

Session 5: The Creation of the Man, the Woman and the Garden

Key text: Genesis 2:4-25

Announcements

- PB starting “The Sierra Leone Chronicles” at twog.wordpress.com
- Marriage Seminar with Bob Moeller: Saturday, March 20. **Free!**
- Pick up a copy of *The Cross-Centered Life*, by C.J. Mahaney, and check out the NHC discussion blog at newhopechurchmn.blogspot.com

Prayer: For the Guatemala team, and for the elders in a time of difficult and important decisions.

The Creation of the Man, the Woman and the Garden

We are beings who do not accept the world as it is; something in our instinct, in our collective consciousness, tells us that the world at present is out of sync—there has to be a better time, a better place. ...[But] Paradise comes at a cost. To live there, one must submit to the rule of an *other*, the owner of the garden. This is an essential feature of paradise: Do we choose to live in the garden and submit to the master? Or do we choose our own reign and face expulsion?

– Bruce K. Waltke, *An Old Testament Theology*, 248-49

Group Study and Observations:

I. Superscription (2:4)

II. Man on Probation (2:5-17)

- A. Setting (2:5-6)
- B. Creation of *Adam* (2:7)
- C. The Setting of the Probation: *Paradise* (2:8-14)
- D. The Probation (2:15-17)

III. The Gift of the Bride (2:18-23)

- A. Setting (2:18)

B. Preparation of Man for the Gift (2:19-20)

C. Creation of the Woman (2:21-22a)

“[The Woman is] not made out of his head to top him, not 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 beloved.” (Matthew Henry)

D. Gift of the Bride (2:22b-23)

IV. The Epilogue (2:24-25)

Suggested reading for next week’s seminar discussion

Scripture to study: 3:1-6:8

Bruce K. Waltke, *Genesis: A Commentary*, pp. 90-120

David Atkinson, *The Message of Genesis 1-11*, pp. 80-132

Worship: *Fairest Lord Jesus* German Jesuits (“*Schönster Herr Jesu*”)

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul’s glory, joy and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forever more be Thine.