Day 1

The Garden of Eden; Adam and Eve. Read Genesis 2:4-14

- 1. Genesis 2:4 summarizes the first section of Genesis. How could Adam, and then Moses, have come to know these details?
- 2. In the following, underline how scripture came to be written.
 - 2 Peter 1:20,21 Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God. NLT
 - 2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 2 Timothy 3:16 NIV
 - Exodus 34:27,28 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel." ²⁸ Moses was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant—the Ten Commandments.
 - Exodus 31:18 When the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the covenant law, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.
 - Jeremiah 36:1,2 ...this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, "Take a scroll and write on it all the words which I have spoken to you concerning Israel and concerning Judah, and concerning all the nations, from the day I first spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even to this day.

FYI: 'Generations/account/history" (Hebrew *toledoth*) is the word from which the book of Genesis gets its name...This is the first occurrence of the formula which marks the key subdivisions of the book: "These are the generations of... The others are at Genesis 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:19; 36:1,9; 37:2. In all except this first one, the name of a specific patriarch is attached. Parallels with the terminology of the ancient Babylonian tablets indicate that these names are actually the signatures of the original writers of the particular tablets...Since the first tablet (Genesis 1:1-2:4a) tells of events prior to the existence of any witness to record them, God Himself either wrote this section directly or specifically revealed it to Adam. It describes the generations of no person, therefore, but rather those of the cosmos itself."

"Genesis 1:1–2:4 records an overview of the cosmic events of the creation week. It gives the order of events and a broad summary of what happened on each day. Genesis 2:5-25 is not a second or different account of creation; rather, it's a more detailed report of the Adam-and-Eve-focused events of Day Six..."

- from "Two Creation Accounts?" by Jason Lisle, Ph.D. <u>https://www.icr.org/article/two-creation-accounts</u>

3. On day three God gathered the waters and made dry ground appear (1:9,10. What do you learn about sources of water for the land in 2:5,6? What other source is given 2:10? (See Job 38:25-30)

FYI: "River/mist OT:108 'ed (in the sense of enveloping); a fog: a mist

"It seems that the Bible says that there was no rain in the Garden of Eden before the Fall. The text does not say what happened after the Fall. Although a case can be made for no rain until the time of the Flood...the evidence does not allow us to make any definite conclusions."

- https://www.blueletterbible.org/faq/don_stewart/don_stewart_738.cfm

- 4. How does the process of man's creation (2:7) compare to the animals (1:24)? (See Job 33:4) What picture does this give of God's care? What does this say about man evolving from an ape?
 - What does the use of the title Lord in this section add to the account of man's creation?

FYI: "LORD" Strong's #3068 *Yehovah* (the) self-Existent or Eternal; Jehovah (God's)" personal name by which He related specifically to His chosen or covenant people." - Vine's Dictionary

5. What materials did God use to create man (and plants and animals 1:12,24)? 2:7 How does this connection serve man nutritionally and scientifically, (e.g.medicine, biology), etc.?

FYI: formed Strong's #3335 yatsar, to mold into a form; especially as a potter; figuratively, to determine

"*dust of the ground.* Man's body was formed out of the 'elements of the earth,' the same materials (carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, etc.) from which both plants and the bodies of the animals had been formed (Genesis 1:12,24). This unity of physical composition is a fact of modern science thus long anticipated by Scripture." – The Defender's Study Bible

6. Why do you think God planted a special place for Adam? 2:8 What did the trees provide? 2:9a

- What did the two special trees in the Garden offer? 2:9b (Compare Revelation 22:2)
- [7]. From the description in 2:10-14. what do you learn about rivers and the land in the garden? Why do you think God provided these additional details in this expanded account of the creation of mankind? What impression do you have of the richness and beauty of the land?

Digging Deeper

How do the riches of the garden compare to descriptions of the tabernacle and temple? Exodus 35:20-27; 2 Chronicles 3:5,6

FYI: "Eden" Strong's #5730 eden; pleasure: also translated "delicate, delight" (KJV)

"The geography described in these verses obviously corresponds to nothing in the present world, although some of the names sound familiar. The Noahic Flood was so cataclysmic in its effects (note II Peter 3:6) that the primeval geography was obliterated, with the post-Flood continents and oceans completely different" - The Defender's Study Bible

Article with video (2:28) : "Where Was The Garden Of Eden Located?"

