

The Genesis of Marriage
G6 Session 03

Review

Last session we looked at the Genesis of Man

- Man is designed with purpose.
- Man is designed to bear God's image.
- Man is created Male and Female
- Man is given the stewardship of ruling the earth and filling it through procreation.

Structure

1:1 to 2:3 is one complete section.

2:4 to 5:1 is a new complete section.

It begins with a TITLE.

2:4 *"These are the generations of the heavens and the earth..."*

Literally, 'generations' means 'record'.

5:1 *"This is the book of the generations of Adam."*

6:9 *"These are the generations of Noah..."*

10:1 *"These are the generations of the sons of Noah..."*

11:10 *"These are the generations of Shem..."*

11:27 *"These are the generations of Terah..."*

Each generation follows the lineage of the covenant promise of the coming Messiah.

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 is PROLOGUE – INTRO

Tells us of God's creation and his blessing upon man and the earth.

Genesis 2:4 The story begins.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth...

Every well written story opens with:

A set up of the situation

An identification with the main character

An establishment of the theme in seed form

A preparation for the crisis

Also in seed form is something of the resolution – the conclusion.

OUR STORY is in 5 parts.

Part 1. Creation of Man

Part 2. Commission of Man

Part 3. Crisis of Man

Part 4. Completion of Man

Part 5. Consummation of Marriage

PART 1. The Creation of Man

The Incompleteness of Creation (vs. 5 – 6)

The Creation of Man (v. 7)

Dust of the ground.

Ha'adam – “The Lord God formed man (ha'adam) from the dust of the ground (ha'adama). Adam refers not just to Adam's name, but to man.

Breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

Breath also imparts –

Moral conscience

Proverbs 20:31 *“The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all his innermost parts.”*

Capacity for spiritual understanding

Job 32:8 *“But it is the spirit in man, the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand.”*

Part 2. The Commission of Man

God’s Provision of the Garden of Eden. (vs 8-14)

- 1. God’ has abundantly provided for Adam.**
- 2. The size of the garden that Adam was responsible for.**
- 3. The trees have a special significance.**

God’s Commission of Man (vs. 15-17)

Man’s Occupation

Man’s Prohibition:

Two important concepts:

Good and Evil. Strongly related to Blessing and Cursing.

Death – Not just physical death.

In Summary

Man was created with a body fit for the earth, and filled with the breath of God so that he may operate on a moral and spiritual level in the service of God. Part of his commission has a moral component, that if he fails will bring death. Man must serve God in obedient living.

Part 3. The Crisis of Man

vs. 18-21

Adam is incomplete.

“I will make him a helper fit for him”

HELPER

- Not a demeaning term.
- Often used to describe a doctor.
- Often used to describe God in the OT.
- It simply describes the provision that one provides where another lacks.
- Bottom line, it means that man was not created to serve God's purpose without the help of a partner.
- Man is completed by woman.
- Man is not made for solitude, but for community.

CORRESPONDING TO HIM ("fit for him")

- Simply means his equal counterpart.
- His helper is to be equal physically, morally and spiritually.
- His helper is to equally bear the image of God.
 - This means our helper is God-like.
- He needs one just like him in every respect, yet able to fulfill his lack.
- What he lacks, the helper fills. And conversely, what the helper lacks he satisfies.

Part 4. Completion of Man

Vs. 21-23

God presents her to him.

Genesis 2:23

Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

Woman is EQUAL with Adam.

Woman is DISTINCT from Adam.

Is – Issa

She is *ISSA* – equal with man in value and worth, being bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh – no distinction there.

She is *ISSA* – she is not *IS*. What distinguishes her from man is the purpose and function that God created her for.

Helper Suitable

“face to face”

Part 5. The Consummation of Marriage

Vs. 24-25

Genesis 2:24

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

This verse is repeated 3 more times in Scripture (Matthew 19:5/Mark 10:7, 8/Eph 5:31)
OT-NT/Before the Fall—After the Fall

Therefore a man shall leave father and mother and hold fast to his wife.

Hold fast

Matthew 19:6

“What God has joined (adhered) together, let not man separate.”

One Flesh

And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

The BIGGER STORY**Isaiah 54:5**

“Your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name.”

Hosea 2:16, 19-20

In that day, declares the LORD, you will call me ‘My Husband.’ ...And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.”

Ezekiel 16:8

When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became mine.

Revelation 19: 6

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

“Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God

The Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult

And give him the glory,

For the marriage of the Lamb has come,

And his Bride has made herself ready;

Revelation 21:9

Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down from heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.