

# The Journey

## Series 01: Creation

### Week 06: God Places Man in the Garden

\*We are indebted to [Ethnos360](#) for providing the basis of these lessons\*

#### Review (Where We Have Been)

God creates His most prized creation – man

God's character is revealed through all He made because He intended for someone to appreciate Him, and to have the capability to respond to Him.

#### Review Questions...

- ✓ For whom did God prepare the world? *Man*
- ✓ How did God make man? *From the dust of the ground/breathed life into him*
- ✓ What does it mean that God created man in His image? *He was fashioned with mind, emotions, will so that man could know, love, and obey God*
- ✓ What responsibility did God give to Adam and Eve? *To be managers over the whole earth and everything in it*
- ✓ Who watched as God created man? *The angels, including Lucifer*

#### BIG Idea

Today, we are moving from ***creation to inhabitation***. God finished His work.

**Genesis 2:1 (ESV)** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. **2** And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.

- All creation was exactly as God had planned (He finishes what He starts).
- God rested (Hebrew word *shabat*, meaning to cease or stop) on the seventh day

*God places man in the garden, an environment perfectly created to inhabit.*

#### Information (What We Need to Know)

***What were the benefits, characteristics, and restrictions of the Garden of Eden?***

- As God is about to welcome man into the garden, we see Him identify as a personal, welcoming God (Moses moves from *God* to the *LORD*)

**Genesis 2:4 (ESV)** 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.

“In Genesis 1, God called Himself, *God*. There we saw that He is the great and mighty Creator. Here God called Himself, *the LORD*. In Genesis 2, we will see that, although He is the eternal One, unchanging and totally independent of all things, He seeks to have a close relationship with man.” – Firm Foundations

- Before man was created, the garden was maintained by a mist (rain was later)  
**Genesis 2:5 (ESV)** When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, **6** and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground
- God placed man in the garden and commanded him to take care of it (it was His right as man's Creator)  
**Genesis 2:8 (ESV)** And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. **15** The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.  
*Man would enjoy unexplainable beauty, provision, enjoyment, purpose, and fulfillment in the garden because of God's great love for him.*

- God placed two **special** trees in the garden of Eden  
**Genesis 2:9 (ESV)** And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
  - ✓ **Tree of Life**
    - God was Adam's ultimate source of life (God breathed life into him)
    - At this time, there was no sickness, disease, or death. But for Adam to live forever, he had to eat the fruit from the Tree of Life.

***Reasons God wanted Adam to willingly choose to eat from the Tree of Life...***

- So that he would never forget God created him (**Giver of Adam's life**)
- So that he would never forget that, because God had created him, God had the right to tell him what to do (**Authority over Adam's life**)
- So that he would never forget he was totally dependent on God for every breath he took (**Sustainer of Adam's life**)

*"If he chose to eat from the Tree of Life, he would agree that God was the source and upholder of his life and rightful authority" - Firm Foundations*

- ✓ **Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil**  
**Genesis 2:16 (ESV)** And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **17** but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”
  - God told Adam the consequences for eating from this tree
  - Eating would mean choosing to live independent of God

- God told Adam that death would be the punishment for disobeying Him  
**Genesis 2:17 (ESV)** ...for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.  
“Until this time, everything Adam had experienced was only good because God had provided everything he needed. However, at this time, God made it clear that if Adam wanted to be independent of God and disobey Him by eating the forbidden fruit, he would die.” – Firm Foundations

### **What did God mean when He told Adam that he would die?**

- ✓ Separation from a spiritual relationship with God (from God’s friend to enemy)  
*The very reason God had created Adam in His own image was so man could be in fellowship with Him and love and obey Him. But if Adam disobeyed Him, that part of Adam that was made in God’s image – mind, emotions and will – would be marred and separated from God. Adam would die spiritually, and the wonderful relationship he had with God would come to an end.*
- ✓ Separation (eventually) from his body  
*Adam would immediately be cut off from God – the source of his life – and so he would eventually experience physical death.*
- ✓ Separation of His spirit and soul from his body  
*If he disobeyed God, Adam’s soul and spirit would eventually be separated from his body. But this would not be the end of his existence.*
- ✓ Separation (eventually) from God forever  
*Having first died spiritually and then physically, Adam would then be separated from God forever and would never again have an opportunity to enjoy God’s love and friendship. There would be no way of escape from His judgment.*

## **Application (What We Need to Do)**

### **Concluding Questions...**

- Why did God have the authority to tell Adam not to eat fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?
  - ✓ Because He made Adam and gave him life
  - ✓ Because He loved Adam
  - ✓ Because He was wiser than Adam
- Why does God have the right to teach us?
  - ✓ Because He made and loves us
  - ✓ Because He wants the best for us
  - ✓ Because He is wiser than we are