<u>https://answersingenesis.org/genesis/garden-of-eden/where-was-the-garden-of-eden-located/</u>



Applying the Word: Read Psalm 139:13-16. What does this say about God's personal involvement in creating you?

Day 2

Institution of Marriage. Read Genesis 2:15-24

8. What work did God give man? 2:15 How enjoyable do you think this work would have been?

FYI: "Work is not a four letter word. It is a gift from God. We are the original environmentalists who were placed on this earth to tend to God's creation for His glory. Dominion does not mean we are at liberty to exploit God's creation. Dominion is being faithful stewards of God's wonderful creation." - Jim Winebrener

9. How abundant was the food God provided? How much variety, even compared to today, do you think there may have been? 2:16

10. What was the one prohibition given to mankind? 2:17a

• How clearly did God explain the consequences of eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? 2:17b What reason would Adam have had for not obeying God?

FYI: "Thou shalt surely die' could be rendered, 'Dying, thou shalt die!' In the very day that he would experimentally come to 'know evil,' through disobeying God's Word, he would die spiritually, being separated from God's direct fellowship. Adam would also begin to die physically, with the initiation of decay processes in his body which would ultimately cause his physical death." - The Defender's Study Bible

"Biblical freedom is the responsibility and opportunity to choose to maximize one's calling under God. God gave Adam a tremendous amount of freedom, allowing him to enjoy whatever God provided. But biblical freedom has healthy limits. When we misuse that freedom, the consequences are severe...Boundaries in our spiritual walk help us live the way God intended" - The Tony Evans Study Bible (4)

"You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil... This was only a single minor restraint; but it would be this restraint that would test man's love for God, giving him an opportunity to reject God's word if he wished. True love is based on trust, of course; and it would have been altogether natural and appropriate for man to have been so grateful to God for all He had done for him – giving him life, a beautiful home, an abundance of good food in profuse variety, and everything he would need or want – that his own love for God would cause him gladly to follow His will in all things. Seeing so much evidence of God's love, Adam should naturally assume that any instruction coming from God would likewise evidence His love, and therefore willingly obey it...There was every reason (based on love, not fear) for man to conform to God's command and no reason to disobey. If he did disobey, he would be without excuse. Yet he did have a choice, and so was truly a 'free moral agent' before God. This was the simplest imaginable test of man's attitude toward his Creator. Would he 'trust and obey' because he loved the one who had shown such love for him; or would he doubt God's goodness and resent His control, rejecting and disobeying His word on even such an apparently trivial restriction as one forbidden fruit in a whole paradise of abundant provision?" - Henry Morris (GR 93)

"In His great grace, God gave permission before He gave restriction. And the permission was broad (of every tree) while the restriction was narrow. Man could do almost anything he wanted." – The Nelson Study Bible (7)

11. What need did Adam have? 2:18

FYI: suitable Strong's #5048 neged; a front, i.e. part opposite; a counterpart, or mate "in front of, corresponding to"

helper suitable/correspondent/meet (adapted, completing) "This phrase indicates that this helper (or partner) would be truly fitting and fully adequate – just right. Some have thought that the term is demeaning, but it simply means 'one who helps,' and in fact is used to describe God when He comes to our aid (see Ps. 33:20; 115:9,10,11). It does not refer to someone who is secondary or inferior." - The Nelson's Study Bible (7)

What did this show Adam? 2:20b

FYI: "It is likely that Adam had to name only a couple thousand proto-species of land animals—a task which could easily have been achieved in a few hours. Assuming Adam had to name 2,500 proto-species, or kinds (mostly at the family level of taxonomy), at 5 seconds per animal, it would have taken him approximately three and a half hours to complete the task. This was very doable, even for a person today."

https://answersingenesis.org/adam-and-eve/

13. Why do you think God used a rib (side) and flesh from Adam's body to make Eve? 2:21 How exceptional was the creation of both male and female? (Cross-ref. 1 Corinthians 11:12)

Digging Deeper From examples of Jesus' healing, how instantly would Adam have healed? See Luke 22:49-51; Mark 1:40-42; John 5:8,9

14. What did Adam recognize about the unique creation of Eve? 2:23 How did he react to having her?

FYT: "In our day, many say there is no real difference between men and women. This makes sense if we are the result of mindless evolution, but not if it is true that **male and female He created them**. To God, the differences between men and women are not accidents. Since He created them, the differences are good and meaningful. Men are not women, and women are not men...It is vain to wonder if men or women are superior to the other. A man is absolutely superior at being a man. A woman is absolutely superior at being a woman. But when a man tries to be a woman or a woman tries to be a man, you have something inferior...

