

## ***Session 10 Adam: The Human Spirit Designed for Intimacy with God***

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. One of God's ultimate purposes for creation is to provide a Bride for His Son as His eternal companion to reign with Him forever (Rev. 5:10; 19:7). God's plan began with Adam and Eve—a bridegroom and his bride ruling together in a garden paradise (Gen. 1-2; Rev. 21-22).

***<sup>7</sup>For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. (Rev. 19:7)***

- B. Genesis 1-2 gives us two accounts of creation (1:1-31; 2:1-25). Each emphasizes particular truths. The biblical account of creation highlights Adam and Eve and their relationship to God and each other, rather than scientific data. God wants His people moved by knowing who they are to Him.

1. In Genesis 1, God created Adam in His likeness; *thus, He designed the human spirit with capacity for intimate partnership with God*. The creation of Adam is a prophetic picture of the Bride, making it clear that God desires deep relationship with His people.

***<sup>26</sup>God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness." (Gen. 1:26)***

2. In Genesis 2, God created Eve to be joined to Adam in marriage. This is a prophetic picture of the Bride being joined to Jesus, relating to Him in intimacy without shame (Eph. 5:31-32).

***<sup>24</sup>...a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife...<sup>25</sup>And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. (Gen. 2:24-25)***

***<sup>32</sup>This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. (Eph. 5:32)***

- C. Adam is a picture of Jesus (Rom. 5:14), who was put to sleep so that His Bride could come forth from His side. Eve is a picture of the Bride who came from the pierced side of her Beloved.

***<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him"...<sup>21</sup>And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place. (Gen. 2:18-21)***

1. Adam enjoyed paradise before Eve was created (Gen. 2:8-22). The *fullness* of God's glorious intention was not expressed in the creation of Adam *until* he was joined to Eve.

2. Adam's longing for companionship gives us insight into Jesus' longing for His Bride.

- D. Adam was created from the dust to live on the earth for ever. He received God's breath of life, giving him a capacity for the supernatural, heavenly realm with face-to-face fellowship with God.

***<sup>7</sup>God formed man of the dust of the ground [earthly] and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life [spiritual]...<sup>9</sup>God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food." (Gen. 2:7-9)***

***<sup>3</sup>Behold, the tabernacle of God [throne] is with men, and He will dwell with them. (Rev. 21:3)***

## II. THE GENESIS 1 PATTERN: GOD CREATED “ACCORDING TO ITS KIND”

- A. In Genesis 1, God first created an “original” and next created a seed or counterpart of each living thing, which was “*according to its own kind.*” He then joined the “original” to its counterpart to propagate life. This principle is at work with the grass, trees, fish, birds, cattle, and every living thing on the earth. (The phrase “*according to its kind*” is used 10 times in Gen. 1:11-25).
- <sup>11</sup>Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth grass...that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind...<sup>12</sup>the herb that yields seed according to its kind...<sup>21</sup>God created... every living thing [in the sea] that moves...according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind...<sup>25</sup>God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind...<sup>26</sup>God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over...all the earth.” (Gen. 1:11-26)*
- B. God created in an ascending order of glory, producing a dramatic crescendo as the angels observed His creative genius. The pattern of Genesis 1 had been clearly established 10 times with a seed or counterpart, “according to its kind,” in union with the original to propagate life.
- C. Then God created Adam *in His own likeness* or *according to His own kind* (Gen. 1:26). God created a new order of beings, called humans, as a counterpart to—or according to the likeness of—God, who is the “uncreated Original” (Jesus).
- D. The message was clear: the Lord created Adam as “a counterpart” to live in union with Jesus.
- E. What was God doing? This giant step in God’s creation must have been perplexing to the angels. God went from plants to fish to birds to animals to create a new being according to God’s likeness. The angels may have asked: Why so exalted and so noble? Why in God’s likeness?
1. The great heavenly drama was unfolding. The angels were not detached observers of creation, but were deeply engaged, even singing with enthusiasm as God created in Genesis 1-2.  
*<sup>7</sup>The morning stars [angels] sang...and all the sons of God [angels] shouted for joy. (Job 38:7)*
  2. God hid the fullness of His plans from the angels, who continue to seek to understand them.  
*<sup>9</sup>...the mystery [God’s plan] which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God...<sup>10</sup>that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers [angelic and demonic realms] in the heavenly places. (Eph. 3:9-10)*  
*<sup>1</sup>...preached the gospel to you...things which angels desire to look into. (1 Pet. 1:12)*
- F. What are the implications of such a union? God’s purpose was to have a class of beings who would live in union with God to release His life and power to creation. The angels must have been overwhelmed when it dawned on them that created beings would be married to Jesus.

