

The Basis of Family

Exo 25:8-9 And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. (9) According to all that I show you, *that is*, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make *it*.

Exo 26:30 And you shall raise up the tabernacle according to its pattern which you were shown on the mountain.

In the beginning...

Gen 1:1-2 **In the beginning God** created the heavens and the earth.

(2) The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

- Formless and Void – in its deepest parts Darkness was its face
- Wild and Waste - in its deepest parts Darkness was its face

Formless or Wild – confusion, chaos, barren wasteland, without form or structure

Void or Waste – empty, uninhabited, ruin, without purpose

tohu va-vohu

Spirit of God hovered or brooded over the face of these waters – Darkness

The state of the earth before God's intervention.

6 creative days followed these verses demonstrating God establishing order, form or structure from out of the chaos (heaven above, middle heaven/earth, land below) in the first three days and filling what was empty (habitation – plants, creatures, and man who is both male and female) on the last three days

Day 7 the cosmos is ordered and filled.

Biblical authors shared accounts that are both real and simultaneously types and shadows. It demonstrates God's inspiration through the writings of the biblical authors. The Israelites account in the wilderness and the veil over Moses' face (2 Cor 3:13-16) are good examples of this.

This generalized creation summary account of the biblical authors, and essentially God, in my eyes is both real and a type a shadow. Some brothers and sisters who are literary scholars use the term allegorical or figurative, meaning that it is symbolic or emblematic, resembling or representing of something else to enrich narratives and deepen the understanding of complex ideas.

Genealogy

- Luke 3 genealogy of Jesus Christ through Joseph is connected all the way back to Adam.
- Matt 1 genealogy of Jesus Christ is connected all the way to Abraham (14 generations x 3 Abraham to David, David to Babylonian captivity, Babylonian captivity to Christ)
- Jesus refers to “the beginning” stating God made them male and female, referring back to Genesis.

In Genesis 2, the focus of the creation account narrowed onto the pinnacle of His creation, humanity, using the name and term, Adam. God created man and endowed him with responsibility.

This to me is a type and shadow of mankind thereafter. Without God man (both male and female) is formless and void, wild and waste, *tohu va-vohu*. But when God begins to brood over the deepest recesses of the soul, the heart of man, He begins to work His wonder creating order, form, and structure out of the chaos and imparting gifts to him that bear fruit.

From man (the male), God created woman (female). Here we see the one became two – male and female, man and woman, *iysh* and *isha*. They together are still Adam, meaning human.

Gen 2:18-24 And the LORD God said, "*It is* not good that man should be alone; **I will make him a helper comparable to him.**" (19) 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. (20) 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.** (21) 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. (22) Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. (23) And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." (24) Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

This passage introduces some key vocabulary regarding gender that has created a range of interpretations throughout history.

Word Study: Helper — ‘Ezer (עֵזֶר)

The phrase ‘ezer ken egdo (כִּנְגְדּוֹ עֵזֶר) has been translated differently in the history of the English versions: “help meet” (KJV), “helper suitable” (NIV, NAS), “helper fit” (NRSV), “a helper to bear him company” (Tyndale).

The word help (עֵזֶר) does not mean “assistant” or “helper.” Rather, it describes someone who plays the role of the indispensable other without whom the desired good cannot happen. The noun is masculine in grammatical gender, which means the word is a kind of title or role descriptor, not an adjective (e.g., female assistant).

Concordance Search of the Word “Help-Counterpart”

The noun “help” occurs 21 times in the Hebrew Bible. Outside of Genesis 2, it is only used to describe Yahweh as a deliverer of his people, or of useless humans who provide “no help” compared to Yahweh.

Word Study: Corresponding to Him — Kenegdo (כנגדו)

Let’s look at the other half of the phrase in Genesis 2:18: “helper corresponding to him.” This is a compound word “ke” (כ) “like, as, according to” + “n eged” (ננגד) “in front of, opposite.” The word “n eged” means, basically, “in front of, before.”

Genesis 2:18 and 20 are the only occurrences of this preposition with n eged, though the preposition’s meaning of “like, as” indicates similarity. Given the spatial imagery of “in front of,” the meaning seems to be “similar to what would face him.” We might use a metaphor of mirroring to get the core idea.

Defining “Helper Corresponding to Him”

If we combine our study of these two words, ‘ezer and n eged, we produce the following paraphrase of Genesis 2:18.

“It is not good for the human to be solitary. I will make one who can deliver him from his inability to fulfill the divine commission alone, one who mirrors him.”

