

The Journey
Series 01: Creation
Week 05: God Creates Man

We are indebted to Ethnos360 for providing the basis of these lessons

Review (Where We Have Been)

Lesson 1: The Bible is God's message to ALL people

It's About God, Inspired by God, Preserved by God

Lesson 2: The Bible Reveals What God is Like

He is Eternal, Triune, Independent, Spirit, Present Everywhere, Highest Authority

Lesson 3: God Creates Angels, Heavens, and Earth

God is eternal and speaks with authority about the beginning of invisible/visible

Lesson 4: God is the Great, All-Powerful Creator

God creates the heavens and the earth and fills it in 6 days

Review Questions...

- How do we know God is all-powerful? *He simply spoke everything into existence*
- Why was God able to create all things perfect and good? *He is perfect and holy*
- God didn't need what He created, so why create? *To prepare the earth for man*

BIG Idea

Today we'll look at God's most prized creation.

God created His crowning glory - man.

The creation account tells us so much about God.

He allowed His character to be revealed through all He made because He intended for someone to appreciate Him, and to have the capability to respond to Him.

Let's step back into the Genesis account and discover why God made man and how he was a special reflection of His glory.

Information (What We Need to Know)

What does God do for mankind in the beginning?

Prepare Earth for Them

Isaiah 45:18 (ESV) For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; **he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!**)

Parents prepare for the arrival of a child (Fix up room; Acquire what's needed)

“In the same way, God prepared and made a place for man. The place He prepared was perfect because God is perfect.” – Firm Foundations

Make Them in His Image

Genesis 1:26 (ESV) Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

- *Us/our* refer to the triune God (Father, Son, and Spirit) planning for man's creation
- Of all God created on the earth, man would be the most important. God decided to make man *in His image*, making him superior to the animals.

What does it mean that God would create man in His image?

- **It's not a physical likeness** (God is Spirit; He doesn't have a body)
- **It's a soul and spirit likeness** (the part which cannot be seen)
 - ✓ **Like God, man would have a MIND (to think and reason)**
 - Man would understand what God wanted to communicate to him
 - Man would understand God's purposes and respond intelligently to Him
 - ✓ **Like God, man would have EMOTIONS (to be able to feel things)**
 - God wanted man to experience feelings (love/hate; sadness/joy)
 - God wanted man to feel pleasure and contentment
 - God wanted man to respond to Him emotionally as he grew in his understanding of Him
 - God wanted man to love Him back
 - ✓ **Like God, man would have a WILL (to make decisions and choices)**
 - Without choice, we'd be like an object controlled by someone else (a robot)
 - Without choice, man is forced to do what God tells him to do (like an object)
 - God values us and wants us to understand that He is our wise/loving Creator. Based on that knowledge, we're free to choose to love/obey Him.

Create the First Man and Woman

Genesis 1:27 (ESV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

We'll be dedicating a whole week to talking about the creation of woman, but we are studying chronologically so we'll look at man's creation first.

- **God created man's body from the ground**

- ✓ All other created things were spoken into existence or by God speaking to the earth to produce them
- ✓ However, when man was created by God He formed and fashioned his body from the ground
- ✓ Even though man's body was created, he was still without life (perfectly formed, but lifeless)

Genesis 2:7 (ESV) Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground...

- **The soul and spirit were given/created separately from the body**

Genesis 2:7 (ESV) Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

- ✓ God breathed into the nostrils of man, and he became a living being
- ✓ **ONLY GOD gives life** (all receive life from God and are dependent on Him)

- **Only ONE man was created from the ground** (ancestor of the entire human race)
- God commanded man and woman to have children so that the world would be populated

Genesis 1:28 (ESV) And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth...."

Place Them as Managers of All Life on Earth

Genesis 1:26 (ESV) Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

- Mankind would be God's representatives on earth (unique position)
Because God created and rightfully owns the earth, He could entrust it to whomever He pleased. He had the authority to do this because He is sovereign.
- Mankind would be God's caretakers of the earth (authority over the animals)
- Mankind would be God's likeness on earth (capable of using mind, emotions, and their will to govern)

Application (What We Need to Do)

Conclusions about God creating man...

- Man was created perfect
Genesis 1:31 (ESV) And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.
- God's angels (including Lucifer) witnessed God's creation of man
Job 38:4 (ESV) "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? 7 ...when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"
- God's not some impersonal force (as evidenced by creating man in His image)
- Man is not the result of blind chance or evolution (he was purposefully and lovingly created by God)