It is important to realize that there are not two beginnings to the human race, one in Adam and one in Eve. There was one beginning of the human race in Adam.

Flesh of my flesh: Adam understood the essential *oneness* in his relationship with Eve. This point is so important that it is referred to several times in the New Testament, including the great marriage passage in Ephesians 5:28-29: So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it." - David Guzik

15. How is the institution of marriage designed and defined in 2:24? What is the "why/reason/ therefore" for marriage? What might the potential consequences be if any of these mandates are not followed?

FYI: "A marriage thus involved leaving one's parents to be united with one's spouse. [That] does not mean that God doesn't have a place for the extended family. This is clear from his condemnation of rejection or neglect of parents (Exod. 20:12; Lev 19:3; Deut 27:16; I Tim 5:4). Obviously the married couple will also be closely connected to the offspring that God encourages them to produce (1:28). But the marriage relationship provides the stable basis from which all other human relationships will develop." - Africa Bible Commentary (14.15)

"God established marriage and defined it as one man, one woman, for life (2:20-25) – a reality affirmed by Jesus (Matthew 19). After creating Adam and Eve – and marriage – God blessed them and told them to have children...Here we see the first family, ordained by God as the foremost human institution for human flourishing. He then declares everything as 'very good."" - Bryan Osbourne (SI 57)

| Video: "The Origin of Marriage with Ken Ham" (4:21) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhjIR8YzxXA Article: "Interracial Marriage – It's the Inside That Matters" by Ken Ham https://answersingenesis.org/family/marriage/interracial-marriage/ See other articles at https://answersingenesis.org/family/marriage/ | | | |
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| Applying the Word: What protection do you see marriage giving | a man a wu | oman thoir | |

Applying the Word: What protection do you see marriage giving a man, a woman, their children and society? What benefits and protection do you see in following God's standards for sexual morality?

Day 3 Marriage. Read Genesis 2:25

- 16. With what emotional and spiritual state did Adam and Eve's marriage begin? 2:24.25 *Besides physically, in what ways do you think Adam and Eve were "naked" before God and each other?*
 - Before the fall, what do you think Adam and Eve's marriage and oneness was like?

FYI: "shame" Strong's #954 buwsh; to pale, i.e. by implication to be ashamed; to be disappointed or delayed

"This verb... has overtones of being or feeling worthless."

- Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words

"They 'become one flesh' which is to say they share a unity of purpose while retaining the uniqueness as individuals...This establishes the fact that marriage is only between a man and a woman (Matt. 19:4-6)."

17. What did Jesus say constitutes a marriage and the "reason" for marriage? Matthew 19:4-6 (see also Mark 10:6,7)

Digging Deeper What does marriage have the privilege of presenting? Ephesians 5:31-32

FYI: "Marriage is God's idea and God's institution. It's His gift for humanity's good and His glory. In the sacred text of that first biblical book, the origin, definition, and purpose of marriage is discovered. Todays' clash over marriage is fundamentally a battle over **authority**. Either the Bible is acknowledged as God's Word and ultimate authority, or man's ideas are arbitrarily followed...

In evolutionary thinking, marriage essentially evolved over time in human society as people perceived it to be more advantageous in civilized living. From this perspective, marriage is not an unchanging divine institution but rather a moldable and disposable social construct.

Sex, sexuality, gender roles, and genders are God's creation and part of His created order. They're good gifts from the Creator given for human flourishing. Our Maker defines us and tells us our bodies were created for our joy and as a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). Our gender was lovingly and intentionally assigned to us by the Creator for our good and His glory...Sex is God's idea...He made it, and He defines what it is – its boundaries, proper use and purpose...It is prescribed and defined in the limited confines of marriage. God's design for sex, then and now (Hebrews 13:4), is the beautiful, intimate union between a husband and wife...A union that leads to the creation of `imagebearers,' vividly displays the reality of `one-flesh,' and is a representation of the eternal intimacy between Christ and the Church."

18. What do the following verses tell you about God's view of marriage?

| Jeremiah 33:11 The sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, NIV | It's a time of great joy |
|---|--------------------------|
| Song of Solomon 4:9-10 You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride; you have stolen my heart with one glance of your eyes, with one jewel of your necklace. How delightful is your love | |
| Proverbs 12:4 A wife of noble character is her husband's crown | |
| Proverbs 31:10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. NIV | |
| Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. | |
| Malachi 2:15 Has not [the LORD] made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth. | |

19. What is said about marriage and sex in Hebrews 13:4? How does this command apply to both the married and single person?