Gen 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply;** fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Left and Right Brain

Here is a short comparison of the dominant abilities generally associated with each hemisphere:

Left Hemisphere

The left hemisphere is typically dominant for tasks involving analysis and detail.³ It is often described as the interpreter or analyst.⁴

Language: Speech production (Broca's area) and comprehension (Wernicke's area) for most people.⁵

Logic and Analytical Skills: Processing information sequentially, step-by-step.⁶

Mathematics: Calculation and arithmetic.⁷

Details: Focusing on individual facts, parts, or pieces of information.⁸

Motor Control: Controls the right side of the body.

Right Hemisphere

The right hemisphere excels at tasks requiring holistic thought and nonverbal processing.⁹ It is often described as the synthesist or being attuned to the big picture.¹⁰

Spatial Awareness: Perception of space, three-dimensional shapes, and orientation.¹¹

Nonverbal Communication: Interpreting facial expressions, body language, and emotional tone of voice (prosody).¹²

Creativity and Arts: Imagination, intuition, musical abilities, and artistic expression.¹³

Context: Understanding the overall context, metaphors, and non-literal meaning.¹⁴

Motor Control: Controls the left side of the body.

In essence, the left hemisphere often processes information in a linear, logical fashion, while the right hemisphere tends to process information holistically and intuitively.¹⁵ Both sides constantly communicate through the corpus callosum to coordinate all cognitive functions.¹⁶

The brain's two hemispheres, the left and the right, are specialized for different functions, a concept known as lateralization.¹ However, it's important to note that both sides work together for most complex activities, and the popular idea of being strictly "left-brained" (logical) or "right-brained" (creative) is an oversimplification and a myth.²

The building of the woman deliverer begins a design pattern that is fundamental to the biblical narrative: God's provision of a blessing, deliverance, or sacred gift that is meant to bring the protagonist into closer union with God.

In this vein, the idea of the relationship between God and man could be seen similarly... God created all, sustains it all, but He invites us to take part in the tending to it and keeping it and continuing what He started.

Review the Royal Priestly Image

Gen 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

When we return back to the garden and the language of Genesis 1 and 2, Adam and Eve seem to be functioning as priests. Imagine the garden in Eden being the sacred space God created for man amidst all the earth. He created man in His image and placed him in the garden to work it (dress, tend) and to keep it (protect, preserve) (Gen 2:15), just as priests would do in the tabernacle of Moses in their service to God thousands of years later. Adam (humanity) was placed there to serve God in this capacity, continuing the work of creation that God had started.

Adam's first responsibility was to name all the creatures that He created. This is an example of man exercising rule and authority on His behalf.

This is akin to us owning a home with a certain amount of yard that we didn't build or landscape. Nevertheless, after it was given to us, being made specifically for us, we are now responsible to tend to it and keep it. We work the yard. We maintain its aesthetic, both inside and outside. We protect it. We understand this idea, but its source comes to us from the garden, in the beginning.

Focusing on this word "work", it is the Hebrew word "Abad (עבד)". It's used in different places in the scriptures and looking at its use in different contexts can give us a semantic range of meaning that is specifically applicable to us.

The following information is found from the BibleProject Study Notes on the *The Royal Priest: Royal Priests of Eden.*

'Abad: To work	<i>Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your 'abad, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any 'abad, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.</i> EXODUS 20:8-10 (NIV)
'Abad: To serve	<i>May peoples 'abad you, and nations bow down to you. Be master of your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be those who curse you, And blessed be those who bless you.</i> GENESIS 27:29
'Abad: To worship	<i>And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will 'abad God on this mountain."</i> EXODUS 3:12 (NIV)

'Abodah: Priestly service	<i>But you and your sons with you shall attend to your priesthood for everything concerning the altar and inside the veil, and you are to do your 'abodah.</i> NUMBERS 18:7 <i>With the help of Zadok a descendant of Eleazar and Ahimelek a descendant of Ithamar, David separated them into divisions for their appointed order of 'abodah.</i> 1 CHRONICLES 24:3
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As you can see from the different contexts in which that word is used it can mean “to work”, “to serve”, and “to worship”, especially in regards to priestly service.

This is the basis of the King’s family. We are the Kings family.

Headship

1Co 11:3 But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman *is* man, and the head of Christ *is* God.

- God – Christ (“anointed” Son of God and Son of Man) the deliverer/fulfiller. One.
- Christ – Man (humanity). One People.
- Man – Woman. One flesh.
- Parents – Children. One Family.

Eph 3:14-15 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **(15)** from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

Let us aim to build our lives and our families according to pattern given to us on the mountain, in the garden of Eden in Genesis.