

The Fall

Genesis 2-4

Genesis 1:2 – Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters

What we learn from scripture is that the Father is the architect. He has a plan from before the foundation of the world. He doesn't have a plan B. As outside of time, all powerful, all knowing, God is in control over everything. So when the Bible talks about predestination (Romans 8:29-30; Ephesians 1:5, 1:11) or election (1 Peter 1:2), it's from the Father's point of view.

The Son is the builder. He created all things and in Him all things consist (Colossians 1:16; John 1:3). He built creation according to the Father's plan. He will come into the world to be crucified according to the plan. He will return to earth to establish His kingdom according to the plan. When it comes to salvation, anyone who believes in Him will be saved (John 3:16, 10:9; Acts 11:14, 16:31; Romans 10:9).

The Spirit gives life (John 6:63; Romans 8:2, 8:10, 8:11; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Galatians 6:8). Just because you have a planet with water doesn't mean you'll have life. At the creation, the Spirit brooded over the waters because He brings life.

Male and Female

God created Adam and Eve. Jesus talks about these two people as LITERAL people (Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6). Your salvation is tied to them being literal people (Romans 5:12, 5:14; 1 Corinthians 15:22, 15:45; 1 Timothy 2:13, 14).

Notice 1:27: *God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

He created them equal. They're both made in His image.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. - Galatians 3:28

Chapter 2: Adam and Eve

[Read Genesis 2:1-9]

Why did God rest?

God formed man from the dust of the ground. Formed and shaped, like an artist, the body of man. He breathed into his nostrils and man became a living being, literally a living soul.

[Read Genesis 2:15-17]

The word used for tend can also be used for serve or worship. It's like Adam is to serve and worship in the garden. He's to guard it.

[Read Genesis 2:18-25]

Is this a contradiction? A lot of people will point out the supposed “contradictions” between the creations of chapter 1 and the creations of chapter 2. Genesis chapter 1 lays out the creation of everything. Genesis chapter 2 is a more detailed account of what happened on Day 6 and what follows. The two chapters do NOT contradict each other.

For example, God seems to create the birds out of water in chapter 1 and God creates birds out of dirt in chapter 2. Chapter two tells you why God did it: He created every animal out of dirt and brought it to Adam to show Adam that yes, He – God – did create everything. These animals from chapter 1 were not fortuitous occurrence of accidental circumstance, as evolution would say.

God also wanted to show Adam that he needed a partner. God causes a deep sleep to fall on Adam. Adam lost consciousness, he looked dead. God took one of his ribs *and closed the flesh up in that place*.

Out of Adam's side came his bride. God wants us to focus on this event. When Jesus was on the cross, the deepest sleep fell upon Him (He died) and the soldier stuck a spear in His side and blood and water came out. From that death, from His side, comes Jesus' bride: the church.

The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved.
- Matthew Henry

Genesis 3 – The Fall

[Read Genesis 3:1-7]

The serpent, the nahash, the shining one. The latin will translate this as “draconis.”

What does Eve do? She adds to the words of God. It might not be her fault, maybe Adam wanted to make sure she understood that this fruit was super bad so don't eat it, don't look at it, don't touch it, trust me and just stay away.

2:6 She saw that it was good. The woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise...

For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.
- 1 John 2:16

It was good for food – Lust of the flesh
It was pleasant to the eyes – Lust of the eyes
It was desirable to make one wise or like God – Pride of life

Then she gave it to her husband and he also ate. He was supposed to worship and serve and guard the garden.

When did they know they were naked? It wasn't until Adam ate that everything changed, that they knew they were naked.

Paul makes it very clear in 1 Timothy 2:14 that Eve was deceived, but Adam was not. Adam knew exactly what he was doing when he ate of the fruit.

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned – Romans 5:12

Sin enters the world. Death enters the world. Shame enters the world. They immediately make themselves coverings to hide their shame, to hide their sin.

[Read Genesis 3:8-13]

Who does Adam blame for the mess?

