

“A Garden Grows”
Genesis 2:4-17

v. 4a What is the subject matter of chapter 2:4-25?

Why is this needed? Why give another account of something that was just given? Note: ESV and KJV give a better rendering of the Hebrew “toledoth” and lead us to a better idea of what is happening. “Toledoth” is translated as _____.

A. “Toledoths” are grammatical _____ that tell us another subject is being introduced or that a particular account has a different _____. As we will see, it will focus on day six, the creation of man, his placement in the Garden, and in the creation of a woman.

v. 4b What is the additional name that is given to God?

This is called the “Tetragrammaton” due to the Hebrew consonantal construction: _____.

During the Second Temple period (Zerubbabel), the Jews were strictly forbidden to speak this name out of renewed reverence and substituted the word _____, which means _____. This is called “Kethibh,” (what is written) and “Qere,” (what is said). The final grammatical substitution is called a “Qere Perpetuum” which means that whenever you see the word _____ you say aloud, _____.

Because of this, English translations write out the word _____ (all capital letters) whenever the word _____ is originally written.

Note: Historically, the name and meaning are given in Ex. 3:13-15.

In verse 14, God tells Moses that his name is "Ehyeh, Asher, Ehyeh," "I am what I am." or simply "Ehyeh." Interpreted as "My name will become evident through my _____," or some dynamic translations will say, "I will be what you need me to be." In rabbinic commentaries, it is explained as "God will be _____ with you in every need."

The Holy Spirit is choosing to use it in the narrative of Gen. 2:4b to _____ connect Himself to the subsequent _____. It is used 19x in this and the next chapter.

Q. What is so important about this name in connection to the New Testament?

A. Jesus uses this to reveal his _____ in John 8:58 and John 18:4-6.

Note: LORD God = Yahweh (covenant name) _____ (Ultimate Ruler/Judge). This is the first time this combination of names is used.

Note the reversal of creative order in verse 4b. What does this indicate?

A. It tells you that the focus is on something different, i.e., something related to the _____.

v. 5 What describes the earth at this particular time?

- a. No _____.
- b. No _____.
- c. No _____.
- d. No _____.

Note: The first two have also been distinguished as that which will be cultivated/tended for future purposes (food).

Q. How do we reconcile this with the third day when God created vegetation?

A. The answer is in the verbs associated with it, i.e., yet appeared, sprung up, etc..

v. 6 How did God water the earth?

A. "...but streams came _____ from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground." (Gen. 2:6 NIV)

v. 7 What did God do next in this text?

A. ⁷ "Then the LORD God formed a _____ from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." (Gen. 2:7 NIV)

Q. What does this verse in connection to our answer in verse 5 about creative order, tell us about God's view of the earth (i.e., vegetation)?

A. God's _____ even for creation (vegetation) was displayed in that He _____ until they had a care giver before He caused them to grow.

Q. From what two elements (compound) was man created (*asah* not *bara*)?

A.

1. The earth (dust/dirt)
2. Divine breath.

Interesting...

AND GOD FORMED" — ויִצַר Here the letter yod is written twice to intimate that there were two formations — a formation of man for this world, and a formation of man for resurrection; in the case of animals, however, which will not stand after death for judgment before God the word referring to their formation— ויצר —(Genesis 2:19) is not written with two yods (Midrash Tanchuma, Tazria 1). (Rashi, Gen. 2:7)

Q. What is the difference in focus between 1:26 and this passage?

A. One is focused on spiritual image; the other on elements of being

Q. What animated or gave him life?

A. God's breath/word.

Note: Ezekiel 37:10 and John 20:22. What do these verses further our understanding?

Ezekiel 37 = connected to a prophetic word

John 20 = connected to new "spiritual" life

v. 8 Q. Who planted what where?

A. ⁸ Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. (Gen. 2:8 NIV)

- Q. What does this infer about Adam that will be different from Eve?
A. Adam was not _____ here; Eve (Havah) was.

Note: "Garden" is a from the Hebrew word, "gan" and means a "protected or fenced off place."

Note: "Eden" literally means, "pleasure ground" or "ground that is pleasing or brings pleasure." The Greek word is, "paradison" from which we get the word, "_____." The Latin word is "voluptatis" from which we get the word, "_____." All of these words present us with a picture of something exceedingly beautiful with flowers and trees and flowering trees and all kinds of sights, sounds, smells, and things to touch that would bring man and...God pleasure.

- Q. What does this say about God's heart toward man?
A. He wants to bring us _____, not just _____ for us.

v. 9a Q. What did God cause to grow in this garden?

A. ⁹ "The LORD God made all kinds of _____ grow out of the ground-- trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food."
(Gen. 2:9 NIV)

- Q. What other things can we know about God from this passage?
A. He is a God of aesthetics/_____. He is a God who delights in providing for us in different and _____ ways (different types of food).

Q. What does this tell us about art?

A. It has its _____ in God as Creator.

Note: The early definition of art was, "That which _____
and _____ one's Creator."

v. 9b Q. What were the two trees in the middle of the garden?

A.

1. _____ →

2. _____ →

Note: We need to remember that everything that God made was declared _____, so the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was a good tree. I hold that it functioned much like the _____. It served as both instructor of what pleased and displeased God, and that which experientially _____ a person to death through violating the commands attached to it.

v. 10 Q. Where was the source of the river?

Q. What does it turn into?

A. ¹⁰ A river watering the garden flowed _____ Eden; from there it was separated into _____ headwaters. (Gen. 2:10 NIV)

Note: Some scholars view Eden as the original _____ of God. If so, there is some consistency with Revelation 22:21-22.

v. 11 Q. What is significant about the first river and where it flows?

A. ¹¹ "The name of the first is the _____; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is _____." (Gen. 2:11 NIV)

Q. Where is Havilah?

v. 12 Q. What does this description reveal?

¹² “(The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.)” (Gen. 2:12 NIV)

A.

1. His _____ properties.
2. His foreknowledge of His _____ and man's needs/desires.

v. 13 The second is called the _____.

Q. Where does it go through?

A. _____. But this is not the country of Ethiopia. It was the old land of the Kassites.

Q. What is the modern-day country?

A.

v. 14 Q. What are the other two called and where are they located?

¹⁴ “The name of the third river is the _____; it runs along the east side of Ashur. And the fourth river is the _____.” (Gen. 2:14 NIV)

A. Both rivers currently run through the modern-day country of _____.

Q. Was Eden a real place?

A.

Q. What happened to it?

A.

v. 15 Q. What did the Lord do with the man?

A.

1. He _____ him from where he was created and put him in the Garden God had prepared for him.
2. He gave him a life _____.

Q. What does the second part mean, i.e. to work it, to care for it? Is it the same thing or are they different?

A. Literally means, "to _____ it up" and "to dress it or _____ it."

vv. 16-17 Q. What did God command?

A.

- 1.
- 2.

Q. What was the consequence?

A. Disobedience = death

Q. How did Adam understand the consequence?

A. He understood it only in the sense of _____ for God. Death was a concept that had no basis of understanding. Nothing had ever died. Any disobedience would have been to _____

God's love, goodness, and knowledge of what is best. It was first and foremost a test of _____; not a threat of punishment.

Q. Why didn't the Lord tell him he couldn't eat from the tree of life?

Q. Was it necessary for him to eat from it to stay alive?

A.

1. It was included in "_____" the trees.
2. He was given physical life before he was put in the garden so it does not appear to be necessary in that sense.
(_____ _____; man was not necessarily designed to live forever but could potentially)
3. From 3:22 – God removed this tree so that he would
"_____" live forever in a state of sin.