God Creates Adam and Eve

Genesis 2:4-22

BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

God Creates Humans

God communicates through the Bible to give us a spiritual message—to tell us of his love and his plan for us. Because of this focus, we can't always expect everything we read in the Bible to fall in strict chronological order.

Some scholars see problems in the differences between the accounts of the creation of humans in Genesis 1 and Genesis 2. Others, however, see the account in Chapter 2 as an elaboration of Chapter 1. But notice the emphasis in both accounts: God did it. The emphasis in this account is not upon the creation, but upon the Creator.

God Creates Adam

In Genesis 2:7 we see a bit of the "how" of Adam's creation. It's interesting to note that humans were the first of creation not simply spoken into being. God personally formed Adam out of the earth. And then one more difference appears: God breathed life into Adam, and he became a living being. Many here translate *being* as *soul*. No other creature was given that designation. Genesis 1:27 tells us that humans were created in God's image. And after the creation of humans, God announced that his creation was not only "good," it was "very good" (Genesis 1:31).

God Creates Eve

Adam's need for a mate didn't come as a surprise to God. The parade of animals for Adam to name had a purpose beyond the naming: It pointed out to Adam that he was alone, that he didn't have a mate like him—someone who could share his life. After helping Adam come to this realization, God created woman.

Adam and Eve Become One

Many appropriate conclusions have been drawn from Eve's being created from Adam's rib—from his side—such as the intent that the two work side by side, that they be equal to each other in standing before God, and that they become "one flesh" in the bond of marriage. However, Adam lost a rib to make Eve. Without her, he was incomplete. And without Adam, Eve wouldn't have existed. Together, man and woman became a whole being, able to stand together and support each other against the forces that oppose them—just as God had planned from the start.

The Jesus Connection

God made us his very special creation, and because God is good, he gave us Jesus to show us the way to live for God's glory. Take a moment to thank God for the individuals in your ministry and for the unique and beautiful way he created them. You can ask God to help you show them how important they are and write your prayer here.