



Marriage By God's Design

Introduction



The Uniqueness of Mankind

Genesis 1:26-31

Made in “Our image according to Our likeness”

Created to rule over all the earth

Created male and female

God blessed them

God gave the man very specific instructions



The Uniqueness of Mankind

Genesis 1:26-31

Specific Instructions:

Be fruitful and multiply

Fill the earth and subdue it

Rule over every living thing that lives on the earth

Eat from the plants and trees



The Uniqueness of Mankind

Genesis 2:4-14

Formed man from the dust of the ground

Breathed into his nostrils the breath of life

Man became a living being

God put man in the garden to cultivate and keep it

God gave the man very specific instructions



The Uniqueness of Mankind

Genesis 2:15-17

Specific Instructions

Cultivate and keep the garden

Eat freely

Don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.



God's Declaration

Genesis 2:18-20

It is not good for man to be alone.

Who determined that it was not good for man to be alone?

I will make a helper suitable for him.

God's Provision

What is the difference between the creation of man and woman?

Genesis 2:20-23

²⁰ The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him.

²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

²² The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

²³ The man 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."

God's Provision

What is the difference between the creation of man and woman?

God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man

He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place

God fashioned into a woman from the rib that He had taken from the man

God brought her to the man

God's Provision

What is the response of the man?

Gen. 2:23

²³ The man 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.”

God's Design

Genesis 2:24–25

²⁴ For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

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

The Enemy

What God intends for good, the enemy will tirelessly seek to destroy. What God makes one, the enemy will strive to make two or more!

1 Peter 5:8

⁸ Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

The Enemy

Genesis 3:1–5

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’?”

² The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;

³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’ ”

⁴ The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die!

⁵ “For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

The Enemy

Genesis 3:6–7

⁶ When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.

The Revelation

Genesis 3:8–13

⁸ They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

⁹ Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?”

¹⁰ He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”

¹¹ And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

¹² The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Adam's Excuses

Genesis 3:12

¹² The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”



Eve Deceived

Genesis 3:13

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”



New Testament Counterparts

Eve

2 Corinthians 11:3

³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

New Testament Counterparts

Adam

Romans 5:12–15

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

¹³ for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

New Testament Counterparts

Adam

Romans 5:16-19

¹⁶ The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.

¹⁷ For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

¹⁹ For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

The Consequence

The Serpent

Genesis 3:14–15

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And dust you will eat All the days of your life;

¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

The Consequence

The Woman

Genesis 3:16

¹⁶ To the woman He said, “I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you.”

The Consequence

The Man

Genesis 3:17–19

¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat from it’; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life.

¹⁸ “Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you will eat the plants of the field;

¹⁹ By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return.”

God's Grace

Genesis 3:21–24

²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”—

²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken.

²⁴ So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.



The Assignment

Consider your own marriage. Can you see some of the effects of the fall?

Take time this week to reflect on God's grace at the time of the fall.

Consider your own heart. Are you recognizing sin in your own life?