

## Creation: Day 6 (Part 3)

Genesis 1:26-31

August 7, 2016

### Introduction

One of the strangest discussions we are having today is the identity of male and female. Some people are confused about this and are wanting to change this identity. Males can identify as females and females can identify as males. Once more, their attempt to change the definition is actually an attack on what the Bible says about human beings. God created them male and female. He created them different and created them to complement each other.

In this last study of creation, we see how God has made man and woman and how He has given them purpose and responsibilities. We are complete when we are transformed into the likeness of Christ and fulfill the purpose and responsibility God has given to us. What is this purpose and responsibility? It is important to understand that God has given male and female equal responsibility.

**Genesis 1:26-31** *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." 29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. 31 God saw all that He had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.*

### I. Multiply

- Fruitful
  - Procreate: having children
  - Only in the framework of marriage

**Genesis 2:24** *For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.*

- Fill the earth
  - They are responsible for filling the earth of their own kind
  - It takes two to fill the earth (male and female)
  - God's unique design

### II. Subdue

- God has given man and woman the responsibility of ruling over the earth
  - Man is to be the king of creation
  - God has given man two areas of responsibility
  - To cultivate and to rule over animals
  - It is important to note that God expects us to train our children how to do so as well
- Cultivating

- Subdue the earth
- Place the earth under his rule, control
- To take care of His creation
- He expands on that order

**Genesis 2:15** *The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.*

- What kind of work was it?
  - We do not know because there was no death or decay in the garden of God
  - All we know is that man is to cultivate the garden and cause it to flourish
- God is giving man an opportunity to honor Him by managing His creation
  - We call this stewardship
  - Taking care of things that God has given us
  - We need to remember that God owns everything in creation
  - What has God given us to take care of?
    - The gospel
    - Time
    - Money
    - Myself

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*

- Ruling over animals
  - Control over animals
  - Man has complete responsibility in caring for all animals
    - Man does not have the right to abuse animals or treat it cruelly
  - Animals belong to God

**Psalms 50:10-11** *for every animal of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. 11 I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are Mine.*

- He gives us command to take care of them

**Deuteronomy 25:4** *Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain.*

**Deuteronomy 22:10** *Do not plow with an ox and a donkey yoked together.*

- Broken rule
  - When man sinned, the whole earth was cursed
  - Cultivating plants and subduing animals became much harder

**Genesis 3:17-18** *To Adam He said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.*

- Plants now have thorns, poison, drugs

**Genesis 9:2** *The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands.*

- Animals now fear man, making it harder for man to control it
  - Animals attack in fear
- Man express cruelty to God's creation
- Restored rule
  - Man's rule can never be like in the garden of God
  - Not until the Lord Jesus Christ comes back and reigns during the Millennium
  - During the Millennium (1,000 years described in **Revelation 20:1-6**)
    - Christ will be the Supreme Ruler of the earth
    - Almost everything will be restored to that like the Garden of Eden

**Isaiah 11:6-9** *The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. 7 The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. 9 They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.*

**Isaiah 51:3** *The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; He will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing.*

**Isaiah 65:20-25** *"Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. 21 They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. 22 No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of My people; My chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands. 23 They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them. 24 Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. 25 The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain," says the LORD.*

- It will be a glorious reign of Christ as God has originally intended in the Garden of Eden
- The saints will reign with Christ for 1,000 years

### III. Blessings

- To subdue the earth
  - The earth is to belong to man and woman
- Fill the earth

- Having children is a blessing from God
- Plants for food
  - Think of the variety of plants
    - In looks (shapes, sizes, and color)
    - In texture
    - In taste
      - Sweet, salty, bitter, sour
  - He created us to enjoy food
  - Man and animals were created to be vegetarians
    - Man did not eat meat until after the Flood

**Genesis 9:3** *Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.*

- All the blessings are for man to glorify God and enjoy Him forever
- He saw that it was all very good
  - No death
  - No decay
  - All working together perfectly