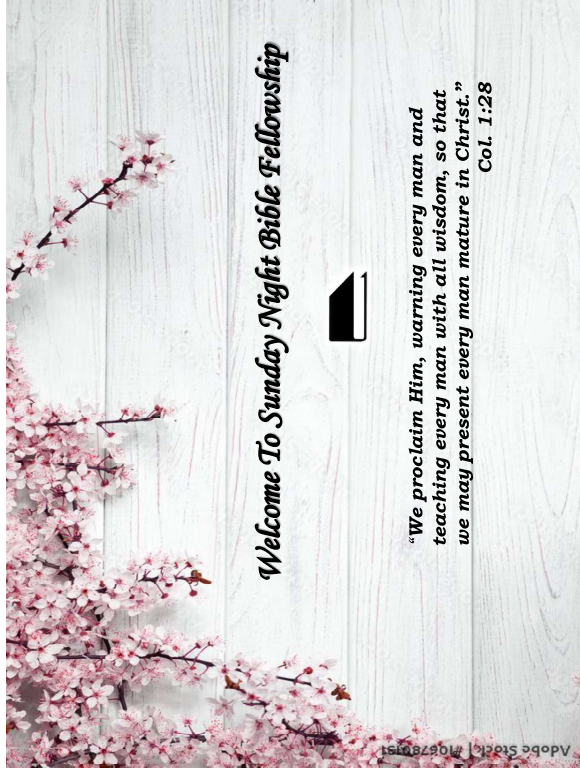




“Creating Ishshah”

Gen. 2:18-25

May 18, 2025

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25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

18 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.”

- All that God created to this point was “very good.”
- But going forward it is not good that man is alone.

“suitable” - **תֵּנָּה** **neged** - counterpart, a part that is opposite, a mate.

- Therefore, the helper is not a junior, or a lesser than, or a subordinate.

• Why is it not good for man to be alone?

1. Need for companionship to enjoy life.
2. Need for communication.
3. Need to reproduce.
4. Need to love someone.
5. Need to be a leader.

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- God now prepares the man for marriage and his future help-mate (wife).
- Notice that all of the animal kingdom, including the birds, come from the ground, not through some evolutionary process.
- All of these animals God brings to Adam for the purpose of naming them.
- This was teaching Adam to be a leader.
- Adam was executive vice-president of all of creation under God.
- **Note:** Adam did the naming and God never overruled Adam’s selection of a name – “that was its name.””
- This took great intelligence. Can you imagine the immensity of this task?
- This task also enlightened Adam to the idea of male and female. The males have a counterpart. But where is mine?

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- “cattle” are the domesticated animals.
- “beasts” – wild animals.
- Adam looks at all of the animals – giraffes, monkeys, dragon flies, crocodiles, armadillos, sparrows – and none would be acceptable. None would come close.
- God was creating in Adam a gnawing hunger for a partner.
- So, naming the animals was Adam’s pre-marital counseling session.
- So, there was no one to talk to, no one to laugh with, no one to romp through the meadows with, and no one to enjoy sexual intimacy with.

21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

- With Adam now yearning for a mate, God arranges the wedding ceremony.
- God puts Adam to sleep.
- That means Adam had nothing to do with the creation of Eve. God did not ask for his advice.
- God creates a woman while Adam slept.
- “ribs” - רֵאֵץ *tsela* - side, plank, timber. 20 of 35 times it is translated “side.”
- The assumption is that if it came from the side of man, and it is bone, then it would be a rib.
- **Note:** Man was made from dust and woman from Adam. Neither came from a woman.
- It was all supernatural – the creation of man and the creation of woman.

1 Cor 11:2-9

- 2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.
- 3 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.
- 4 Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head.
- 5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved.
- 6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.
- 7 For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man.
- 8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; 9 for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

Order of Creation

1. The fact that Adam was created first and then Eve, is important.
2. Adam was first created as the head and was responsible for all that was entrusted to him –

Care for the garden

Naming of animals

Eve

3. Even though Eve sins first, it is Adam that is held responsible because he was created first –

Gen 3:8-9

8 They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

9 Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

1 Tim 2:12-13

12 But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

13 For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve.

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- It is both bone and flesh taken from Adam.

