

The Master's Class

Lessons 1-3 Genesis; the Book of Beginnings – Chapter 2 -The Creation of Man & Marriage.

Objectives:

- Discuss Genesis Chapter 2.
- Discuss the creation of man in greater detail.
- Discuss the institution of marriage.

Teaching Outline:

I. Introduction.

A. Creation Overview:

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- 1. Days 1-4: creating the foundation of the heavens and the earth.
- 2. Days 5-6: creating living things (plants, animals, man).
- 3. Day 7: consecrating a day of rest.

B. Chapter 2 - Overview

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II. A Walk Through Genesis.

1. Chapter 2 - The Creation of Man and Marriage.

- (v1 -3) *“Thus the heavens and the earth and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.”*
 - **Blessed:** Hebrew #1288; barak/to kneel/ to make holy, consecrated, or highly favored. Being blessed is a favored status with God.
 - **Consecrate:** To set aside or declare something holy for a divine purpose.
 - **Sanctified:** Hebrew #6942; to prepare or dedicate. To set apart for a divine purpose.
 - All that God had desired to put into motion was finished!
 - **Rested:** Hebrew #7673; *shabat (shah-vat)*. To stop, to rest, to cease, to end.

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- **Cross Reference Verses:**
 - Exodus 20:8-11, Jonah 4:6-7, Amos 4:7
- (v4-6)
 - ***“This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.”***
 - **Generations:** Hebrew #8435; course of history, results, proceedings
 - **The Lord:** Hebrew #3067; Jehovah (yeh-ho-vaw’)/ the existing One
 - **God:** Hebrew #430; Elohim (el-o-heem)/the true God.
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- (v7)
 - ***“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”***
 - God chose to give us his very breath making man a living person. Throughout the Bible, the Holy Spirit is referred to as the Breath of God.
 - The Hebrew word for "breath of God" is ruach (רוּחַ).
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 - **Cross References:** Job 33:4. Mark 8:23 Ezekiel 37:5-9. John 20:22 (the Holy Spirit breathed into them).

A. Life in the Garden.

- (v8)

- *“The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.”*

- **EDEN:** Hebrew #5731; pleasure, delight.

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- **Questions:**

- 1) Twice we are told that God *placed* Adam in the garden (v7 & v15). Do you think this placement in the garden was before or after he was created?
- 2) Do you think Adam and Eve were created as fully grown adults, as infants, or maybe as young teens? What makes you believe that?
- 3) Was Eden a real place as some claim, or was it simply symbolism?

- (v9)

- *“And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”*

- All the trees were pleasing to look at and good for food. (Important to note).

- **MIDST:** Hebrew #8432; the middle.

- **Cross Reference Verses:**

- 1) **The Tree of Life:** Also mentioned in Genesis 3:22; Proverbs 3:18, 11:30, 13:12, and 15:4; Ezekiel 47:12; John 6:48; Revelation 2:7, 22:2, and 22:14.

- a. Because it crops up throughout Scripture, we know that this tree is pretty important.

- 2) **The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil:** Also mentioned in Genesis 2:17 and 3:3.

- a. This tree is not mentioned again in Scripture.

- **Questions:**

- 1) Do you think the tree of knowledge of good and evil and the tree of life were real trees or symbolic?
- 2) What are your thoughts on the tree of life in Genesis and the tree of life in Revelation? Are they the same tree?

- (v10-14)

- *“Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four riverheads. The name of the first is Pishon (Pi’-son); it is the one which skirts the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. And the gold of that land is good. Bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon (Gi’hon); it is one which goes around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Hiddekel (Hid’de-kel – or Tigris); it is the one which goes toward the east of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates.”*

- A single river that flowed out of Eden where it split and fed 4 separate rivers.
- The rivers had specific names that God had given them.
- **4 Rivers:** They were all different.

- 1) **Pishon:** Hebrew #6376; increase
-Pishon skirts the land of Havilah. Hebrew #2341; to circle
-3 precious metals Gold, Bdellium, and onyx are found there.
- 2) **Gihon:** Hebrew #1521; bursting forth
-Goes around the whole land of Ethiopia/Cush.
- 3) **Hiddekel:** Hebrew 2313; rapid -Goes east towards Assyria
-Better known as the Tigris River.
- 4) **Euphrates:** Hebrew #6578; to break forth, rushing, fruitfulness

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- **John 7:37-38**, *“On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, **“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”**”*

- **Question:**

- In Gen. 2:5, we read there had not been rain, only a mist from the earth to water the ground. Now in verses 10-14, we learn of a mighty river that formed 4 other rivers and flowed out of the garden. How long of a period of time do you think it took to form that river?

- (v15-17)

- *“Then the Lord God took the man (or Adam) and put him the garden of Eden to tend (or cultivate) and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 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 (Lit. dying you shall die) shall surely die.”

- **Prov. 18:21** “*Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*”

○ **Questions:**

- God didn’t give Adam an option where he was going to live or even the directions on how to get to the garden. He put Adam there.
- **Psalm 37:23**, “*The steps of a good man are ordered (established) by the Lord, and He delights in his way.*”
 - 1) Do you ever question where God has placed you? Be it a particular family, community, neighborhood, state, job, with certain associations or even a church family?
 - 2) Knowing that God has ordered or established your steps, in what ways does that change your perspective, if any, on where He has placed you?
 - 3) What was Adam’s purpose?
 - Tend it: Hebrews #5647; to work
 - Keep it: Hebrews #8104; to observe, watch over, preserve.
- There were many beautiful trees in the garden, but there were 2 which stood out amongst the others. Which were they?
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
- What made these 2 trees, trees of distinction?
 - 1) God’s command to Adam was very clear. He could eat from every tree in the garden except one.
 - 2) God also shared with Adam the consequences of disobedience (death).
 - 3) Adam had a choice to obey.
 - 4) Because he was created in God’s image, he was created with an intelligent, sound mind. Adam had the power to reason things out.
 - 5) Neither the tree nor its fruit was sinful. Choosing to disobey God would be a sin.
- What does all of this have to tell us about the importance of trusting God and His Word?
- **Proverbs 3:5-6**, “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.*”

- Direct – Heb., *yashar* – to be straight, upright, pleasing and good.
- **Isaiah 26:3**, *“You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because He trusts in You.”*
- God wants us to trust Him completely, looking only to Him and asking, *“Father, what do you want me to say, what do you want me to do?”*
- It has been said that the tree of knowledge of good and evil appears to be moral: good (obey God and do not eat of it) and evil (disobey God and eat from it). Do you agree?
- **Isaiah 1:19**, *“If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.”*

B. Marriage.

- (v18)
 - *“And the Lord God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.”*
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 - **1 Cor. 11-8-9**, *“For man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man.”*
- (v19-20)
 - *“Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.”*
 - God allows Adam to name all the living creatures. Why do you think God did that?
- (v21-22)

- ***“And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.”***
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 - Do you think it was God’s plan all along to create a helpmate for Adam? If not, what do you think prompted God to create Eve?
- **(v23-24)**
 - ***“And Adam said: “This now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”***
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- **(v25)**
 - ***“And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”***
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III. **Conclusion.**