Genesis 2:4-24

2:4 – These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.



- 1. Not chronological, but defines the setting and the people in the Garden
- 2. Center is this Garden
- 3. Focus is on the origin of man, woman and animals and their relationship to each other:
 - a. Man to Animal
 - b. Man to Woman
- 4. There is no reference or concern for the creation order or the major elements such as light, stars, water, sky, land, etc. So, this is NOT a second creation account.
- 5. The necessary center piece of this creation is man.
- 6. "Yahweh Elohim", or "LORD God", is used here
 - a. The transcendent "Elohim" or "God"
 - b. The imminent "YHWH" or "LORD"
 - c. He is the Creator and the personal presence of God with man on earth.

2:5-6 – When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, and a mist (or, "spring") was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground

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	hā·'ă·dā·māh.	'e <u>t</u> -	la·'ă·bōd		'a·yin,	wə∙'ā∙dār	n	hā·'ā·reş,	'al-	'ĕ·lō·hîr		/ah·weh		him·ţîr	
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6	ןאֵד But a mist	ַוְעֲלֶה.	בְּלֶר from	דָאֵרֶץ the earth	וְהִשְׁקָה and watered	14	בֶּל⁻ the whole	ביבי. פַּבָּיר	. הָאַדָמָה: of the ground	•
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2:7 - - then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.



- 1. "HA-ADAM" is translated "man" or "the man"
 - a. Used 34 times
 - i. KJ translates it 18 times as "Adam" and 16 times "man"
 - ii. NIV translates it 4 times as "Adam" and 30 times as "man"
 - iii. It may be best to translate "HA-ADAM" as "man" until Eve is named, then switch to translating it "Adam"
- 2. Dust makes man like the animals
- 3. Breath of God makes man like God, and dependent on God for his life:
 - a. Job 27:3-4 "as long as my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils, my lips will not speak falsehood, and my tongue will not utter deceit.
 - b. Psalms 104:29 "When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust."

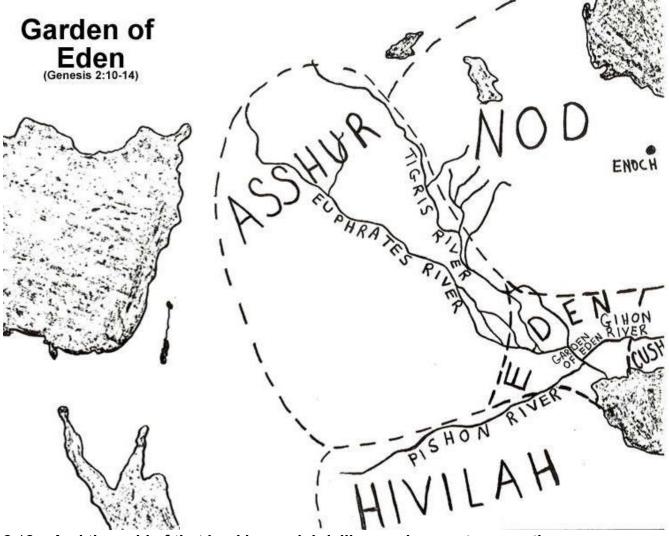
2:8 – And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

- 1. The Garden is the focus
- 2. The Garden is the center of the world
- 3. The Garden is east of the person writing this. Think of Moses in the wilderness.
- 4. The Garden needs the man. Man was created to care for creation and manage it.

2:9 – And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

1. The Tree of Life was in the middle of the Garden.

2:10-11 - A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.



2:12 – And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

- 2:13 The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush.
- 2:14 And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.
- 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.
- 2:16-17 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat (or, "when you eat") of it you shall surely die."
- 2:18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

- 1. The man needs fellowship, community, a helper.
- 2. Now, the text switches to the animals
- 2:19 Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.
 - 1. The animals come from the same ground
 - 2. Animals are just like man:
 - a. "formed"
 - b. From "dust"
 - c. "living create" (nepesh khayyah)



- 2:20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.
- 2:21-22 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.
 - 1. "deep sleep" is the state man is placed when God communicates directly with him (Abram in Gen. 15:12)
 - 2. Woman is:
 - a. Created last after animals and man...indicating:
 - i. the need for woman
 - ii. the importance of woman
 - 3. "Banah" = "to build"



2:23 – Then the man said,
"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman (ishshah),
because she was taken out of Man (ish)."

2:24 – Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

- 1. This is the narrator's comment or Moses comment as he is writing:
 - a. The man will leave his parents...a man does not belong to his parents
 - b. The man's relationship with his wife supersedes his relationship with his parents.
 - c. This statement in Genesis 2:24 prevents parents from using the fifth commandment of Exodus 20:12 "to honor your parents" as a wedge to divide or interfer with the relationship of the man with his woman.
- 2. The man must work at this relationship with his wife as indicated by the Hebrew "dabaq" meaning:
 - a. The man must cling to his wife
 - b. The man must cleave to his wife
 - c. The man must keep close to his wife
 - d. All these indicate intentional effort on the part of the man to maintain the relationship with the woman God created for him



2:25 - And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.