


The Centrality of Man in God's Creation

Genesis 2



The background of the image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small white stars. A large, bright, and detailed full moon is positioned in the upper left quadrant. Several beams of light emanate from the moon, fanning out across the sky. In the lower portion of the image, a dark silhouette of a rolling hill is visible. On the hill, there are several evergreen trees of varying sizes, some appearing as dark silhouettes and others as lighter, more detailed shapes. The overall scene is peaceful and evocative of a quiet night under a starry sky.

"When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers, the moon
and the stars, which you have set in
place, what is man that you are
mindful of him, the son of man that
you care for him?"

Psalm 8:4-5

Genesis 1 vs Genesis 2

Critics: they contradict one another

Genesis 1 - Animals then Man & Woman

Genesis 2 - Man then Animals then Woman

Genesis 1 - Man & Woman simultaneously

Genesis 2 - Man alone then Woman

Genesis 1 vs Genesis 2

Francis Schaeffer - “Actually, the first and second chapters of Genesis form a unit; neither account stands complete in itself. The two passages are complementary, each containing unique material that is important for an understanding of man.”

Genesis 1 vs Genesis 2

John MacArthur - “Clearly, the creation of the human race is the main issue in Genesis 1. Everything culminates in this event, and Scripture devotes more space to describing Adam’s creation than to any other facet of creation. In fact, because this final act of creation is so crucial, all of Genesis 2 is devoted to an expanded description of it.”

Genesis 1 vs Genesis 2

Jesus tied the two chapters together:

Matthew 19:4 - And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female” (Genesis 1)

Matthew 19:5 - “and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?” (Genesis 2)

Genesis 1 vs Genesis 2

Griffith Thomas - “The second chapter of Genesis is the natural sequel of the first, and nowhere is the purpose of the book more clearly seen. After consideration of creation as a whole our attention is concentrated on man - his formation, his relation to God, and his earthly life.”

Let Us
make man
in Our Image
according to Our Likeness



God **created** man in His own image
in the image of God He **created** him
male and female He **created** them.

Man Created in the Image of God, according to God's Likeness - Genesis 1:26-31

1. It does NOT mean our physical bodies
2. It does NOT mean the incommunicable attributes of God
3. It does mean some form of the communicable attributes of God
4. It does mean personhood

On the Image of God

John MacArthur - "The truth that humanity was made in the likeness of God is the starting point for a biblical understanding of the nature of man. It explains our spirituality urges. It helps us make sense of the human conscience. It establishes our moral accountability. It reveals the very essence of the meaning and purpose of human life. It is full of practical and doctrinal significance."

On the Image of God

John MacArthur - “Yet the doctrine of evolution would utterly erase this truth from the collective consciousness of the human race. That is why the battle against evolutionary theory is one Christians cannot afford to abandon.”

The Sabbath Day for Man - Genesis 2:1-3

1. God completed the creation in 6 days and rested on the 7th day
2. God sanctified the 7th day
3. Moses reminded the people to keep the Sabbath day holy in the 4th commandment - Exodus 20:8-11
4. The Sabbath was made for man - Mark 2:27
5. The Sabbath was a picture of our redemptive rest in Jesus Christ - Col.2:16-17

Colossians 2:16-17

Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day—things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

1. Gen. 2:4 - This is the **account** of the heavens.....
2. Gen. 5:1 - This is the book of the **generations** of Adam.
3. Gen. 6:9 - These are the **generations** of Noah.
4. Gen. 10:1 - Now these are the **generations** of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
5. Gen. 11:10 - These are the **generations** of Shem.
6. Gen. 11:27 - Now these are the **generations** of Terah.
7. Gen. 25:12 - Now these are the **generations** of Ishmael
8. Gen. 25:19 - Now these are the **generations** of Isaac
9. Gen. 36:1 - Now these are the **generations** of Esau
10. Gen. 36:9 - Now these are the **generations** of Esau
11. Gen. 37:2 - These are the **generations** of Jacob

The Formation of Man - Genesis 2:4-7

1. During the first 5 days of creation, there was no man to cultivate the ground
2. The LORD God formed man of dust from the ground
3. The LORD God breathed the breath of life into Adam's nostrils
4. Adam became a living soul NOT a living creature

The Home & Work of Man - Genesis 2:8-15

1. The LORD God planted a garden in Eden and placed Adam there



The Home & Work of Man - Genesis 2:8-15

1. The LORD God planted a garden in Eden and placed Adam there

2. The LORD God caused trees to grow, including the Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

3. The Garden of Eden was watered by a spring within the garden which then branched out into 4 rivers - Pishon, Gihon, Tigris and Euphrates.



The LORD God's Command for Man

Genesis 2:16-17

1. You may eat freely from any tree of the Garden of Eden
2. BUT you may NOT eat of the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil or on that day, you will surely die

The Companion for Man - Genesis 2:18-25

1. The LORD God said, “It is NOT GOOD for the man to be alone.”
2. BUT for Adam there was not found a helper corresponding to him
3. So the LORD God fashioned the first woman Eve out of a rib taken from the side of Adam

The Companion for Man - Genesis 2:18-25

4. Adam's response was to call her "Woman" because she was taken out of Man
5. Marriage is defined as a man and his wife becoming one flesh.
6. Adam and Eve were both naked and were not ashamed

Implications

1. What implications does the fact that we are made in the image of God have for our behavior?
2. What implications that in marriage we become “one flesh” have on those considering marriage?
3. What implications that in marriage we become “one flesh” have on those already married?