

God's Activities on Day 6 of Creation

The Garden of Eden

Genesis 2:4-25

Introduction

- **Genesis 1:1-2:3** provides us with a chronological account of what God did on each of the days during Creation Week.
- **Genesis 2:4-25** zooms in on Day Six and shows some of the events of that day that took place in the land of Eden.

Introduction

- It was in Eden that God planned to create mankind and plant a garden for them to enjoy.
- It is not describing the entire earth.

First of Ten Divisions in Genesis

Genesis 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.

- The formula “**these are the generations of**” –explains what happened after the specified event or person mentioned.

First of Ten Divisions in Genesis

- The formula “**these are the generations of**” occurs 10 times in Genesis and serves as the structural outline of the entire book.
- **Genesis 1:1-2:3** is the prologue to the book of Genesis
- **Genesis 2:4-4:26** is the first of the 10 “these are the generations of” sections.

Description of Eden (2:5-6)

Genesis 2:5 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, ⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—

Explanation

- **Genesis 1:11** tells us that on **Day 3** God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so."
- **Genesis 2:5-6** is describing the unplanted land of Eden, not the entire earth.

Adam is Created (2:7)

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.

- **God personally imparted life to Adam by breathing into his nostrils “the breath of life.”**

The Garden of Eden Created (2:8-9)

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

The Garden of Eden Created (2:8-9)

- **God personally put Adam in the garden.**
- **God caused to appear every tree that is:**
 - **good for food**
 - **beautiful in appearance**
- **There must have been an abundance of fruit and nut trees.**

Fruit Trees and Nut Trees

Fruits	Fruits	Nuts = 13 types
Apples	Oranges	Almonds
Cherries	Lemons	Lychee
Limes	Coconuts	Walnut
Grapefruit	Mangoes	Cashew
Nectarines	Peaches	Hickory nuts
Pears	Persimmons	Brazil nuts
Plums	Pomegranates	Chestnuts
Olives	Loquats	Hazelnuts
Apricots	Figs	Macadamia nuts
Gooseberry	Avocado	Pecans
Guava		Pistacios
21 types of fruits		Pine nuts
		Filberts

The Garden of Eden Created (2:8-9)

- **In the midst of the Garden were two other trees:**
 - **The tree of life**
 - **The tree of the knowledge of good and evil.**

The River System in Eden (2:10-14)

¹⁰ A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. ¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

The River System in Eden (2:10-14)

¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴ And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

Adam's Instructions (2:15-17)

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ 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."

Adam's Instructions (2:15-17)

- **Adam is to “work” and “keep” the garden.**
- **Adam can eat of every tree except for 1 tree: “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”**
- **God clearly warned Adam that Adam will die if he eats from that tree.**

Adam Names the Animals (2:18-20)

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." 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

Adam Names the Animals (2:18-20)

man called every living creature, that was its name. 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.

Adam Names the Animals (2:18-20)

- **This is the first time God says, “It is not good.” (2:18)**
- "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."
- **Adam sees the divine pattern of male and female among the animals.**

Adam Names the Animals (2:18-20)

- **God had commanded both the animal population and mankind to be fruitful and multiply.**
- **Adam does not have a female counterpart.**
- **Literally God says, “a helper corresponding to him” – an indispensable companion.**

God Creates Eve (2:21-25)

²¹ 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. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. [Marriage instituted by God]

God Creates Eve (2:21-25)

²³ Then the man said, "This at last is 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 his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

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

God's Design for Marriage

- **Instituted by God** – in the garden
- **Monogamous** – one man; one woman
- **Heterosexual** – male & female
- **Permanent** – “shall be one flesh” (Matt. 19:5-6; Mk 10:7-9)

Matthew 19:5-6 and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer

God's Design for Marriage

two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

Mark 10:7-9 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh.⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

God's Design for Marriage

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- **Monogamous** – one man; one woman
- **Heterosexual** – male & female
- **Permanent** – “shall be one flesh” (Matt. 19:5-6; Mk 10:7-9)
- **Structured** – priority of the husband = the man was created first; the woman was created for the man (1 Cor. 11:8-9).

God's Design for Marriage

1 Corinthians 11:8-9 For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. ⁹ Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.

- **Separate** – a man leaves his family = leaves the covenant relationship of son to father and mother and initiates a new covenant (Prov. 2:17)

God's Design for Marriage

^{NIV} **Proverbs 2:17** who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God.

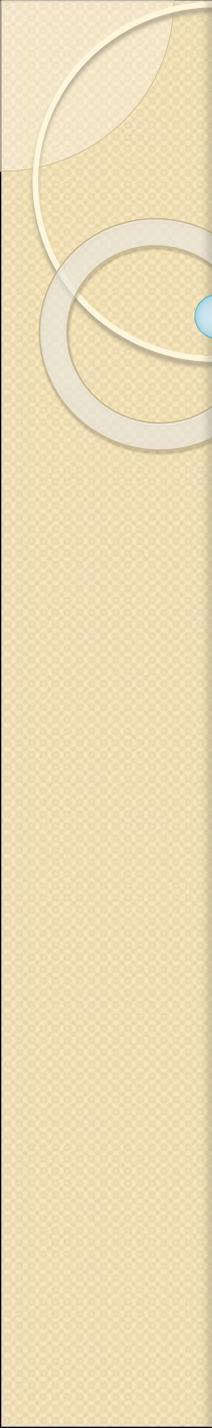
- When a man and a woman get married there is to be a new loyalty to each other with new obligations and a shift in the emotional and psychological center of each person to their marriage partner.

God's Purposes for Marriage

- **Companionship** – “it is not good for man to be alone”
- **Partnership** – “a helper corresponding to him”
- **Procreation** – “be fruitful and multiple”
- **Pleasure** – “rejoice in the wife of your youth” (Pro. 5:18)
- **Prefigure our union with Christ** and His relationship with us (Eph. 5:25-27)

God's Purposes for Marriage

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.



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