

**Wednesday Night Bible Study**  
**Genesis Chapter 2**  
**14064-B August 20, 2014**

**I. Review of Chapter 1. Note 3 things:**

- A. He created sovereignly and voluntarily.
  - A.1. There is only one God.
    - A.1.a) Other “gods” do not exist.
  - A.2. Matter is not eternal.
  - A.3. The universe (visible and invisible) is contingent.
- B. He created an excellent material/spiritual world. Col.1:15-19
  - B.1. Matter is good and being a physical person is good.
  - B.2. God said “good” not because he was afraid it would be bad, but because he was enjoying it, enjoying the material world.
  - B.3. The creation was finished and God rested.
- C. He created by His Word. Jn.1:1-5
  - C.1. A Word is the expression of a personal mind.
  - C.2. The universe has a Person as the Source. Heb.1:3
    - C.2.a) Which is why personal realities mean more to us.
  - C.3. Which is why he saves by his Word made flesh

**II. Double-click on Humanity. The unique creation. Gen.1:26-31 and 2:4-24.**

- A. We were created in God’s image.
- B. We were placed in a good material world.
- C. We were given to each other.

**III. Four implications of being created in God’s image:**

- A. Supreme value: 1:26-31; Gen.9:5-6.
  - A.1. God has infinite value and humans have supreme value in the created order.
  - A.2. All humans are valuable.
    - A.2.a) This is the source of all human rights, creation in God’s image.
    - A.2.b) It was Christianity that taught this and demonstrated it in the Roman Empire.
  - A.3. No evolutionary worldview offers supreme value to human life. They can’t.
    - A.3.a) Though many do claim to believe in human life as a value.
- B. Intimate relationship: to love/share/relate. Trinity
  - B.1. With the Triune God.
    - B.1.a) This is the primary relationship, friendship, family of God Himself.
  - B.2. With each other. United in multiple life--marriage. 27
    - B.2.a) Male and female = one life composed of two people.
    - B.2.b) Producing children = multiple life, the third element.
  - B.3. *We crave pure, intimate, relational love above all things. Why? Because we are created in God’s image.*

- C. Creative responsibility: Stewards of the entire created order. Heb.2/Ps.8
  - C.1. Representing God's authority.
    - C.1.a) God is responsible, morally and materially and he created us to be the same.
    - C.1.b) He created us for the same purpose, to extend his responsibility and represent him.
  - C.2. Creatively Cultivating the material world. 2:4-9
    - C.2.a) Creative: bringing order and beauty out of chaos.
      - (C.2.a.1) Gardening, building, multiplying
    - C.2.b) Creating from what God had created, bringing beauty and fruitfulness out of material "chaos."
    - C.2.c) Work is a good thing. God worked and rested.
      - (C.2.c.1) The fall has made it hard.
- D. Perfect virtue. Holiness/Goodness. *Walking with God daily*.
  - D.1. We were created to be morally good, reflecting the excellence of the Lord himself.
    - D.1.a) This is why we hide ourselves when we do evil, lie about it, and make excuses.
  - D.2. We know intuitively what moral reality is (generally).
    - D.2.a) We feel guilt and shame almost universally when they come in contact with God's word now.
  - D.3. We long to know that we are loved and good again.
  - D.4. We need forgiveness more than we need understanding. The way to deal with guilt and shame is to confess and receive real forgiveness from the one person who can and will forgive—which isn't us, but God Himself. Ps.130:1-5.

IV. **The Gospel speaks redemption into all of these elements.**

- A. This perfect beginning fails, but the result is better than if the fall had never happened.
- B. Redeemed people are better off than Adam and Eve prior to failure. Rom.5

V. **Two closing thoughts:**

- A. We are so much like Him that He is not ashamed to become one of us permanently. Jn.1:1-5; 14
  - A.1. This makes us better than Adam and Eve. An eternal life, God's own personal Spirit, is in us. Titus.3:4-7
- B. He is so committed to his world that he came personally to save it. Jn.3:16.
  - B.1. What we were created for in these four ways was largely lost in the fall, but will be restored in the regeneration. Matt.19:28.
  - B.2. The New Creation will be what the old one was intended to be thanks to the resurrection of Christ, the true Son of Man. Isa.65:17; 2 Pet.3; Rev.21-22
  - B.3. Be glad that you are a redeemed human, re-created in His image with more than just a fallen human spirit.