"woman" - אִשָּׁה **'ishshah** - soft, woman, female, wife.

"man" - אָדָם **'iysh** - man, male, husband.

- Adam appropriately names his wife.

- **Woman:**

1. Is created, like Adam, in the image of God.
2. Is the counterpart to man.
3. Will meet Adam's needs in a loving relationship that will enable him to accomplish God's will for his life for the glory of God.

22 The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

"fashioned" - בָּנָה **banah** - to build, to form, to shape.

- God literally built a woman exactly the way He wanted to, to meet the needs of the man.
- As with Adam, the first thing that Eve saw, when she opened her eyes, was God.
- Now it is time for the first "wedding ceremony."
- God, the Father of the bride, will personally escort the bride "down the aisle" to Adam.
- There was no courtship, no dating. The first marriage was an arranged marriage.
- God led Eve through the garden to Adam.
- God Himself performed the first wedding ceremony as creator, minister, father and witness.

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- When Adam sees Eve, he gives a poetic exclamation! **"this is now"** – literally, "This is it" "She's the one!" (Oh baby! Where have you been all my life?)
- Adam knows this is his help-mate. She is like him . . . but different.
- It was love at first sight.
- This is Adam rejoicing in God's gift to meet his needs.

Prov 5:18

. . . rejoice in the wife of your youth.

Prov 18:22

2 He who finds a wife finds a good thing

And obtains favor from the Lord.

Ecc1 4:9-10

9 Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor.

10 For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion.

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Now you have both together –

- Both sexes are equally necessary to express the image of God in humanity.
- Both were to take on life together.
- Both were to engage in their relationship with God, making the garden beautiful, expanding it to cover the earth, having children, discovering creation, gazing at the stars.
- Both are needed to raise children. Each makes a significant contribution.
- Both are needed in society for their insights into business, the arts, athletics, and government.
- Both man and woman, as sexes, are equally bright, equally capable, have equal capacities, are equal in stature, and are equal in standing before God for salvation and spiritual maturity.

“The woman was 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 loved.”

24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

- For the human race, this is a general statement.
- Marriage is God's creation.
- 1 man, 1 woman, united together in marriage for life.
- Any sexual conduct outside of the marriage is wrong.
- Two women together do not make a marriage. Two men together do not make a marriage.
- A new home is formed under the headship of the man.
- The joining of the man and woman and becoming one flesh is a life-long process.
- Soon after the Fall, the marriage relationship was attacked and perverted:

Gen 3 – feminism
Gen. 4 – polygamy
Gen. 6 – angelic fornication
Gen. 9 – evil thoughts and words
Gen. 16 – adultery
Gen. 19 – homosexuality
Gen. 34 – fornication and rape
Gen 38 – incest and prostitution
Gen. 39 – seduction
Deut. 24 - divorce

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Singleness

1. Marriage is not the final destiny of anyone. In heaven, we will all be single.
2. Jesus Christ was not married. Lived a fulfilled life.
3. It is the sovereign God who ultimately chooses who is to marry and who stays single.
4. Singleness, as much as marriage, is a gift from God.

1 Cor 7:8-9,17

8 But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I.

9 But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

17 Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk.

5. Singleness has its own advantages.

Consider the extraordinary lives and accomplishments of single people in the Bible:

Elijah
Jeremiah
Jonah
Daniel
Stephen
Paul

25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

- Why would they be? What is there to be ashamed of?
- Their bodies are pure and holy and in no need of coverings.
- Body parts were only different features, to Adam and Eve.
- Taking of the forbidden fruit will give the knowledge of good and evil.
- So, when Adam and Eve sinned, they now had knowledge of the evil thoughts man has by seeing naked bodies.
- They had no idea that sexual desire could be wicked and twisted.
- They therefore had no evil or lustful thoughts running around in their imaginations.

Titus 1:15

15 To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.

Application

1. Woman was designed to bring glory to God by her partnership with man in a loving, complementary relationship.
2. Man and woman are joined in marriage under the sovereign providence of God.
3. Women are not the lesser of the two sexes.
4. Biblical gender roles establish the man and woman in complementary designed expressions of the image of God.
5. Singleness is an alternative to marriage, dependent on one's calling.