

OHCC High School Class/August 2009

Genesis 2:4-25

1. Genesis 2:4-25 is the second of a tri-structured account of God's creation (the last is in Gen 5:1-2).
2. Read Gen 2:4-25 and skim over Gen 1:1-2:3 and compare with your reading of 2:4-25. What is similar and distinctive between the two portions?
3. How does it appear that chapter 2 "fits" with chapter 1?
4. What particularly changes in the descriptions and focus in chapter 2?
5. How might you counter the claim that there are multiple, conflicting accounts of creation?
6. What type of environment was Eden? What sort of qualities about it does Moses admire? How would you describe the home made for the man?
7. Summarize the freedom, responsibilities, and restrictions given to the man for his life in Eden. How does morality show up in the purposes for humanity from the very beginning?
8. Focusing upon man's creation and his surrounding environment, how might you describe the relationship between him and the world, particularly Eden? In what ways did Eden, as a gift from God, provide for him? In what ways was Eden insufficient or lacking as a provision?
9. Why does God initially bring the animals before Adam?
10. Why this step before creating the woman?
 - In what ways is this an intermediate act of creation?
 - What might this step "create" within Adam?
11. Compare and contrast the woman's creation to the man's and the rest of creation. What distinguishes her creation from others? What does the man recognize concerning this distinction?

Next Week

1. Try reading through the entire book of Genesis. This will add to your overview of the book and help you clarify how Moses laid it out.
 - Monday: Genesis 1-3
 - Tuesday: Genesis 4-11:26
 - Wednesday: Genesis 11:27-22:19
 - Thursday: Genesis 22:20-28:9
 - Friday: Genesis 28:10-37:1
 - Saturday: Genesis 37:2-50:26

2. Think a bit about the following and be ready to talk together next week:
 - a. How does Genesis 1-2 help us to think about what it means for humans to bear God's image?

 - b. Environmentalism is a major focus in our world. In what ways does our world affirm or get wrong what it means to care for the environment, according to Gen 1-2?

 - c. What do we learn about the gift of marriage from Gen 1-2?

 - d. What does Gen 1-2 lead us to understand about God's relationship to the world?