

God's Creation— MAN

The Purpose

The book of Genesis is filled with firsts. Firsts of matter, first of light, of water and land, of plants, of animals, and at the height of it all – MAN.

Much like man imagines his invention, God has a purpose in His creation!

Every aspect of creation, met a particular purpose in the minds of God. Minds, because there were 3 entities in the God-hood, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each united as one, and the Creation illustrates their working together as one. This defines unity from the beginning. Gen. 1:1-4. Vs. 2 – Spirit, Vs. 3 – Son/speaker (Jn. 1:1-3 confirms), and vs. 4 – Father/designer.

John confirms Jesus as the Word, and thus He directs mankind through the Word. It's up to mankind to hear, understand, and do as directed.

With God there are no options to please Him, just as the rest of Creation pleased Him by doing as told.

Man's Uniqueness and Ability

- Unlike the rest of creation, God created man with unique qualities: Volition, intellect, reasoning, and in the image of God – a spirit, Gen. 1:27.
- By putting Adam and Eve in the garden, God gave them responsibilities, to care for the garden. They were to live off the garden, but were warned not to eat of ONE Tree, the “Tree of the knowledge of good and evil”, and if they did, they would surely die. Adam was given the responsibility of naming all animals. After doing so, we see that man had no mate/help-meet. All the animals were male and female, and were to procreate/reproduce. Adam could not so God made woman for him, from his rib and the ground, Gen. 2:23-24. She had a purpose, to be a helper for Adam in fulfilling God's tasks he was given. All life could fulfill God's purpose to procreate and follow His commands. Gen. 1:20-31. Each gave birth to their specific specie/kind.
- Man's uniqueness gave Him choice, the ability to choose to reject God or obey God. This sets man apart from the rest of creation, which does as told.

Man's Purpose

- Contrary to belief, man was NOT made to sin, nor live with sin.
- To please God, we are to obey Him, PERIOD! ***This was the purpose of the whole of Creation.*** Man had to desire to please God, and choose to obey.
 - ***Gen. 3*** –Satan came to tempt man with alternatives/options. The ability to question God's position, vs. 3. Vs. 4- you won't die (which they had no idea what that was), and physically they didn't, spiritually they did. God's point was, you won't like it. Vs.5, you will know what God knows: good and evil. (Who wouldn't want to have that knowledge and wisdom? Solomon did!) Satan knew God knew both good and evil, and God confirms when they chose to cast them from the garden. ("...like us to know good and evil")
 - ***God provided 2 trees: (1) Tree of Life, and (2) Tree of Knowledge – Good and Evil.***
 - Remember that Eve saw knowledge, a benefit. How do we know the tree gave knowledge?
 - Genesis 2:25 – They were naked and not ashamed. (innocence) ie. Babies.
 - Genesis 3:7 – After eating the forbidden fruit, "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked: and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." God confirmed, Genesis 3:10,11.
 - They also knew what to do with the nakedness, making clothing of fig leaves (insufficient though). God made sufficient clothing to cover them with skins. Vs. 21
 - Sets the tone, within these verses, for the rest of scripture. Atonement and Redemption

Case in Point! Job

- This Book is considered to be the earliest book of the Bible.
 - Consider the content: Chapters 1 & 2. God and Satan communicated closely. 1:6-12. Again, in chapter 3. Consider, also, the topic: Job, a specific man God was proud of, because he was righteous, perfect, and eschewed evil, vs. 1. **HE SERVED GOD!**
 - Satan's argument: You are so proud of him, you built a hedge around Job, with blessings. But, instead Job was rewarded for his service to God. Satan was allowed to remove the blessings as a temptation, 1:1-19. Satan's removal was a test to see if the blessings were really the reason for Job's service! Vs. 20-21 was the result from Job's viewpoint. Job didn't blame God, nor did he stop serving God. Again, Satan argues with God: Let me affect him personally! 2:3-10. Even used his wife, vs. 9, but he answered, vs. 10. Satan was limited in his testing Job. (And is limited in testing/tempting us today, 1 Cor. 10:13) You would think that Job would relent from serving God just from the pain. **BUT NO!!** Satan used the wife and his 3 closest friends. (2:11– Chapter 20)
 - Job's response, maybe I did transgress against God?? He sought pardon from God, 19:1-4. But he never blamed God. His patience got him through it all! Notice James 5:11.
- This paints a clear picture of God's purpose in man: to choose to serve God.

Adam & Eve

- We commonly think of the time between their creation and the time they sinned as being very brief. It couldn't be!!
 - How long would it take for you to name every single animal on the earth? Now add to that all the animals that no longer exist?
 - So for a period of time, they were functioning properly, listening to God, and doing what He told them. AND, during this time they walked in the garden together. Thus the concept, “walked with God” implies they were righteous –without sin. (also Job, Enoch, Noah, Elijah, and Jesus)
- A man with sin is broken and needs repaired.
 - Plan of redemption given.
 - Meantime, you are broken and lost! Castaways: Gen. 3:22-24.
 - God didn't want them to live forever with the knowledge of sin, and doing so.
 - God desired the original picture. A creature that He spoke, and they chose to do.

Conclusion:

- God did not create man to sin, but to serve Him!
- Man was not made to live with sin! So broken and must die!
- God chose to fix man with atonement and redemption, if man chooses.
- God understood the importance of the knowledge from the trees. The importance of choice.
- We DON'T have to sin, and God would rather we didn't!!
- BUT, if we do, we are no longer pleasing to Him, and are worthy of death, Rom. 6:23. Promise of life, if we realize we are broke and repent, turning back to God, listening and obeying. Seek His forgiveness and live, walking His walk, and talking His talk.
- We are never tempted beyond what we are capable of doing God's Will. 1 Cor. 10:13.
 - **This describes the true Christian!**