

## Text: Gen 2.1-25

In the first message of this series, we told the story of creation. It is not exactly a story, but it is where we always begin. It raises a lot of questions about reality, but if we let the Bible speak, we will come up with mostly right answers.

To start the second story, *The Creation of Man*, we need to pick out one passage from Genesis 1:

Gn 1.26-27 ¶ Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”<sup>27</sup> God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

If we think of the first story as “the big picture” of Creation, the second story is the “inset” where we get the details this passage leaves out.

There are tantalizing details that are still left out, but we learn some very foundational things in those that are given.

### I. The creation of Adam (2.4-9)

- A. There was something lacking in creation: no man
- B. The man was made from the dust of the ground and the breath of God

Note the difference between the creation of all other things and the creation of man: God’s direct involvement

- C. God planted a garden for the man to live and cultivate

Note the specific mention of the “tree of life” and the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil”

### II. The rivers around the garden (2.10-14)

- A. The description of the rivers supplements the description of the garden
- B. Pishon, Havilah, Gihon, and Cush are uncertain — perhaps Tigris and Euphrates were not exactly as we think of them today either
- C. The point of the rivers is to describe the resources God gave man
  - 1. Much water

## 2. Mineral resources

God intended for man to rule the creation, so he provided resources for it.

### III. The instructions for the man (2.15-17)

- A. The Lord put Adam in charge of the garden
- B. The Lord restricted Adam's choices

When God said, "in the day you eat of it you will surely die" He (or Moses) is using an idiom for emphasis:

Ex 10.28 Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Beware, do not see my face again, for in the day you see my face you shall die!"

1 Ki 2.37 "For on the day you go out and cross over the brook Kidron, you will know for certain that you shall surely die; your blood shall be on your own head."

### IV. The creation of Eve (2.18-25)

- A. The inadequacy of creation without the woman
- B. The unique creation of Eve, made from Adam, not from the dust
- C. The celebration of marriage

### V. Some theological considerations

- A. Man made in the image of God completes creation: but man as male and female

Note that there are six verses describing the creation of Eve and one for Adam. That is significant

Man in the image of God is significant: Creation of man is unique among all other creatures

- B. God made Adam first, trained him (don't eat of the tree) and put him to work before God made Eve

That is also significant:

- Adam is the leader

- Adam is the disciple maker
- Adam is morally responsible

C. God made marriage before the fall

Gen 2.24 is quoted by Jesus and Paul in regulating marriage

Marriage as a divine institution is hated by the world

D. All that God made was good, God's purpose for man was good, and man's prospect was good

Then something happened