

# A Garden, and Man

## *Genesis 2:1-25*

- I. THE SABBATH DAY—Seventh Day (Genesis 2:1-3)
  - A. A Finished Work (Genesis 2:1)
    1. The Lord had completed all of creation. (Genesis 1:3-31)
      - a. Everything from Day 1 through Day 6 was perfectly created.
      - b. It did not take millions of years to evolve into something.
    2. The Lord started and finished His work perfectly. (Ecclesiastes 3:14; Psalm 21:30; Acts 5:39)
  - B. A Rest from the Work (Genesis 2:2)
    1. Rest characterizes the conduct of the day.
      - a. Later the seventh day will be given to the Jew to observe as a day of rest ordered by the Lord (Exodus 16:26; 20:8, 10-11; 31:15; 35:2)
      - b. The Lord takes this day here to rest from all of His work.
        - (1) Note: It's not that the Lord needed to rest from His work, it was an example to follow later (Leviticus 23:3).
        - (2) While we are not under the law anymore, ordering us to observe a set day, it is still physically wise to take time to rest from labour.
          - (a) Even Christ himself took time to rest with his disciples (Mark 6:31; Luke 9:10)
          - (b) A Future rest (Hebrews 4:3)
    2. A spiritual rest, the first day of the week – The Lord's Day (Sunday)
      - a. The disciples and apostles began to meet on this day (Acts 20:7)
      - b. The church laid their offerings aside on this day and met (1 Corinthians 16:2)
      - c. A noted day (Revelation 1:10)
  - C. The Commemoration of the Day (Genesis 2:3)
    1. It was blessed
    2. It was sanctified – “set apart”
      - a. The Sabbath commemorated the creation work of God.
      - b. God confirms this commemoration in the giving of the Sabbath commandment in the law (the fourth of the ten commandments) to the Israelites at Mount Sinai (Exodus 20:8-11).

## II. THE SUMMARY OF CREATION (Genesis 2:4-7)

### A. The Habitation of Man (Genesis 2:4-6)

1. The word *generations* here refer to the history of the earth.
2. There are ten *generations* mentioned in the book of Genesis.
  - a. The generations of the heavens and the earth (Genesis 2:4)
  - b. The generations of Adam (Genesis 5:1)
  - c. The generations of Noah (Genesis 6:9)
  - d. The generations of the sons of Noah (Genesis 10:1)
  - e. The generations of Shem (Genesis 11:10)
  - f. The generations of Terah (Genesis 11:27)
  - g. The generations of Ishmael (Genesis 25:12)
  - h. The generations of Isaac (Genesis 25:19)
  - i. The generations of Esau (Genesis 36:1)
  - j. The generations of Jacob (Genesis 37:2)
3. The need for a steward (Genesis 2:5)
  - a. *“There was not a man to till the ground.”* All vegetation requires care. But there was no one to care for the earth.
  - b. The problem presented was solved with the creation of man.
  - c. Thus, man was not created to just sit around and do nothing—not even in the Garden of Eden.
    - (1) Man was created to be productive:
      - (a) Sent forth to till the ground (Genesis 3:23)
      - (b) To enjoy the good of his labour (Ecclesiastes 3:13; 5:19)
      - (c) To be diligent and faithful in all that is done (Romans 12:5-18, [esp. v.8])
      - (d) To provide for his own needs (1 Timothy 5:8)
    - d. Heaven will not be a place of idleness either.
      - (1) Judgment will occur (2 Corinthians 5:9-11)
      - (2) Worship will occur (Revelation 5:6-14; Revelation 19:1-3)
      - (3) A Return with Christ, in power and great glory will occur (Revelation 20:11-21)
4. The watering of the Earth (Genesis 2:5-6)
  - a. Rain did not occur on the earth until the flood of Noah’s day.
  - b. Until the flood, there was an “underground watering system” that the Lord used to water the earth (Genesis 2:6; Genesis 7:4, 11)

### B. The Creation of Man (Genesis 2:7, 18, 21-23)

1. The creation of Adam (Genesis 2:7)
  - a. The Designer of man – *“The LORD God formed man”*
    - (1) Evolutionist do not want God involved in the creation of man.
    - (2) However, the intricate detail in which man is made demands a Designer who has more wisdom and power than man or chance or the evolutionary process has to offer.
      - (a) The word *“form”* means to “mold” and it is the word that describes the activity of the potter in Jeremiah 18. (Jeremiah 18:1-4; Isaiah 64:8; Romans 9:20)

