

Man and His Mate

Genesis 1:26-2:25

I. Creation of Humans – 1:26-31

1. We come now to the highlight of creation
Note how God has brought things into being
God said “Let there be” – 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24
Now there is a statement of unique creation – 26
2. Let us make man (humans) in our image
With a personality that reflects God’s likeness
Having intellect, emotion and will
With God’s own breath (spirit) to have fellowship with God - Gen. 2:7
With God-given authority to rule over all the earth
Dominion over fish, birds, livestock, creeping things
3. So God created them male & female – 27
In chapter 2 we read how he created each
4. God blessed & commissioned them – 28
Blessed them with power of reproduction
With commission to populate earth
Blessed with ability to subdue (rule) earth
Fish of sea, birds of heaven, all living things on earth
5. God’s provision for food – 29-30
Every plant yielding seed, every tree with fruit
To be food for humans & animal kingdom
6. God saw all He made – 31
Declared it “very good” – end of 6th day

II. 7th Day, God Rested – 2:1-3

1. Day of rest is established on the 7th day
Heavens and the earth were finished - complete
2. God blessed & made 7th day holy
Became the Sabbath day – Ex. 20:8-11
Signature day for God’s people, Israel – Ex. 31:12-18
Note written with God’s finger on stone
In the Law God made this a sign of faith
They rested on Sabbath Day because He did what He said He did
3. Consider N.T. Sabbath rest – Heb. 4:9-11
Jesus finished the work of Redemption on the cross
He died in our place bearing our sins
He rose again signifying that the penalty was paid and new life began
4. Faith is resting on what God says
That natural creation was finished in 6 days
That spiritual creation was finished in 3 days
Rest on redemptive work - He said “it is finished”

III. Perfect Place for Man – 2:4-17

1. God watered earth to keep it fresh – 4-6
There was no rain or storms but God watered it
2. God formed man & breathed life into him – 7
Man made from earth - “dust from the ground”
God breathed (spirit) life into his nostrils – living soul

- Man had affinity to both God & his environment
3. Perfect environment provided for man – 8-17
Beautiful Garden planted by God in the east – 8
He put Adam in that garden
God caused trees to grow in the garden - 9
Every tree pleasant to sight & good for food
Tree of Life in the middle of garden
Potentially to sustain life forever – 3:22-24;
Rev. 22:2
Tree of knowledge of good and evil
Four rivers ran through the garden – 10-14
(1) Pishon – flows to Havilah, where there is gold – 11-12
Also other mineral deposits – bdellium & onyx
(2) Gihon – Flows to land of Cush
(3) Tigris – Flows east of Assyria
(4) Euphrates – perhaps to Babylon
 4. Man’s assignment from God – 15-17
Working responsibility – Work & care for garden
Enjoy the fruits of your work – eat from the trees
Moral responsibility – Don’t eat from one tree
Tree of knowledge of good and evil
It will surely bring death the day you eat it

IV. Perfect Partner for Man – 2:18-25

1. God’s plan included a partner – 2:18
He created male and female – 1:28
Perhaps God allowed him to discover his need
His partner must be suited to him – 18-20
None of the animal kingdom met this criteria
“Fit” – perfectly suited to, not identical
Necessary for reproduction, but more than that
One who provided another perspective & abilities
2. God made woman from man’s bone – 21-23
Taken from him to partner with him, side by side
See her as part of him, “bone of my bone”
3. Marriage is established by God – 22-25
God brought this woman to Adam – 22
Adam recognized her to be a part of him – 23
This relationship has priority over all others – 24
“Leave his father and mother – hold fast to his wife”
Marriage is designed for unity, oneness – 24
There is intimacy without shame – 25
4. Paul related this union to Christ & His church
Note Ephesians 5:32
“This mystery (revelation) is profound and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church”
Eve’s life was in Adam as our life is in Christ
We stand as righteous before God because we are in Christ