

Hope for Marriage



Lesson 2: Provision & Responsibility

Review: Created Equal

A. Genesis 1:24-31

1. God made humankind in his image as male and female (1:26a, 27).
2. God charged humankind with two tasks (1:26b, 28):
 - a. To populate the earth (i.e., be fruitful and multiply and fill).
 - b. To employ creatures of the sky, sea, and land for their benefit (i.e., subdue & rule).
3. After creating humankind, God declared his creation as “very good.”

B. Application for Marriage

1. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three distinct persons yet one God. (This is a mystery.)
 - a. Each is 100% God (John 1:1).
 - b. Each is 100% equal in all aspects (John 10:28-30).
 - c. Yet, each fulfills a different role.
 - (1) The Father sent the Son (John 3:16).
 - (2) The Son died for our sins as a sacrificial lamb (John 1:29).
 - (3) The Spirit lives in us (John 14:16-17).
2. Husband and wife are equal in all aspects, just like the three persons of the Trinity.
3. Husband and wife are designed to fill the earth and rule creation together.
 - a. A husband lacks the ability populate the earth apart from his wife.
 - b. God gave the charge to rule creation to both the man and woman (i.e., let them rule).
4. **Challenge: Rule together as a team of equals.**

Genesis 2:1-17 – Provision, Responsibility, and One Prohibition

A. Genesis 2:7-9 – Complete Provision

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| 7 | Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed _{v1} into his nostrils the breath _{v2} of life _{n1} , and the man became a living _{a1} being. | ▪ |
| 8 | And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put _{v1} the man whom he had formed . | ▪ |
| 9a | And the LORD God caused every tree to sprout up from the ground , [trees] <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ that are desirable to the sight▪ and good for food. | ▪ |
| 9b | Now the tree of life _{n1} [was] in the midst of the garden , and [also] the tree of the knowledge of good and evil . | |

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B. Genesis 2:15-17 – Responsibility & One Prohibition

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| 15 | The LORD God took the man and put _{v2} him in the garden of Eden <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ to work it▪ and keep it. | ▪ |
| 16 | And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, (a) “You may absolutely eat of every tree of the garden, | ▪ |
| 17 | (b) but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat , for in the day that you eat of it you shall absolutely die .” | ▪ |

1. God gave Adam responsibility for working and keeping his (God’s) garden.
2. God gave Adam freedom to eat from every tree in God’s garden (except one).
3. God prohibited Adam from eating of the tree of knowledge.
4. **Challenge: Look after all God gives you (especially your spouse).**