### III. THE BRIDE'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LORD

- A. The Lord called the redeemed to exercise dominion over all the earth in partnership with Him. (Gen. 1:26, 28).  
*<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let Us make man...according to Our likeness; let them have dominion...  
<sup>28</sup>fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over...every living thing that moves on the earth."  
(Gen. 1:26-28)*
- B. David had rare insight into Genesis 1:26 long before the marriage of the Lamb was revealed (Ps. 8:4; Rev. 19:7).  
*<sup>4</sup>What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him? <sup>5</sup>You have crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup>You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet. (Ps. 8:4-6)  
<sup>7</sup>You have crowned him with glory and honor, and set him over the works of Your hands.  
<sup>8</sup>You have put all things in subjection under his feet. (Heb. 2:7-8)*
- C. The Bride holds a unique position of partnership with Jesus in God's eternal government.  
*<sup>21</sup>"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne." (Rev. 3:21)  
<sup>10</sup>"...have made us kings and priests to our God, and we shall reign on the earth." (Rev. 5:10)*
- D. The Bride will enjoy a supernatural unity and relationship with Jesus and with one another.  
*<sup>21</sup>"...that they may be one in Us..."<sup>22</sup>The glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one; <sup>23</sup>I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know You...have loved them as You have loved Me." (Jn. 17:21-23)*

### IV. IMPLICATIONS IN BEING CREATED IN GOD'S LIKENESS

- A. The human spirit was designed in God's likeness. Therefore, humans are eternal, and they have a "God-shaped vacuum" in their heart that nothing else can satisfy, but God alone.  
*<sup>23</sup>May your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless... (1 Thes. 5:23)*
- B. **Our spirit:** We have the unique capacity to receive God's Spirit, or life (Gk. *zoe*).  
*<sup>17</sup>But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. (1 Cor. 6:17)  
<sup>27</sup>The riches of the glory of this mystery...is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Col. 1:27)*
- C. **Our soul:** We have personality traits and abilities like God so that we can relate to Him.
1. **Mind:** We have the capacity for reason, revelation, and creative thinking.
  2. **Emotions:** We have the capacity for intense affection, joy, gladness, zeal, and holy anger.
  3. **Will:** We have a free will with the capacity for dignified actions by making decisions that have eternal consequences of being remembered, valued, and rewarded by God forever.

- D. God gave Adam the opportunity to express his voluntary love by giving him opportunity to sin.  
*<sup>16</sup>“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” (Gen. 2:16-17)*
- E. **Our body:** We will have a resurrected body that will have similarities to Jesus’ body (Phil 3:21). The Father “designed” the greatest physical body for His beloved Son, who became human to purchase His Bride. It is the best body that God could create, far superior to that of the angels. It is a body with all the capacities necessary to express the glory of God to the fullest measure.  
*<sup>21</sup>...will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body. (Phil. 3:21)*
1. I believe this means that our resurrected body will have similar supernatural properties and abilities to those of Jesus’ resurrected body.
  2. Our resurrected body will be filled with God’s power and glory.  
*<sup>42</sup>So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. (1 Cor. 15:42-44)*
  3. I believe that our resurrected bodies will have supernatural abilities: five senses without corruption or weakness.
    - a. Sight: I assume we will be able to see at a distance, at close range, and even through walls like Jesus and angels can do.
    - b. Hearing: at distances, with great perception, etc.
    - c. Taste: enjoyment of food to the full degree (1 Cor. 10:31)
    - d. Touch: discerning and feeling perfectly
    - e. Smell: a heightened capacity to enjoy and discern beautiful fragrances
  4. Supernatural abilities related to communication: speech, musical, singing
  5. Supernatural abilities in strength: endurance, lifting objects
  6. Supernatural abilities in health: no fatigue (energy), sickness, or death
  7. Supernatural abilities in travel: flight and speed than transcends gravity
  8. Supernatural abilities related to the material realm: e.g. pass through walls
  9. Supernatural beauty: physical countenance, fragrance, light, color, etc.