

The Beginning—Genesis 2

Man, Woman, and Their Garden Home

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Hebrews 11:3
2. Psalm 33:6
3. Exodus 20:11; 31:16-17
4. Isaiah 64:8
5. Descriptive of the BEAUTY of Eden (Isaiah 51:1-3).
6. 1 Corinthians 11:9; 1 Timothy 2:11-15

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: Before the Flood.

III. Summary.

The second chapter of God's revelation provides more answers for us regarding beginnings. The REST spoken of in verses two and three is not to be understood as God needing to rest from exhaustion, but rather He was preparing for a time of rest that man would need from his labors (the sabbath day), and eventually this REST is used as a figure of heaven (Heb 4:1ff). Chapter 2 gives a summary statement about chapter one and then gives further details about the creation of man on Day Six (vv. 7-25).

Here we learn about the beauty of the Garden of Eden, which the Lord had created for man. Only a couple of the rivers are recognizable as existing today. The Tigris and Euphrates Rivers are in modern-day Iraq and this garden must have been somewhere in that region. God placed man in this beautiful environment "to dress it and to keep it" (Gen 2:15).

There was given to man an opportunity to demonstrate his complete loyalty and submission to the Lord by placing a tree in that garden from which he was not to eat, though he was allowed to eat of all of the others. For ONE SINGLE TIME in the creative process, we hear God say, "It is not good," in connection with the observation that there was for man no suitable help meet or companion. The dominion Adam was given is demonstrated in the authority given to him of naming all of the animals that were brought to him. Of all of the animals there was no help meet for Adam.

God caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam and took a rib and from the rib he formed a woman. Then was instituted by God the institution of marriage. The leaving and cleaving and one-flesh arrangement was from the very beginning and was begun by God Himself.

This chapter closes by giving a glimpse of the innocence of man in his God-given home before sin entered.

IV. Outline.

1. The six-day creation was complete and God rested from the work He had created and made (Genesis 2:1-3).
2. Watering of plant life was accomplished by a mist (Genesis 2:4-6).

3. God formed man from the dust of the earth (Genesis 2:7).
4. A description of the beautiful Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:8-14).
5. Adam was given a special assignment (Genesis 2:15).
6. God gave man his first THOU SHALT NOT (Genesis 2:16-17).
7. It is not good that man should be alone (Genesis 2:18).
8. Adam names the animals (Genesis 2:19-20).
9. Divine surgery with most pleasant results (Genesis 2:21-23).
10. Institution of marriage (Genesis 2:24).
11. Innocence in the garden (Genesis 2:25).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Adam was awake when Eve was formed.
02. _____ By Day Seven all creation had ended.
03. _____ God named the animals.
04. _____ God showed concern about how the created things looked to man.
05. _____ Man had nothing to do in the garden.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ Not only did God sanctify the seventh day, but He also: (a) loved it; (b) blessed it; (c) praised it.
07. _____ Did Adam give a reason as to why he named his help meet WOMAN: (a) Yes; (b) No.
08. _____ Which of the following is not one of the rivers named in the description of Eden: (a) Pison; (b) Euphrates; (c) Nile; (d) Gihon.
09. _____ In this chapter, God said, "It is not good that the man should be": (a) ignorant; (b) bald; (c) alone.
10. _____ Regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God told Adam, "In the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely": (a) die; (b) be sorry; (c) weep.

Fill in the Blanks

11. _____ 11:3... "Through _____ we understand that the worlds were _____ by the _____ of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."
12. "And the Lord God _____ man of the dust of the _____, and _____ into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a _____ soul."
13. Psalm 33: _____ ... "By the _____ of the LORD were the _____ made; and all the host of them by the _____ of his mouth."
14. "... This is now _____ of my _____ and _____ of my _____: she shall be called _____."
15. Isaiah _____:8... "But now, O LORD, thou *art* our father; we *are* the _____, and thou our _____; and we all *are* the work of thy hand."

