

Fourth Lecture on Genesis

/We will now begin the 4th lecture on Genesis. /This is the fourth lecture. /The lecture will be on Genesis chapter 2. /The title of chapter 2 is, "Eden."

/First, the seventh day, the Sabbath. /Verses 1-3. /Second, the explanation of the creation of mankind and the heavens and the earth. /Verses 4-7. /Third, the formation of the Garden of Eden. /Verses 8-15. /Fourth, the various types of trees and God's command concerning the tree of knowledge of good and evil. /Verses 16-17.

/Fifth, the creation of the woman. /Verses 18-25. /Chapter 2 is a continuation of chapter 1, and is an account of the six days of creation.

/Read verse 1. /Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

/Verse 1 records the completion of the creation of the heavens and the earth. /Chapter 2 describes the creation account in more detail. /Today's passages teach about the Sabbath Day and the Garden of Eden in detail.

/Read verses 2-3. /By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

/God created the universe in six days and rested on the seventh. /Therefore, in the Old Testament the Israelites observed the Sabbath Day as a day of rest. /Today, this seventh day is Saturday.

/God made the seventh day the Sabbath, a day of rest which he blessed and made holy. /God can rest anytime.

/God instituted the Sabbath so that we may find rest. /The Sabbath is a day when both our spirits and bodies can rest. /The body rests from doing work in the world.

/Our spirits rest in God as we worship him. /The Sabbath is when our bodies cease from doing worldly work, and our spirits rest as we worship God.

/Therefore, we must find rest for our souls as we keep the Sabbath Day. /The fourth commandment of the Ten Commandments is about the Sabbath. /The commandment to keep the Sabbath is an important one.

/Therefore, our faith must include a day where we can find rest for both our bodies and souls. /If we do not keep the Sabbath our spirits cannot live.

/Now, we must rest and keep the Sabbath on Sundays, and live victoriously for the next six days. /In the Old Testament period the people of Israel observed the Sabbath on the seventh day of the week. /However, in the New Testament period we observe the Sabbath on the first day of the week.

/We observe Sundays as the Sabbath. /In Hebrews 7:18, /it says, “The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless.” /Hebrews 4:7 says, “God again set a certain day.”

/Also, Jesus resurrected on a Sunday. /In addition, the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost, which was a Sunday. /Matthew 28:1 /Acts 2:1 /The Revelation was given to John on a Sunday. /Revelation 1:10

/Not only that, but during the early church period, the apostles kept Sundays as the Sabbath. /Acts 20:7 /1 Corinthians 16:2 /Therefore, we too must keep the Sabbath on Sundays, the first day of the week.

/Isaiah 58:13-14 says, /“keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath.” “Keep your feet.” /God also said to keep from doing everything as we please. /He said to enjoy the Sabbath. /He said to honor the Sabbath Day. /God said that we are to keep the Sabbath Day holy.

/Therefore, we must keep Sundays holy. /We must worship God, /rest from worldly works, /and keep it holy.

/Verse 4. /This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens —

/Verse 4 is a summary of when the heavens and the earth were created. /In chapter 1, the creation account was recorded in detail. /Verse 4 is a simple supportive summation of that account.

/Read verses 5-6. /and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground--

/It says, “the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground.” /Verse 5 says, “God had not sent rain on the earth.” /Then God allowed rain to fall and made all the plants grow from the earth.

/Verse 7. /the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

/How did God create man? /God made the soul of man in the likeness of God. /1:26 /God made man’s flesh from dirt.

/Thus, God made man with both body and soul. /Then God breathed into man’s nostrils the breath of life. /“Breath of life” in Hebrew is “Nishmat Hayyim.” /“Nishmat Hayyim.” /“Nishmat Hayyim.”

/This means, “breath of life.” /It means, “life’s breath.” /This is not the soul. /The soul of man was already created by God in his likeness, and combined with the body that was formed from

dirt.

/As such, God created the body and soul of man and put in him the gift of life. /He breathed into him the breath of life. /God gave life to man through truth and inspiration.

/As a result, man became a living being. /This “living being” in Hebrew is “Nephesh Chaya.” /“Nephesh Chaya” means, “living soul.”

“A living person,” “a living being.” /It means, “a living being.” /It means that man became alive. /When God breathed in the breath of life, man became a living being.

/Unlike animals, we human beings must become one with in life with God. /That is how we become a living entity.

/It is the same as grapes that remain connected to the the grape vine. /Our lives become united with God.

/Verse 8. /Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.

/There was the Garden of Eden. /The word “Eden” means, “garden,” “orchard,” or “paradise.” /It refers to a “garden,” “orchard,” or “paradise.” /There is no sin or death in that place.

/God made the Garden of Eden somewhere on this earth. /We do not know exactly where this was. /However, when we look at the name of the rivers, it seems to have been located somewhere in the Middle East.