- (b) This indicates the special attention at which God gave in the creation process with man; He did not do so with any other creature. (Psalm 139:14)
  - b. The dust in man – *“Of the dust of the ground”*
    - (1) This is what God used to form man’s tabernacle.
    - (2) This is what the body of man will return to at death (Genesis 3:19).
    - (3) Being made of “dust” should keep us humble, but it does not mean that we are too low for God’s help (Psalm 103:14)
  - c. The dynamic of man – *“and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”*
    - (1) This is how the lifeless clay became alive.
    - (2) This isn’t the only distinguishing factor that makes man different from animals, however. That factor is stated in Genesis 1:27 where man is said to be *“created ... in the image of God.”* (Genesis 1:27)
      - (a) *Image* as a word emphasizes the idea of **form**.
      - (b) An image is a representation of the appearance or shape of something. It is similar to a model or pattern of that person or thing.
        - i. Since God is a spirit (John 4:24), He does not have a physical shape. However, he does have a form or structure which is revealed in the word of God. God is a trinity.
          - 1) In like manner, man is also a three-in-one being.
            - a) He has a spirit, soul and body (Genesis 2:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:23)
            - b) He lost this image when Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, his spirit died, but can regain it again through Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18)
- 2. The creation of Woman (Genesis 2:18, 19-23)
  - a. The need for a spouse (Genesis 2:18-20)
    - (1) The woman is needed by the man to be a help to him.
    - (2) The woman was to be man’s *“help meet”*.
      - (a) The word *meet*, means *fit, proper or just right for a particular need* (2 Timothy 2:21).
    - (3) It is not the woman’s career but the man’s career that has priority.
      - (a) The association in the need – (Genesis 2:18)  
The first need of a man mentioned was his need of a companion. God did not give Adam another man for a companion but a woman. That exalts woman and indicts man for lack of companionship with his wife and his spending more time with “the boys”.
      - (b) The assistance in the need – (Genesis 2:18, 19, 20)  
Adam had work to do and the tasks were greater than he alone could do them, therefore, he needed assistance. So, God gave him a woman to be his “help meet.” The giving of all the

- names emphasizes the world load of Adam and the intelligence of man in his innocent state.
- b. The creation of the spouse (Genesis 2:21-22)
    - (1) The operation for the woman – Like operations today, God put man to sleep to make woman.
    - (2) The cost of the woman – A rib was taken from man to make woman.
      - (a) Thus, the woman is apart of the man.
      - (b) Thus, she has the same nature as man; for Adam said, “*This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh*” (Genesis 2:23).
        - i. She is not an inferior being. Her status is subservient to man.
        - ii. However, this does not make her an inferior being.
        - iii. Woman was made from the rib of man, not his head (to be over man) or the foot (to be trampled by man). She was made from the rib of man to be loved by and honoured by man (Colossians 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7).
  - c. The naming of the spouse (Genesis 2:23)
    - (1) Named “*woman*” “because she was taken out of Man.” (v.23)
    - (2) The term “*Woman*” expresses “a fundamental similarity by use of the best terms available.”
    - (3) They are similar (both of the race of man) but different, for they are male and female. God made both male and female. Later the name of the first woman became “*Eve*” (Genesis 3:20)
3. The marriage of Man (Genesis 2:24-25)
- a. The sacrifice of the spouses (Genesis 2:23-25)
    - (1) The husband is part of the wife (Genesis 2:23-24)
      - (a) They are made for each other (1 Corinthians 11:10-12)
      - (b) Completing each other (1 Peter 3:1-7)
    - (2) The sacrifice of the man (Genesis 2:21-22)
      - (a) He came to the point of death (John 3:16; Ephesians 5:25)
        - i. Jesus Christ is the last Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45)
        - ii. Christ died for the church (Ephesians 5:25)
        - iii. We are members of (Christ’s) body (Ephesians 5:30)
        - iv. Paul declared this a great mystery (Ephesians 5:32)
    - (3) The children’s family is left behind (Genesis 2:24)
      - (a) From the beginning, marriage consisted of a man leaving his father and mother (family), cleaving unto his wife, and becoming one with her (Matthew 19:4-6)
      - (b) As such, marriage is the first earthly institution established by God. The other two are human government and the church.
  - b. The unashamed environment (Genesis 2:25)