

## The Creation of Man and Woman

Genesis 2.4-25

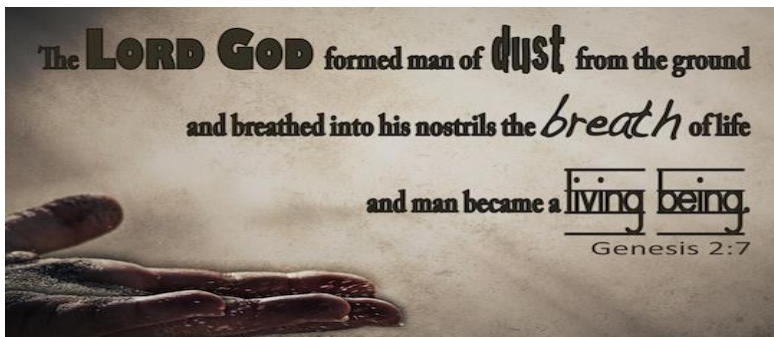
In Genesis 1, God's redeeming power is seen in the creation of the heavens and the earth. Genesis 2 begins the story of what happened to creation. Man and woman are prime actors in this drama, having all they need to enjoy life in the Garden. The curtain rises...

### The Creation of Man and Woman

- God creates man with the capacity to serve Him. (2.5-7)
- God creates man with the responsibility to obey Him. (2.8-17)
- God creates man with complementary help in life (2.18-25)

### What the Creation of Man and Woman Teaches Us

- Every human being has the capacity to serve God.  
*Yahweh Elohim: The personal, relational, covenantal God.*
- Every human being has the responsibility to obey God.  
*With abundant provision comes responsibility to obey.*
- God provided marriage for us to serve Him and enjoy creation.  
*A complementary partnership of man and woman.*



## Digging Deeper

1. Gen. 2.4 begins, "This is the *account* of..." The Hebrew word for 'account' is *tôlê dôt*, but it's usually translated 'generations', as in the phrase, *These are the generations of...* (There are ten of these *tôlê dôt* sections in Genesis.) We might read this phrase as something like, 'This is what became of...' Gen. 2.4-4.26 is a section telling what happened to the heavens and earth God created. Why does this section begin with the details story of the creation of man and woman?
2. In Genesis 1, God is always *Elohim*, which emphasizes that He is sovereign and omnipotent. But in Gen. 2.7, and throughout Gen. 2-4, God is called *Yahweh Elohim*, which emphasizes His personal and covenantal nature. How is this unique relationship between God and man reflected in the way he is created, and in God's command to him in verse 17?
3. Verses 8-17 provide details of the garden God provided for the man and the responsibility entrusted to him there. Why do you think God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden? When God said that if man ate of this tree, he would "surely die," it didn't just mean *physical* death, but alienation from God, and separation from His life. How does this reflect what happens to us when we disobey God?
4. What is God's expressed reason for creating woman (v18)? In preparation for this event, God has the man name all the animals (19-20). Why? What did Adam realize he lacked? What does marriage provide in the context of our relationship with God?
5. The 'epilogue' to the story of the creation of man and woman is vv. 24-25. Who established the marriage relationship? Who are the parties in marriage? How secure is the marriage bond? These verses are important in light of modern efforts to promote 'same-sex marriage.' Notice how *directly* this idea is an affront to God's creation plan for mankind.