Applying the Word: Who has been an example to you of a godly, loving marriage? What is one of the most important things have you learned from that example? How does that help with relationships in general?

Day 4

God's Standard of Morality

20. What sexual boundaries and warnings did God give in the following?

- Exodus 20:14 (See also Matthew 5:27)
- Leviticus 18:6-20 (Summarize)

- Leviticus 18:22,23 (See also Romans 1:26,27) What did God say about the nations that practiced these things? Leviticus 18:24,25
- Deuteronomy 22:5
- 1 Timothy 1:10
- Galatians 5:19-21

FYI: "Since sex is God's creation, He knows how it works best. And since God's love for humanity can't be fathomed, we can trust that His boundaries for His creation and for His image bearers are good and for our best. If we do fall into sexual sin, the greatest news is that the author of sex is also the author of salvation. All sins, including sexual ones, were paid for at the Cross for those who repent and put their faith in Christ!" - Bryan Osborne (SI 57)

"Within self-defined Christian circles, we have one group that champions the truth without love and another group that champions love without truth. So how do we, discover and communicate the truth *in* love?...As followers of Jesus, we cannot ignore the overwhelming evidence that God condemns the practice of homosexuality. But it is just as important for us to recognize that God equally condemns many others sins, including immoral heterosexual practices.... We need to be forthright and truthful as we present the truth of the Scriptures, but do so with humility and compassion, not a sense of condemnation or superiority. Out of fear or taboo we often hide and fail to share the truth of the gospel... Most of those in the gay community have never met a kind, nonjudgmental Christian who had the courage to share God's love and plan of forgiveness and eternal life."

21. In 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, what sins does Paul lump together? What was he saying?

FYI: "The apostle Paul is saying of all those things, 'Guess what! Those are all in the same category. Those things will harm you, bring death to you. They will crush your soul, alienate you from God, alienate your from yourself, bring death into your relationships and into your body."

22. Underline how carefully we should behave.

- Romans 13:13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy.
- Ephesians 5:3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.
- Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.
- 1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.
- Ephesians 5:8-12 Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.

Food for Thought: "Since we know God is pro-sex, why all the restrictions? Why such strong prohibitions against meaningless, casual sex? The answer: God resists any notion that we can separate sexual desires or actions from the rest of life. God is jealous for our best and wants to protect sex and its sacred power for two people to bond in an environment where they know intimately and are known." – Chip Ingram (66)

23. What does 1 John 2:3-5 say about love, obedience and truth?

• What would you say to someone who is not trusting and following God's Word but claims to be choosing this behavior because of "love"?

Food for Thought: "God, the author of humanity, marriage, knowledge, natural laws, beauty and all of reality, is the author and definer of love as well. Fundamentally, love is an action, accompanied by emotion, done for the benefit of another (John 3:16; 15:12-13; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:16)...

The love that originates and emanates from the biblical God is rooted in His nature and truth. *Anything not in line with His nature and truth isn't love,* it's actually antagonistic toward authentic love. Thus, the connection between God's love and His law are the constant correlation of love to obedience...1 Corinthians 13:6 reveals a powerful truth for today: 'It (love) does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.' God's love cannot be separated from God's truth. Perfect love has already won. Love won at the Cross!" - Bryan Osbourne (SI 65)

24. Underline reasons for why or how humans reject God's standards and circle the results.

John 3:19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

- Romans 1: 21,22 Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. ²² Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. NLT
- Romans 1: 25,26 They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. 26 That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires.
- Romans 1:28,29 Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. ²⁹ Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip.
- Ephesians 4:18 They are darkened in their understanding and alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardness of their hearts.
- Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death
- Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Food for Thought: "The current sexual revolution is a reflection of our culture's utter abandonment of Scripture. A progressive attack on the credibility of God's Word, particularly its history, has been chipping away at biblical authority for multiple generations...Once you give up the absolute authority of God's Word, man's ideas are all you're left with. If man determines truth, then which man? Today's answer: all of them! Without an absolute, objective standard, each person decides their own truth for all things, including sex. How? Well, without a divine revelation outside of ourselves, we're ultimately guided by our thoughts, feelings, and appetites.

