

# HUMANITY ADAM AND EVE

## PART I

### GENESIS 2

### WEEK 4

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## HIS GENERAL CREATION

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*"Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day." (Genesis 1:26-31, NIV)*

### THE FOCUS OF CREATION SET APART BY THE WORD – "THEN"

- Note that in each of the previous creative acts the conjunction is AND, the common statement of Hebrew narrative.
- THEN implies that the previous creative acts were for the specific purpose of the creation of man.
- *i.e. "Then and only then"*

### GOD PERSONALIZES HIS CREATION

- "Let us" the "we together" words
- While previous acts were impersonal –
  - let the land, or
  - let the water
- God pictures Himself
- God uses plural language of Himself
  - Some have stated this is a *plural of grandeur* (Gesenius) and should not be used as a proof of the trinity.
  - Problem: the only word in Hebrew that the *plural of grandeur* seems to apply to is the Hebrew word ELOHIM or God. If you can't show the usage in another word is the usage legitimate?

- Perhaps the plural is a simple statement of God's plurality of person but singleness of being.
- Men carry God's image
  - Elsewhere God prohibits making images of Him.
  - God has already made an image. Anything else is substandard.
- What is the Image of God?
- While the concept will develop throughout Scripture, the premier concept of the image is authoritative rule of the creation.

#### WHAT IS THE IMAGE OF GOD?

*While the concept will develop throughout Scripture, the premier concept of the image is authoritative rule of the creation.*

#### GOD CREATES HIS IMAGE

*"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:27, NIV)*

#### THE STATEMENT IS SYNTHETIC HEBREW POETRY

- Synthetic meaning – the poem “rhymes” the thought God's image from line 1 and expands its meaning through the poem.
- The first “rhyme” God's image is him
  - A singular pronoun – God is singular, so is his image
  - A masculine pronoun – A statement of hierarchical authority.
- The second “rhyme” – God's image is male and female.
  - Envisions the equality of men and women
  - Envisions the inseparable relational bond between men and women.
- God is a plural person and a singular being / Man is a plural person and a singular being.

#### CLARIFYING THE WORD MAN.

- Hebrew has two words for MAN
- ADAM – the word is derived from the word “earth” or “clay”
  - Another word derived from this root is the word “red”

- This is the word used in Genesis 1-2
- The word could be translated “mankind”
- BUT IT IS THE SPECIFIC NAME OF THE FIRST MALE INDIVIDUALLY
- BOTH ARE USED HERE “SO THE MAN GAVE NAMES TO ALL THE LIVESTOCK, THE BIRDS OF THE AIR AND ALL THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD. BUT FOR ADAM NO SUITABLE HELPER WAS FOUND.” (GENESIS 2:20, NIV)
- ISH – The Hebrew word is the gender statement “man” or “male.” While the counter-part ISHY (woman) is used in Genesis 1-2 the word male does not appear.

#### **THE CREATION ORDINANCES**

*"God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so." (Genesis 1:28-30, NIV)*

**DEFINED: A CREATION ORDINANCE IS A COMMAND OF GOD FOR WHICH ALL MANKIND IS RESPONSIBLE. THE RESPONSIBILITY STEMS FROM THEIR PRESENTATION TO ALL MEN THROUGH ADAM AS SUCH, THEY PREDATE AND PRECEDE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS.**

#### ORDINANCE #1 – REPRODUCE

- Pre-supposes sexuality
  - As God designed
  - As good
- Negates population control concepts
  - The world is too crowded
  - The world is too evil
- Not a personal ordinance

#### ORDINANCE #2 – REFINE

- To exploit what is
- To preserve what is
- To recycle the used

ORDINANCE #3 – RULE

- Distinguishes humans from the animal kingdom
- Endears us to the animal kingdom
  - We are to know it
  - We are to control it
  - We are to care for it

ORDINANCE #4 -- EAT

- Limited consumption
- All animal life is herbivorous
  - The teeth of a Tyrannosaurus are equally fit for leaf stripping and may have been its initial design.

ALL OF THE ORDINANCES ARE POSITIVE.