

Genesis: God and the Originals

CREATION'S TWO STORIES

The Sabbath (2:1-3)

1. What did God do on the seventh day of creation (v. 2)?
2. What does it mean to make something “holy?” Why do you think God made the seventh day holy (v. 3)? And what is the first day of the Jewish week?

BONUS: The word “finished” is used of God’s creative work and also uttered from the mouth of Jesus as he dies on the cross. They both can imply “completion.” How is Jesus’ work on the cross a type of “recreation”?

Humanity and the Garden (2:4-25)

Vv. 4-7

3. Why do you think we have a second telling of the story of creation? What’s the main difference between the two?
4. There are four unique words/phrases in verse 7 to delineate the creation of man:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

BONUS: Why is the name of God different in these verses and what might that mean?

Vv. 8-17

5. What does God create for the man in v. 8? What’s it called? What’s it like? What’s in the middle of it?

BONUS: Was man created immortal?

6. Where is this “garden” that God created according to vv. 10-14?

7. Why did God put man in the garden according to v. 15?

Eden Options:

- A. Headwaters of _____
- B. The _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. Symbolizing the _____

8. What is the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil” and why can’t the man eat from it?

Vv. 18-25

9. Why does God make a “helper” for the man? Did God forget something?



<https://biblemapper.com/blog/index.php/2022/04/04/the-garden-of-eden/>

10. Why do you think God had the man name the animals? And is the man searching for his helper among the animals?

11. How does God make the woman? Why doesn't God just create a woman like everything else?

12. What does v. 24 mean when it says “they become one flesh” in lieu of leaving “father and mother”?

13. Verse 25 is beautiful and ominous at the same time. Why?

Quote of the day:
 “One might wish for a garden without such dangerous trees. But that is not given to us.”
 -Walter Brueggemann

Concluding Question:

Some people claim that the word “helper” implies a subordinate position to man. But the Hebrew word for helper, “ezer,” is used almost exclusively for God. How does this and the rest of the text point towards more of an equal relationship between the man and the woman?