/In any case, the Garden of Eden disappeared after Adam and Eve sinned.

/Verse 9. /And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground-- trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

/There were all kinds of trees in the Garden of Eden. /However, we can separate them broadly into three types. /First, there was the kind that was pleasing to look at and good to eat from.

/God made all kinds of fruit for man to eat. /God made them abundant and plentiful. /This symbolizes general grace or natural grace.

/God pours out his grace upon us so that we could eat and live on this earth. /However, these fruits have nothing to do with eternal life.

/The second kind of tree is the Tree of Life. /This Tree of Life symbolizes Jesus Christ. /Augustine also said that the Tree of Life represents Jesus Christ.

/This Tree of Life symbolizes “special grace.” /This gives us eternal life. /If Adam and Eve had

eaten first from the Tree of Life, they would have received eternal life on earth.

/However, they sinned and were banished from the Garden of Eden. /Jesus Christ is our eternal life. /1 John 1:2 /John 6:54, 55 /John 11:28

/Third, there was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. /God commanded Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

/Verse 17 says, “when you eat of it you will surely die.”

/Why did God create the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? /There was a reason and purpose. /First, God wanted to show that he is the owner of the Garden. /Second, God wanted to teach that “one must keep his commands to live.”

/Third, God wanted people to be thankful for all the different trees he had provided for them. /Fourth, God wanted us to remember him and his word and continue to serve him.

/Even today, God gives us forbidden commands, commands not to do something. /If we do not keep these commands we separate ourselves from the giver of life. /We get kicked out of the spiritual paradise.

/Verse 10. /A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters.

/Next, there were four rivers in the Garden of Eden. /These rivers symbolize the river of life. /The Garden of Eden will be restored one day. /If you look at Revelation chapter 22, there is the river of life and the tree of life.

/There are four rivers in today’s passages. /We previously discussed that these rivers symbolize the river of life. /These rivers point to the power that can save life. /John 4:14 /John 7:38

/Verse 11 says, the name of the first river is “Pishon.” /“Pishon” means to flood or overflow. /This means that God’s works of life will overflow.

/No one can stop this river. /It continues to flow. /If someone blocks it, the river will flow over it. /Even the great Roman Empire could not stop the spread of Christianity. /As such, this life-giving work will continue.

/The name of the second river is “Gihon.” /Gihon appears in verse 13. /The name “Gihon” means “spill, flow out.” /The work of life will continue to flow.

/It will continue to flow without an end. /It will not stop. /It will flow continually into every corner. /Then this gospel will reach the ends of the earth, /and the work of life will continue forever.

/In verse 14, the name of the third river is the “Tigris River.” /“Tigris” means, “quick or fast

current.” /This means that the work of life will be accomplished hastily. /The gospel will be spread at a quick speed.

/This means that the work of the gospel will be accomplished very quickly. /Next, the name of the fourth river is the “Euphrates.” /“Euphrates” means, “sweet taste.”

/This means that the work life is sweet to the taste. /It means that the salvation work of God is sweet work.

/Psalm 19:10 says, God’s word is “sweeter than honey.” /Thus, this work of life is beautiful work.

/Verse 15. /The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

/God commanded man to work and take care of the Garden of Eden. /The only way to rule over the Garden of Eden was to first accept God’s rule over one’s life. /This means to be absolutely obedient to God’s word.

/Then God’s kingdom will be done. /Also, man must stand upright in his designated position in the created order. /God has his place, man has his place, and creation has her place in the created order.

/Therefore, man must keep his position in life. /He must manage his duties and responsibilities.

/Then how can we protect the Garden of Eden? /In order to protect the Garden of Eden, believers must continuously communicate spiritually with God. /Not only that, but we must guard our hearts as well. /Proverbs 4:23

/Third, we must allow God to reign as Lord of our lives. /Fourth, we must obey God’s forbidden commands.

/Verses 16-17. /And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

/God told man that he could eat fruit from any tree in the Garden except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. /The tree of the knowledge of good and evil actually existed. /It was God’s forbidden command.

/Whoever disobeys God’s forbidden commands will die. /Therefore, we must remember God and his commands and live with holy fear of God.

/If we are unfaithful in keeping God’s forbidden commands, we will surely die. /It is sin to disobey God’s commands. /The wages of sin is death. /Therefore, we must obey God’s word.

/In verses 18-25, God makes Eve for Adam.

/Verse 18. /The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

/God decided to make for Adam a "suitable helper." /People need suitable helpers. /1 Peter 3:7 /Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 /We also need partners who will help us in our faith. /Philippians 2:22 /4:3

/Hence, the woman became the "suitable helper" of man. /Women need to stand in the position of helpers with respect to men. /This is God ordained relational order.

