

In The Beginning: Session 04 – The Creation of Man

Review: The Six Days of Creation

- Day 1: the creative power of God to do whatever He wishes
- Day 2: the firmament, the waters above and the waters below
- Day 3: land comes forth; God makes everything according to its own kind
- Day 4: God appoints the sun and moon
- Day 5: living creatures in the seas and skies
- Day 6: the creatures that live on land, and Man

Dominion: Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

- It is God’s prerogative to give something away if He wishes. God delegated to Man the right to control or administer the Earth.
- Make a distinction between the Earth and the “world”
 - *The earth is the LORD'S, and the fullness thereof...* (Psalm 24:1)
 - *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* (1 John 2:15)

The word for world: *kosmos* = the world-system.

- Similar to the “world” is the “age,” as we see in 2 Corinthians 4:4: *the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not...*
- The Greek word *aion* means there is a situation in which the enemy is running the world-system, temporarily.

God gave Man some measure of dominion over the Earth: *You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet...*

(Psalm 8:6)

Male And Female: Genesis 1:27-28

- God establishes that His order and design for Mankind is the union of male and female.
- God’s design does not include homosexual activity of any kind, to say nothing of homosexual unions or marriages.

The First Sabbath: Genesis 2:1-3

1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

- And on that first Saturday, God rested: He ceased, or stopped working. (*shabath*)
- Later, the Sabbath was a covenant between the Lord and Israel, because He

rested on the seventh day. He wanted His people to rest and to honor Him.

- It is something that seems to be built into the rhythms of the creation itself.

Sabbath Controversies

Is Sunday the Christian Sabbath, or should believers keep the Saturday Sabbath, etc.?

- In Colossians, Paul states that feast days and even the Sabbath itself are shadows of Christ and His salvation. Even the Sabbath was designed to point to something higher, which is the finished work of Jesus and the fact that He is my rest.
- *For he who has entered His rest [meaning the rest of Jesus] has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.* (Hebrews 4:10)
- *One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it.* (Romans 14:5-6a)

Earthly Conditions When Man Was Made: Genesis 2:4-7

4 This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, 5 before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; 6 but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground. 7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

- It did not rain on the earth in that time.
- *Adam* means Man, it means Mankind, the human race, and so forth.

Man's Creator: YHWH

Moses now for the first time uses God's personal, covenant name, Jehovah or Yahweh.

- Most often translated as Lord in older Bibles, but often with capital letters so that we are aware of the difference. The word for Lord in Hebrew is Adonai, but when you see those capital letters you know the text is actually saying the Divine Name: Yahweh, spelled in Hebrew:

יהוה

- In Hebrew these are the letters yod-he-vav-he, corresponding to the English YHWH. This is called the *Tetragrammaton*, meaning the word with four letters.
- This Name is connected to the verb *hayah*, meaning “to be.” God is the existing One, the self-existent One.
- A name with a lost pronunciation, simply read as Adonai or HaShem (the Name).
- In English this word is better known as Jehovah, but this is not accurate. We can get a sense of the true pronunciation of YHWH by looking at *theophoric names* (names containing the Divine Name):
 - Isaiah = Ishiyahu
 - Elijah = Eliyahu
 - Netanyahu = gift of Yahu, or Yah
 - Hallelujah = make praise to Yah.

Formed Out Of Earth

When it came time to make the crown of his creation, it says he **formed** Adam.

- The wonderful humility of God as He literally shapes us.
- Next, God breathed into Adam's nostrils.

The Breath Of Life

Whenever God breathes on something, there is an impartation of life. Moses said that God breathed into Adam the breath of life.

- A literal act of breathing: *naphach*
- He breathed breath: *neshamah*

He breathed into Adam the breath of *lives*:

- Animal, or biological life
- The life of the soul, and the life of the spirit. ("I pray that your whole spirit, soul, and body will be preserved until the day of Jesus Christ.")
 - The soul = self-awareness
 - The spirit = the part of you that is designed to interact with God and with the spiritual world.

*All quotes NKJV except as noted. New King James Version®
Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*