

God Provides for Mankind

1. The creation of man;
2. the fall and death of man;
3. and life again;

Through the Love, the Righteous, and Mercy of God.

1. Creation of man:

relating man to God's Authority

1. The garden of submission:

The creation of man:

Genesis 1:1-26 (NRSV)

1. **Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness,** for them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and all the earth and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

2. **So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them.**

3. 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."

4. And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed to you I shall give to you."

5. And I have given you every green plant for food, and every tree whose fruit yields seed I have given to you for food." And it was so.

Genesis 1:27 (NRSV)

6. Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.

7. 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 created and made.

8. 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.

9. And every plant of the field was in the earth and every tree of the field had green. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no **man** to till the ground.

10. And a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.

God gives a more detailed account of man's creation:

2. **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.**

God creates the garden of Eden:

3. **And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden** (where the garden was where He had formed).

4. **And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food.** The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

5. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four headwaters.

6. The name of the first is Pishon, which flows into the land of Shinar, where there is gold.

7. And the gold of that land is good, bdellium and the onyx stone are there.

8. The name of the second river is Tigris, it is the river which flows around the whole land of Assyria.

9. The name of the third river is Euphrates, it is the river which flows around the land of Shinar. The fourth river is the Tigris.

God begins to teach man his need to submit to His authority:

6. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

7. **And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;**

17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Spiritual death

Unable to have fellowship with God
Unable to please God in anyway

Man was created an autonomous free being.

Man is dependent on God to sustain him, he cannot sustain himself.

So he must submit to **God's authority.**

And having been created a free moral agent, **HE MUST CHOOSE TO SUBMIT** to that authority.

God is teaching man who he is in relation to his CREATOR

18 And the Lord God said, "It is not good for man to be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

19 And of the ground the Lord God made every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to man to see what he would call them; and whatever man called a living creature, that was its name.

20 And man gave names to the cattle and to the birds of the air and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was no helper comparable to him.

21 And the Lord God said, "I will make a helper comparable to you, out of one of your ribs; and I will set her with you, and you shall be her helper."

22 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

23 And of the rib which the Lord God had taken from Adam, He made a woman, and brought her to Adam.

24 And Adam said, "This is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of my side."

2. The fall and death of man:

Man fails to tend to submit to God's authority

1. This test in the garden was about **humility**, will man with his limited knowledge, humble himself and submit to the infinite knowledge and power of his creator?

The serpent tempts the woman:

Genesis 3:1-13 (NRSV)

1. Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "The God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?'"

2. And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

3. Except the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat of it; nor shall you touch it, for you die.'"

4. Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

5. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil?"

Man fails the test:

6. So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, **she took of its fruit and ate; she also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.**

7. When the eyes of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

8. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

God speaks to Adam, to give an account for his actions:

9. **Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"**

10. He said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, for I was naked; and I hid myself."

11. And He said, "Did I not tell you that you were to die? Then you were from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

12. **Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."**

13. And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" **The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."**

Pronouncements from God the Righteous Judge:

14. **To the Lord God said to the serpent:** "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all other animals, and you shall creep on your belly, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life."

15. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; she shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise her heel."

16. **To the woman He said:** "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; because you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

17. **Then to Adam He said:** "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it:' Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life."

18. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field."

19. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."

3. God offers Life again:

In His Love, His Righteous, and His Mercy

1. So the problem was guilt and the result of that was **death**:

The real issue, is to solve the problem of death

Man's responsibility was to humble himself and submit under the Creator's authority

It was absolutely essential that man submit to God's authority
When God created, all things were dependent on Him

Genesis 3:14-17 (NRSV)

16. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Romans 7:14 (NRSV)
For the inward sin, who are you to reply against
God? Will the thing formed say to those who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?"

Jer. 17:9 (NRSV)
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