/Verse 19. /Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

/God allowed Adam to name to all the living things, animals, fish, and birds. /Adam named all living things.

/When Adam named the living things, he did so with wisdom. /Adam named the animals according to their shape and character.

/He named them according to their appearances. /Elephants have long noses, /donkeys and rabbits have long ears. /Giraffes have long necks. /Adam also gave them names that matched their character.

/The Bible says that the ostrich is cruel. /Ostriches have no feelings. /Adam gave it the most appropriate name.

/Adam did not name just one or two animals, but thousands and tens of thousands of animals. /How wise was Adam? /Also, Adam remembered the names of the animals he gave names to.

/Adam had a mind that soared. /God made Adam wise. /Verse 20 says that God would give Adam a suitable helper.

/Verse 21. /So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh.

/God put Adam into a deep sleep. /This was similar to putting someone under anesthesia before surgery. /Then God took a rib out of Adam and made the woman.

/"Rib" in Hebrew is "Tselah." /"Tselah" means, "side or side of." /God made the woman who would be at the side of Adam.

/There's a reason why God made woman out of Adam's rib. /First, a married couple is one body. /This is because woman was made out of what was once a part of man, thus, they are one.

/Second, man and woman are equal. /They both have equal rights. /No one is greater and no one is lesser. /Still, according to the order of thing, man is at the head of woman. /However, they both have equal rights as humans.

/Third, the husband must love his wife. /Ephesians 5:25 /The woman was created with man's rib, a part of the body that is very close to his heart, and therefore, he must love her.

/Fourth, the wife must obey and respect her husband. /Ephesians 5:33

/Verse 22. /Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

/Verse 22 says, God made woman out of Adam's rib and brought her to him. /God officiated Adam and Eve's marriage.

/God established a family. /God established the church. /Therefore, the family and the church are very important to our faith. /God made one woman out of one rib.

/Adam had many ribs but God took one rib to make one woman. /This means that God's standard of creation is one man for one woman. /This is monogamy. /Malachi 2:15

/Verse 23. /The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman', for she was taken out of man."

/Here it says, when Adam first saw Eve he said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh." /When Adam saw Eve for the first time, he knew that she was bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh.

/Adam knew instinctively who Eve was. /He instinctively recognized his wife. /That is how Adam came to love Eve.

/Verse 24. /For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

/It says that a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. /Man and woman must physically leave their birth parents. /They must unite with the partner God has prepared them and become one flesh.

/What does it mean for a child to leave his parents? /It could mean that he would leave his family, but it doesn't have to be that way. /One could leave his family and one can continue to live with his parents.

/To leave one's parents means to become economically and emotionally independent. /This means that one must become mature. /You should not act like a child after you are married.

/Parents also need to send away their children. /They must entrust them to God. /They must

allow their children to be led by God. /Then parents must pray for them.

/Next, it says that a married couple is one body. /This is because they were made from one rib. /Husband and wife are one flesh. /They have to become one in mind as well.

/In order to become one mind, they must have the heart of Jesus. /Both the husband and wife must have the heart of Jesus. /What is the heart of Jesus?

/It is the heart to serve. /Philippians 2: 5-7 /Jesus had the heart of a servant. /Therefore, a married couple must become servants to each other. /The husband and wife must serve each other.

/Next, the married couple must not only be one in mind and body but also one in faith.

/They must walk together in faith, /walk the same path, /live God-centered lives, /pray together as husband and wife, /and help each other in faith. /They must walk down the same road in faith.

/Verse 25. /The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

/Adam and Eve were naked but they were not ashamed. /Adam and Eve only knew God and only looked at God. /They only lived for God alone.

/They walked with God. /They were filled with God's glory. /Therefore, there was no need to be ashamed. /Because they loved each other, they did not see each other's faults. /1 Peter 4:8

/When we love, we do not see the other person's shortcomings. /We can cover all their faults. /Jesus forgives us because he loves us.

/Adam and Eve were completely satisfied in God alone. /There was no sin at the time. /There were satisfied with God's glory. /God alone was enough.

/As husband and wife, Adam and Eve did not depend on each other. /Adam and Eve only loved each other. /They looked to and leaned on God only.

/It was okay if one person was lacking because they did not depend on each other or look upon each other. /It was okay if their partner was foolish, /or if they were weak, /or lacking.

/It was okay because they only looked up to God. /Also, if someone is lacking, we can simply help them. /We can love them. /Therefore, we must not look to people or depend on them.

/We must wholly look upon God's glory and depend on God as we live. /God is our blessing and God is our life.

/In all that we have and all that we are, God becomes our everything. /God is our glory, joy, and life.

/Here we will conclude the lecture on Genesis chapter 2.

/With this we finish the fourth lecture on Genesis.
/Thank you.