[Read Genesis 3:14-19]

God issues a prophecy that we will be following for the rest of the Old Testament:

*And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her Seed;
He shall bruise your head,
And you shall bruise His heel.” - Genesis 3:15*

Women don't have seed – they have eggs. We know from prophets and the New Testament that Jesus was virgin born. But this enmity between the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman will follow us throughout the scripture.

Starting in 3:15, we're going to have a funnel of possible candidates that can undo Adam's decision. That funnel will narrow and narrow until we get to Jesus. The seed of the woman applies specifically to Jesus, but all the children ever to be born will be descended from Eve so we'll just have to keep an eye out for one that is virgin born.

They decided for themselves what they thought was good instead of trusting God for what is good. That's where the sin came in.

Now the ground is going to be cursed. Thorns, thistles, sweat. Why did Jesus have a crown of thorns?

For the creation was subjected to futility (frustration), not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. – Romans 8:19-22

The Bible says the earth isn't experiencing death pains, but birth pains. Creation knows what it's supposed to be and groans in anticipation.

[Read Genesis 3:20-24]

God then sacrifices an animal and makes them clothes to wear to cover their sin. Blood is now shed and death has entered the world. Hebrews 10:4 “the blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sins.” The blood shed can only cover sins or hide the sins. But God is saying, “See this blood? This dead animal? That's what sin looks like.”

The devil asked “is it true...” The Word of God in the flesh comes and says:

I am the way, the truth, and the life. - John 14:6

The tree of knowledge → the serpent lies → the way to the tree of life is blocked

Jesus is The Life ← Jesus is The Truth ← Jesus is The Way for whosoever

Jesus – the Way, the Truth, the Life – will die upon a tree for our sins.

The earth is God's (Psalm 24). God gave tenant possession of the earth to Adam (Gen 1:26-28) to tend and keep it. Satan was able to take tenant possession of the land through Adam's disobedience in rebelling against God. Adam sold all of creation into slavery for some food. Satan now has squatter rights over all creation. When Jesus was in the wilderness, Satan offers this possession to Jesus if He'd just bow down and worship.

Peter 1:20 Jesus death “was foreordained before the foundation of the world.”

Genesis 4 – Cain and Abel

[Read Genesis 4:1-5]

Eve names the first born Cain “because she has created a man with the help of the Lord.” Eve names the second born Abel “breath of the mouth.”

[Read Genesis 4:6-15]

Cain kills Abel and plants/hides the body in the ground. God curses Cain, so that the earth itself will now fight him. He is to wander the earth, but places a mark on him so he won't be killed.

Who is going to kill him? The others – his other brothers and sisters. If God created Adam and Eve genetically perfect, then, yes, Cain would have married a sister. Genetics is like a VHS tape – the more you copy and copy and copy, the more imperfections will be added until you get a lot of problems. That is why when we get to Moses, God forbids close family members from marriage.

Cain leaves God and goes *east* to the land of Nod. Adam and Eve were kicked out to the east, Cain is kicked out to the east.

We meet Lamech, who is the first person to have two wives. He's also a murderer. When Cain killed Abel, God showed up and talked with Cain. When Lamech kills a man, God doesn't show up.

Then Adam and Eve have another son named “Seth” which means “appointed by God.”

Seth had a son named Enosh and men began to call on the name of the Lord. What does the NT say about people who call upon the name of the Lord? They will be saved (Acts 2:21). Saved from what? Judgment. So what do you think is coming in the next chapters?

Genesis 5 - Genealogy

What was with the long life spans in Genesis 5? The answer might be simple: our genetics was designed to live a really long time. Adam, lived almost 1,000 years – maybe that's how long we were designed to live. The Bible talks about the 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth and Isaiah says if you die at the age of 100, you'd be considered a young child.

Over time, more and more “noise” gets added to the gene pool so that after the flood you'll see the life spans start to decrease significantly.

Through one man sin entered the world and death through sin and death was spread to all men. - Romans 5:15