

Chapter 2 is a deeper, more detailed account of the creation of the land creatures and recounts the specific details of God forming the first woman from the side of the first man. While people today may find companionship, friendship, devotion, beauty and helpful service from some animals no animals can fully make up for the lack of the human companionship and support of the lifetime marriage of one man and one woman. While animals mate and reproduce after their kind as God specifically decreed when He made them, God, in His wisdom and love, provided far more than simply a female mate for the man. She was to be his companion, counterpart and a help meet (suited) for him. She was not made from the ground like God had made the animals and the Man. Woman was especially fashioned from the Man's rib taken from His side.

We are told here God had made all of the animals out of the ground before He had made the Man out of the ground. He had then brought them before the man to see what he would call them and to see if he found any suitable to be his companion. One creature naming another creature signifies one had authority to do so. (The Lord gave some of his disciples names. By accepting their new names they acknowledged His headship and right to do so.) Adam called the woman "Woman" for she was taken from man. The first woman was the only creature ever taken directly from the body of her male, her man. As such he was her head.

1Corinthians 11:7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. 8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels. 11 Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. 12 For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.

Though she was a true clone, except of the opposite gender, he was her head. The New Testament affirms the man's headship and applies it to all men and their wives, daughters, sisters, etc. Like the females of the animals, the woman would provide the womb for subsequent conception and birthing which would result in unique offspring, each permanently combining characteristics of both parents in one person. Truly this is the ultimate fulfilment of God's pronouncement "the two shall be one flesh" marking the permanence, uniqueness and intimacy of their marriage. The Lord Himself pronounced His will regarding marriage, divorce and unfaithfulness while here,

Matthew 19:4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man

leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Yet the picture is much more profound, for the Bride of Christ was in a figure taken from His spear pierced side and will become wife at His side forever and co-regent over the earth.

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

See also Revelation 21:2, 9.

All scriptural principles regarding marriage and gender distinctions are based upon the first few chapters of Genesis. They aren't mere local customs or brazen attempts to maintain male supremacy as appears to be the case in Esther 1:10-22. The New Testament presents God's way and will in Ephesians 5; 1Corinthians 11; 1Timothy 2; Titus 2; and examples throughout the New Testament.

First we read details how God made the first Man. Later (2:19) He reveals He had made the animals the same way as Adam, from the ground. They are living souls. Though reported before the forming of the animals out of the ground in chapter two, Man was created after the animals as reported in chapter one. He is a living soul, too. Is Man just a highly sophisticated animal as the evolutionists would have us believe? No, God made him different in one important aspect. He breathed into the Man's nostrils the "breath of life." That done, the creature with the "breath of life," the Man, then became a living soul as well. So the Man's body was first fashioned out of the dirt, apparently red dirt, for Adam means "red." Then he was given a spirit, Hebrew

“*ruwach*.” While the angels are creature-spirits without bodies this creature-body of the Man was given a creature-spirit. Then he was given a creature-soul like all the animals have. So Man was created, a unique creature not like any other living thing. All three known levels of *life, spirit, soul and body* are combined in one creature, Man, the only creature specifically made in God’s image and likeness. Glory to God.

But before fashioning the women for Man God had planted a garden for him at a certain site in the eastern part of Eden. It was watered by a mist rising from the ground. There was enough moisture to head up and feed four rivers which flowed out of Eden. Moses located the rivers for us by giving their current names when he wrote Genesis. So God gave the man a place to live and something to do there. He was given responsibility to maintain it and keep it— but he was all alone.

God also had given the man instructions and warnings for his conduct as the man in the garden. Take care of things, look after things, rule over things, and one prohibition. Don’t eat of a certain tree called the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. There was a dreadful consequence for disobeying. He would surely die in the day he ate of it. What was death? Had Adam witnessed death of any living soul? Had any animals died before the command was given? Millions had if the fossils are relics of previous ages of time before Genesis 1:2. What is this “die” thing anyway? Did the man know? How would he? God probably told him. Whatever Man knew in detail, the very fact there was any punishment for disobedience showed how important God considered obedience. It was such a simple command. Avoid eating of one tree. Just one! Obey! Not to gain favor with God. Not to retain favor with God. No mighty works required to gain favor with God, no mighty exploits demanded to retain God’s favor. One simple marker, one simple acknowledgment that God is his Creator. The created head of God’s creation was to be obedient and dependent upon his God. One simple decision to decline to eat a certain thing. Would he do this? Why not? God certainly deserved much more. What grace to even have made the man. To even have made me and you. And to have furnished and filled the whole earth with provisions and blessings for every need and whim of the human imagination.

After he gave the man his charge, his duties, his authority and his one warning, God created the woman.

What a thrill of wonder it must have been for him when he awoke to see this beautiful, graceful creature approaching him, perhaps a little shyly (Timothy 2:9). Was God simply a voice walking in the garden or had He taken some visible form for this momentous occasion? This is

the model for the father of the Bride presenting his daughter to the groom, transferring responsibility for her physical, emotional and spiritual well being. Adam awoke, perhaps a little sore and groggy. The scar would be a reminder to both of them and their many, many children for the rest of their lives, over 900 years. Just as Christ’s sacrifice to receive His bride was voluntary and fully informed, we presume Adam’s was too.

So the first human couple was created, male and female, one from the other, together viewed by God as having been made in His image and His Likeness. In the image and likeness of the divine “**US**” who purposed to make them “in **OUR** image and in **OUR** likeness.” The Human couple, male and female, complimentary each to the other is God’s intended two dimensional picture of the three dimensional God, the Trinity. A “Tri-unity” of three distinct, infinite, eternal, omniscient, omnipotent Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Adam and Eve were the lifetime pairing of two distinct human beings. Every marriage is that in God’s sight. Honor, observe and cherish the institution of Marriage.

Matthew 19:6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Honor, support and cherish the God given gender distinctions and marriage as He instituted it. Today’s world is trying to “scientifically” establish that the tendency to gender perversion is inborn in some. And it well may be, given the history presented Romans 1. Paul vividly documents this early descent of mankind in Romans 1. God gave them over to corruption. They reap what they sow. So today Satanic lies and teaching still stir the innate lusts of our corrupted race of beings. Comment: There is some evidence a tendency to alcoholism may be inborn in some. But scripture declares both drunkenness and gender confusion to be sins deserving of exclusion from the Kingdom of God

1Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God..

Whatever tendencies we may find within ourselves we are not bound to indulge ourselves in them. We are responsible for our own self control. For a believer, the fruit of the Spirit includes self control Galatians 5:22-23. We may call upon His power to maintain self control in our lives. Sin has no more dominion over those who have received Christ as Savior, Romans 6:_____

By Ronald Canner, March 10, 2010