Sure, people will listen to the ideas of others through conversations, books and media. And eventually it will be the individual who will judge all that's heard and deliver the verdict. That person has now become his own god... The abandoning of biblical authority left man holding the reins of his sexuality. The result? The current confusion of sexuality and the many destroyed living in the wake of the Enemy's lies." - Bryan Osborne (SI 58,59)

Applying the Word: What are some of the most important reasons/benefits you would give a young person for remaining sexually pure?

For Further Study

Video: "This is how Genesis Impacts our view of Time, History, & Science" Dr. George Grant (18:30) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEEk3c7 NHs

"God created a real man and woman to be married only to each other, setting the standard for marital and sexual relationships. A real Fall brought death into the world and the need for a real Redeemer. God judged the world with a real global flood but saved Noah and his family. All of the people and events of Genesis were considered history by Jesus, Paul, Peter, and the apostles. In spite of this, there is a movement among theologians and scientists to de-historicize sections of Genesis. This reverses the roles of science and history, and inevitably leads to relativism. After all, science is consistently changing; it can never be an ultimate authority. Historical events, on the other hand, do not change. The role of history is to tell us what happened in the past; the role of science is to try to understand how those things happened. When you rid the book of Genesis of its historical moorings, you have suddenly decapitated the whole structure of the Bible."

Video: "God's Word Defines Marriage" Avery Foley (59:04) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXD4SzfvnmE

"What does the Bible say about how Christians should approach this increasingly polarizing issue? Avery considers relevant passages throughout Scripture and urges all Christians to stand on the authority of God's Word in every area, even marriage."

Video: "Biology and Sexuality" (1:00:21) Georgia Purdom Speaking at Answers for Women: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMmIP34ZyZo&t=2746s

Video: "Gender, Sexuality, and the Bible" Avery Foley (1:02:15) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pm6gWdfrIMU

Article: "The Root of the Problem" Chapter 4; The Lie: Evolution https://answersingenesis.org/who-is-god/creator-god/the-root-of-the-problem/

Article: "Do Genesis 1 and 2 Contradict Each Other?" Tim Chaffey https://answersingenesis.org/contradictions-in-thebible/do-genesis-1-and-2-contradict-each-other/

Article: "Why Sex is the Best Argument For Creation (and Against Evolution)" Thomas Purifov Jr. (Producer, Writer, and Director of "Is Genesis History?") https://isgenesishistory.com/why-sex-is-the-best-argument-for-creationagainst-evolution/

Article: "What did Jesus and Luke say about Genesis?" Thomas Purifoy Jr. https://isgenesishistory.com/jesus-luke-genesis/















Where Was the Garden of Eden? by Ken Ham

"...If most of the sedimentary strata over the earth's surface (many thousands of feet thick in places) is the result of this global catastrophe as creationists believe, then we would have no idea where the Garden of Eden was originally located—the earth's surface totally changed as a result of the Flood.

Not only this, but underneath the region where the present Tigris and Euphrates Rivers are located, there exists hundreds of feet of sedimentary strata—a significant amount of which is fossiliferous. Such fossil-bearing strata had to be laid down at the time of the Flood. Therefore, no one can logically suggest that the area where the present Tigris and Euphrates Rivers are today is the location of the Garden of Eden, for this area is sitting on Flood strata containing billions of dead things (fossils). The perfect Garden of Eden can't be sitting on billions of dead things before sin entered the world!

This being the case, the question then is, why are there rivers named Tigris and Euphrates in the Middle East today?

In my native country of Australia, one will recognize many names that are also used in England (e.g., Newcastle). The reason is that when the settlers came out from England to Australia, they used names they were familiar with in England to name new places/towns in Australia.

Another example is the names given to many rivers in the United States. There is the Thames River in Connecticut, the Severn River in Maryland, and the Trent River in North Carolina—all named for prominent rivers in the UK.

In a similar way, when Noah and his family came out of the ark after it landed in the area we today call the Middle East (the region of the Mountains of Ararat), it would not have been surprising for them to use names they were familiar with from the pre-Flood world (e.g., Tigris and Euphrates), to name places and rivers, etc., in the world after the Flood.

Ultimately, we don't know where the Garden of Eden was located. To insist that the garden was located in the area around the present Tigris and Euphrates Rivers is to deny the catastrophic effects of the global Flood of Noah's day, and to allow for death before sin."

- https://answersingenesis.org/genesis/garden-of-eden/where-was-the-garden-of-eden-located/

