



Creation Redux
Genesis 2:4-17
February 2, 2020

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens. - **Genesis 2:4**

I. THE TOLEDOT CYCLE

- The refrain “these are the generations” (Heb. *toledot*) starts a ten-part cycle through Genesis. The word has a wider sense of “history,” and in Genesis introduces a new stage in the narrative (Gen. 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10, 27; 25:12, 19; 36:1; 37:2).
- These events take place in the “day” the earth and heavens were made (vs. 4).
- In Genesis 1 mankind was the climax. In Genesis 2, mankind is the central point. Everything is awaiting his arrival (vs. 5).

II. MAN AND THE GARDEN

- The picture narrows. God spoke humankind into being, but he also actively “sculpted” the male *'adam* from the earth (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7).
- In the old creation, God breathes life into man. In the new, Jesus breathes life into the church (Gen. 2:7; John 20:22).
- As humans created in God’s image, we are body and soul.
- The Garden was made for man and woman. It was “planted” by God and nurtured by elements he had created.
- In this Garden God has planted trees. Two trees are singled out. One brings life, the other knowledge that is forbidden and, although pleasing to the eye, is deadly (vs. 9; 3:6).
- Adam is given responsibility and positive and negative commands — eat of every tree, except one (vs. 15-17).
- The positive commands bring health and life, the negative command forewarns of a great curse (Gen. 2:15-17; 3:4, 19).

KNOW: God established man in a fertile world and gave him everything he needed to thrive, to work, and to worship. There was an intentionality in the creation of humankind that eclipsed all other aspects of his creation.

DO: Submit to the Lordship of Christ in your life. He is your Creator.

Suggested Reading:

From Creation to New Creation by Tim Chester (LifePoint Library #231.765 CHE).

God Dwells Among Us: Expanding Eden to the Ends of the World by G.K. Beale and Mitchell Kim (LifePoint Library #231.765 BEA)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Genesis 2:4-17

1. What is the overall theme of Gen. 2:4-17?
2. How was Adam created? Why is that important? What does it teach us about humans?
3. What type of place was Eden? How is it described?
4. What was Adam’s role in the Garden? What does that teach us about our role today as God’s stewards?
5. Why, do you think, did God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden in the first place?
6. What are some application points for you from Sunday’s message and/or passage?