

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 03 Dec 2023 Genesis 01 The First Week
- 2) 10 Dec Genesis 02 The First Couple**
- 3) 17 Dec Genesis 03 The First Sin
- 4) 24 Dec Luke 02:1-15 The First Christmas
- 5) 31 Dec Genesis 04-05 The First Murder
- 6) 07 Jan 2024 Genesis 06-07 Judgment
- 7) 14 Jan Genesis 08 Land!
- 8) 21 Jan Genesis 09-10 Protect
- 9) 28 Jan Genesis 11 Stalled
- 10) 04 Feb Genesis 12-14 Promised
- 11) 11 Feb Genesis 15-16 Impatience
- 12) 18 Feb Genesis 17 Established
- 13) 25 Feb Genesis 18-20 Purged

INTRODUCTION

- Chapter 2 gives us another perspective of creation, and more attention is given to Man and Woman

Passage	Comments
Genesis 2:1-3	<p>Should the Sabbath be Special to us Today?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctification of the 7th Day is universal to all mankind • Consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The 7th day rest began in Genesis, before the Law – so it has applicability to all (Sabbath was made for man's benefit) Gen 2:2; Ex 20:11; Mark 2:27 ♦ HOWEVER, God established a unique covenant w/ the Jews, which had legalistic Sabbath restrictions to test their loyalty: Ex 31:15-17; Dt 5:15; 8:2 e.g., Pick up a stick and die! Ex 35:2,3; Num 15:32-36 ♦ Non-Jews were allowed to keep the Sabbath as well for purpose of being blessed Isaiah 56:5,6 ♦ Jesus changed the rules:..... Mt 12:8; Mk 2:27-28; Lk 6:5 ♦ Principle of the Sabbath is still valid today. We should have a day each week to rest & focus on God, BUT we are not under legalistic restrictions as the Jews were/are
Historical note on the 7-day week	<p>The 7-day week is universal with very few exceptions (source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Week)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An eight-day week was used in Ancient Rome and possibly in the pre-Christian Celtic calendar • Traces of a nine-day week are found in Baltic languages and in Welsh. • The ancient Chinese calendar had a ten-day week, as did the ancient Egyptian calendar; French Republican Calendar divided its 30-days months into thirds). • A six-day week is found in the Akan Calendar • Several cultures used a five-day week
2:4-7	<p>Another Perspective of Man's Creation and Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v5. Some believe there was no rain until the flood, but that is a misinterpretation of this passage. Simply, there was no rain prior to man's creation on Day 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What came first – The chicken or the egg, the plant or the seed? According to v5, the seed came first ♦ What was man's original purpose? To be a farmer – to work the ground • v7. Man may be classified as an animal, but God made us distinct from all other creatures by breathing a living (eternal) soul into us
2:8-14	<p>The Garden of Eden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where was the Garden of Eden? Speculation includes from the site of Jerusalem to the fork of Tigris and Euphrates. BUT, the pre-flood terrain has been totally scoured away. • Two of the 4 rivers are unknown (Pishon & Gihon) • The land marks Moses gave were probably provided by reliable testimonials and written records attained from Shem (son of Noah) who was still living during the times of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob • Also Moses even had access to "written accounts" from the days of Adam (5:1). God left little, if anything, to chance.

Passage	Comments
Something Special About Some Trees	<p>Trees were a Primary Source of Life's Necessities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v9. Trees were a source of food and beauty • The Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil only in 2:9,17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If Adam obeyed and avoided this tree, all was good ♦ If Adam disobeyed and ate of the tree, he would intimately know the evil consequences • The Tree of Life of Gen 3:22,24; Rev 2:7; 22:2,14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This tree has some restorative capabilities, possibly allowing the human body to live 1,000+ years ♦ In the millennial man will once again live as long as a tree (~1,000 years) Isaiah 65:22 ♦ Apparently Adam and Eve never enjoyed the fruit of this tree since we will see in 3:24 (next week) that God put an angelic guard around the tree to keep Adam and Eve from it so they would eventually die ♦ We will see this tree again in Revelation, where it bares "twelve manner of fruit every month" and its leaves "heal the nations" (we can only speculate what this means) ♦ BUT, aren't we all in our new bodies and all the curses are gone? Aren't we in the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem? What gives? ♦ Consider this: Revelation isn't always in sequence. Rev 22:1-2 is parallel to Ezekiel 47:1-12, which is about the Millennium. While the curse will be gone, people living on Earth, who are in their natural bodies, will still suffer from disease and death because of their physical nature.
2:15-17	<p>God Gave Man a Simple Command – Keep the Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam was to cultivate the garden, and had the freedom to eat from any tree in the entire Garden, BUT was to avoid the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, which was at the center of the Garden (3:2). Why wasn't the tree placed at a far edge of the Garden, not easily accessible? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Was this test rigged for failure? • This is the 1st command with a negative promise of Eph 6:2
2:18-22	<p>Creation of Woman to be a Helper, a Partner, a Joint Heir</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v18. The rest of creation was VERY GOOD, but it was NOT GOOD for man to be alone • God waited till after man counted, named, and observed all the animals. When Adam realized he was unique, that he was not on God's level, or on the angelic level, or on the animals' level, he sensed loneliness. Only then could Adam truly appreciate a beautiful and equal companion, that was complementary & would recognize her "tremendous value" <p><i>"The woman was made of a rib of the side of Adam. Not made out of his head to rule over him nor his feet to be trampled by him. But out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected and near to his heart to be loved of him." – Matthew Henry</i></p>
2:23-25	<p>Bone of My Bones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v23. Another poem. Adam expresses pure delight in Eve • v24. God's original design for marriage – One Man and One Woman for Life • v25. There is no shame in innocence

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- If you were placed into the Garden of Eden, how long would you make it before you succumbed to selfishness, pride, or other sin?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 03. Sin enters the camp & ruins everything. God is not taken by surprise & has a Reconciliation Plan all ready