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Genesis 1 ... [(1) False, 1:5,8,13,19,23,31; (2) False, 1:11-12; (3) True, 1:22; (4) False, 1:15-16; (5) True, 1:28; (6) b; (7) d, 1:21; (8) c, 1:7; (9) b; (10) b; (11) 44, fruit; (12) beginning, created; (13) created, own, image, 1:27; (14) 11, framed, word; (15) Genesis, living, fruitful, multiply.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **... finished ... And on the seventh day...** (Genesis 2:1-2). Here is another of many repeated emphases that this creation process was accomplished, FINISHED, in six literal 24-hour days. In the Old Testament, every single time that the Hebrew word YOM (day) is accompanied by a number (e.g., seventh), it is obvious in the context that the reference is to a normal, 24-hour day. Those who try to compromise with evolution by claiming these days could have been long periods of time are not reading the text very carefully. Besides, consider the problem in the field of botany of having plant life created on Day Three and then millions of years passing by before there is the sun. Or even consider the effect of millions of years of the sun (with no night) upon plant life. What about the “pollinators” (e.g., bees) not coming along till Day 6?
2. **... and he rested on the seventh day...** (Gen 2:2). Understanding the perfection of God, we know He did not rest because of any weariness on His part. Rather it must have been for a pattern for man. Our physical bodies do get weary and tired and it is intended by our Creator that there should be seasons of rest. Exodus 20:8-11 shows us that the sabbath regulation had as its basis this rest of God. Mark 2:27 tells us that the sabbath was made for man and not *vice versa*. There is a principle involved in the observance of the sabbath which is man’s need for rest. The scribes and Pharisees had added restrictions God did not place upon the sabbath and had made it a burden. For us in this Christian age, we ought to recognize the need for rest and for a time for emphasis upon spiritual concerns. The term REST is used as a figure for the eternal rest in Hebrews 4:1ff. However, there is no CHRISTIAN SABBATH, and all of the regulations that were tied to that day have been nailed to the cross (cf., Col 2:14, 16). The pattern for the Christian is to worship on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7).
3. **And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground** (Gen 2:7). This text ought to help us understand the folly of placing too much emphasis upon our physical nature. It is not the physical which is lasting. Read Ecclesiastes 12:7. That which makes us special and “in the image of God” is the spiritual aspect of our lives—our ability to reason and to choose to follow God’s will for us. Peter points out that there is coming a day when all of these things we SEE will be destroyed and then he raises an important question: WHAT MANNER OF PERSON OUGHT YE TO BE? (2 Pet 3:11).
4. **And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight** (Gen 2:9). The field of Aesthetics has to do with things that are pleasant to the eyes or senses. It is an amazing fact that our God was so detailed in His care and concern for His creature, man, that He even took into account things that would be pleasant to the sight as a part of His provision. How loving and kind is our Creator!!!
5. **...to dress it and to keep it** (Gen 2:15). In God’s design, there would be something for man to do in his paradise-like home. God being our Creator, knows the needs of man entirely. It is not natural or right for man to be without some work to do upon this earth. From the very beginning it was so. When some at Thessalonica decided it was best just to quit working and, in idle fashion, wait for the coming of the Lord, Paul corrected them and told the faithful brethren that if one would not work, neither should he eat (2 Th 3:10).
6. **Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh** (Gen 2:24). Here is the actual beginning or institution of marriage. It is a divine institution and God here provides instruction regarding its proper and true use. There is much more said in God’s revelation concerning marriage, but we are given this foundational statement in the second chapter of His revelation. This institution of marriage is being attacked today. Some are wanting to defend same-

sex marriages and many other changes in God's order. We must take the message to the world that God instituted it and He regulates it and we must be submissive to His will regarding it.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

B G G R O U N D T Y H N U J M K I O L P
 Q O N E F L E S H A Z W B E A S T S F X
 E D C R F V T R I B S G B W Y H N M O U
 J S I K L P O Q A Z M N B V I C X Z W L
 K L J H G F D F S A P O I U Y F T R L E
 E E W Q M N B V O V C X Z L K J E H G F
 D E S A W S X C E R D C R F V T G B Y H
 N P H Y T G B R F V M E D C X S W E D C
 C R C A T T L E F V B E G W T Y H N U J
 M K I O P L Y H N T G B D O R A R F E D
 W S X C D E R F V B G T R M F V D T G B
 N H Y U I K M J U J O P L A N H Y A T G
 B G T E R F V T E D A L O N E E D C M V
 R T M G B T E Y H D N M J U I K L O P U
 J A V F R E E D C O V B G T Y H E N M U
 N J N H M Y T G B O R F V E D V C V G T
 M N B P V C X Z L G K C R E A T U R E J
 H G L F D S A M N T B V C E X Z L J H G
 R E F V T G B N H O Y H L E A V E R F V
 H W S X C Q A Z X N E C V H T Y U J M O

[The highlighted words can be found above—one or two may be “run together.”]

¹⁸And the LORD God said, *It is **not good*** that the man should be **alone**; I will make him an **help meet** for him. ¹⁹And out of the **ground** the LORD God **formed** every **beast** of the field, and every **fowl** of the air; and brought *them* unto **Adam** to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living **creature**, that *was* the **name** thereof. ²⁰And Adam gave names to all **cattle**, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

²¹And the LORD God caused a deep **sleep** to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his **ribs**, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; ²²And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a **woman**, and brought her unto the man. ²³And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. ²⁴Therefore shall a man **leave** his father and his mother, and shall **cleave** unto his **wife**: and they shall be **one flesh**. ²⁵And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.