

HUMANITY ADAM AND EVE

PART II

GENESIS 2

WEEK 5

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CREATION ORDINANCE #5 THE SEVENTH DAY IS TO BE SET APART.

"By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work."
(Genesis 2:2, NIV)

IDENTIFYING THE ORDINANCE.

- In Hebrew tradition Saturday is the seventh day
- The name of the week in Hebrew is SHABBAT which means 7
- The creation detail does identify days, but not by name.
- Therefore, the PRINCIPLE to take away from the ordinance, rather than the letter of the law, is that one day in 7 is to be set apart from the others.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO ON THE SABBATH?

- Break from our normal labors.
- Consider our labors.
- Consider God's creation
- Consider and worship the Lord for His creation

THAT GOD RESTS FROM HIS WORK IDENTIFIES THE COMPLETION OF "EX NIHILO" CREATION.

HAVING STATED THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF MAN'S CREATION MOSES CONTINUES TO SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE CREATION OF MAN

THE PHRASE "THIS IS THE ACCOUNT OF THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH WHEN THEY WERE CREATED." CLOSES OUT THE GENERAL CREATION NARRATIVE AND BRIDGES OUR FOCUS TO MAN'S CREATION.

- Some consider this a second creation myth
- It seems to go back to another point in time (which it does)
- It introduces God as Yahweh while the previous chapter calls Him Elohim
- It identifies a different character of creation

- God plants a garden
- God creates man
- God creates animals

THIS IS AN AMPLIFICATION NOT A NEW CREATION STORY

The phrase “when the Lord God made” points us back to the previous information.

THE WORD “MADE” IS DIFFERENT FROM THE WORD “CREATED”

- The word here means to shape or fashion.
- It is more of a fine tuning word than the word “create.”

“GOD WORDS” REFLECT GOD’S CHARACTER.

- The word “God” in chapter 1 is a majestic term
- The word “Lord” in chapter 2 is a relational term

CHAPTER 2’S ORDER DOES NOT CONTRADICT THE CREATION ORDER.

- The order here relates the creation to Adam.
- The order here is a “gathering” not a new creating

ADDITIONAL AMPLIFICATION: HERB LIFE IS PROGRESSIVE AND MATURING

ADDITIONAL AMPLIFICATION: RAIN DID NOT EXIST. GOD “WATERS” WITH A GROUND MIST.

ADDITIONAL AMPLIFICATION: GOD MAKES MAN FROM EXISTING MATTER.

- Every element in the human body is found in the earth.
- The name ADAM is similar to the word EDOM which means earth or soil.

GOD'S PREPARATION FOR ADAM 2:8-16

"Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. And the Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.) The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden;" (Genesis 2:8-16, NIV)

A PLACE FOR ADAM

PREPARED BEFORE ADAM'S CREATION – "HAD PLANTED

LOCATED IN "THE EAST"

SATISFYING WITH TREES AND PLANTS

- Variety
 - Beauty
 - Fruitful for food
 - Choice
 - Tree of Life for everlasting relationship with God
 - Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil for the option of rebellion.

WELL WATERED

The Rivers of Eden

- Eden is either the source (the origin) of a river that flows into four others
- Four river flow through Eden
 - The common structure of middle eastern gardens argues for this.
 - These gardens contain four walkways that meet at central point in the garden
 - The common name of such a garden is a "paradisis" or paradise.

THE LOCATION OF THE RIVERS

Only two rivers can be identified by specific name.

The Tigris – the river flows south to the Arabian Sea and flows east of the Euphrates through Turkey and ending in Iraq

The Euphrates – also flowing south from Turkey to the Arabian Sea to the west of the Tigris ,the Euphrates consists of two branches flowing into Syria then through Iraq

The other rivers

The Pishon - Described as flowing through the land of Havilah

- Havilah means “Sandy area”
- Described as a land of gold and onyx
- May equate with modern day Yemen.
- There is a dry riverbed observable in satellite photos with a dry gravelly delta in Yemen.

The Gihon - Described as “flowing through the land of Cush”

But where is Cush?

- Some think this is Africa
- Josephus thought the river was the Nile. (unlikely because the Nile was well known by Moses)
- Some equate it with the Abay River in Ethiopia, but the distance creates some difficulties
- Some of the oldest human remains have been found near this river
- Most likely the river is lost in the geographic shift in the flood.

THE LOCATION OF EDEN

The traditional location is a valley in northern Iraq.

- *The valley is isolated*
- *Well watered*
- *Fertile*
- *Contains four rivers*

An alternative – Below the Persian Gulf or Red Sea

- *If we place the Pishon and Gihon in central Africa and southern Arabia then the obvious geographic location is below this body of water.*
- *Eden's location was, most probably, common knowledge through the time of the flood since it was protected by an angelic guard.*

"After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life." (Genesis 3:24, NIV)

THE FOOD ORDINANCE RESTATED

- You are free to eat
- The single exception
- The penalty for disobedience

"but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Genesis 2:17, NIV)

GOD'S REFINING OF ADAM

"The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh." (Genesis 2:18-24, NIV)

GOD'S PURPOSE

MOTIVATIONS

- God's plan is to create male and female.
- He wants man to know the necessity of his doing so.
 - Man's aloneness is characterized as "not good"
 - Man's aloneness is characterized as "incomplete" - *"a helper suitable for him."*
- The process of discovery will lead man to a singular conclusion.
- He also wants men to see the distinction between man and God
 - God is content with his "aloneness"

IMPLEMENTATIONS

Less than satisfactory

- Labor
- Location
- Pleasure of food and beauty
- Animal companionship

Satisfactory – A woman

- Drawn from Adam's himself

- Drawn from his side
- To make her equal

Luther, "Woman was not taken from man's head that she might rule over him, nor from his foot that she might be dominated by him, but from his side that she might be his equal."

- To make up what he lacks

INTRODUCTION

- Man's response is positive
- Man's response is emphatic

INSTITUTION CREATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 6: MARRIAGE

*"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."
(Genesis 2:24-25, NIV)*

Primary purpose – Companionship

- Superseding all other relationships
- Superseding all divisions
- Superseding all personal restrictions