adam understood the essential oneness in his relationship with Eve. This point is so important that it is referred to several times in the New Testament, including the great marriage passage in (*Eph 5:28-29*): *So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it.*

**Gen 2:23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman** (*Ish-shah*), **Because she was taken out of Man** (*Ish*)."

- **The word for Woman in the Hebrew language is very similar to the word for Man.** The word for man is *ish*, and the word for woman is *ish-shah*. She is the other part of man and is to answer to him. God intended man to take the lead—He created him first—and He created woman to follow! The man is the aggressor—God made him that way even physically—and woman is the responder!

**Gen 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined** (cleaving, full and total commitment) **to his wife, and they shall become one** (*echad* – compound unity) **flesh.**

- **One flesh. God’s first institution, which is marriage!** The literal historicity of this event and its primary importance in human life are confirmed by both the Apostle Paul (*Eph 5:30-32*) *We are parts of his body. [31] Scripture says, "That's why a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife. The two will become one." [32] That is a deep mystery. But I'm talking about Christ and the church.* and the Lord Jesus Christ (*Mat 19:5*) *He said, 'That's why a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife. The two will become one.* Although men and women through the ages have corrupted this divine institution in many ways; adultery, divorce, polygamy, homosexuality, (*Mat 19:8*) “*from the beginning it was not so!*”
- **Marriage is introduced! The institution of the home is the first and most basic human institution, and was intended to be monogamous and permanent until death.** It is significant that cultures of all times and sorts have acknowledged the superiority of monogamy, even though they have not always practiced it. Such an awareness could not be a product of evolution, since it does not characterize most animals, and thus can only be explained in terms of this primeval creation and revelation. Furthermore, the fact that it took

place at the very “beginning of creation,” rather than billions of years after the beginning, was confirmed by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself (**Mar 10:6**) *But from the beginning of the creation, God 'MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.'*

**Gen 2:25** *And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

- **Were both naked.** No shame, no longer clothed with light? (**Psa 104:1-2**) *Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, [2a] Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment.*
- **The man and his wife were not ashamed.** The lack of shame at nakedness was not because of a hardened conscience, as is true today, but because the physiological differences of Adam and Eve had been divinely created in accord with God’s purpose and they had been brought together by God with the express commandment to “*be fruitful and multiply.*” At this time they were still without sin and thus without consciousness of moral guilt. Later, however, their sin brought an awareness that the springs of human life had been poisoned, both in themselves and in their offspring. This discovery made them painfully aware of their reproductive organs and they were then “*ashamed.*”
- **Although the Scriptures do not say so, I believe they were originally created, clothed with some sort of glory light, which may be** the loveliest and the most precious account of the creation of woman and man. Here is a couple whom God really joined together. There are certain things which God has given to His people that they should obey, and God has given marriage to the human race! Marriage is one of the bands which modern men are trying to throw off. What is man trying to do? He is trying to get rid of God, because God is the One who established marriage! The creation of woman was indirect creation, for God took her out of man to reveal the fact that she is part of man. The story of creation of woman for man is a beautiful story!
- **The subjects of this chapter are quite wonderful:** the creation of man, where he is placed, his occupation, the condition upon which he is there with a responsibility, his need for a companion, and then God's creation of woman. There is to be an identity between the husband and the wife, and God says, “Husbands, love your wives.” This is the creation story.
- **We have seen in chapter 2 man's; kinship with God**, his worship of God; his fellowship, service and loyalty to God; man's authority from God; and man's social life from and for God! This is the great message of this chapter.

**SUMMARY:**

- (**Genesis 1:1**) – *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth! (Exo 20:11) For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. It was very good!*
- **Worship the Creator! Not the creation! God is so good!**

**CLOSING SONG:**

**GOODNESS OF GOD** - Bethel Music (4:46/4:49)

*I love You, Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me. All my days I've been held in Your hands*

*From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*Chorus - And all my life You have been faithful And all my life You have been so, so good*

*With every breath that I am able Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire. In the darkest night, You were close like no other. I've*

*known You as a Father. I've known You as a Friend. And I have lived in the goodness of God (Chorus)*

*Your goodness is running after. It's running after me. Your goodness is running after. It's running after*

*me. With my life laid down I'm surrendered now I give You everything Your goodness is running after, It's running after me. (2x)*

*(Chorus) - And all my life You have been faithful And all my life You have been so, so good*

*With every breath that I am able Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God (2x)*

*Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God*

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

**NEXT WEEK: Read and study Genesis Chapters 3&4!**