



# Study #8

## Questions for Genesis:

The First Couple: Part 1 (2:4-9)

NAS Genesis 2:4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven. 5 Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth; and there was no man to cultivate the ground. 6 But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. 7 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. 8 And the LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### DAY 1

1. Read Genesis 2:4-25. What title would you give this section of scripture?
2. How does the purpose in 2:4-25 compare and/or contrast with the purpose in 1:1-2:3?
3. What makes 1:1-2:3 so important in setting the backdrop for 2:4-25?
4. The Hebrew word for “account” in verse 4 is *toledoth*. The NASB translates the word “account”, whereas the KJV translated it as “generations.” *Toledoth* is by far most commonly used to communicate “generations” or “genealogies.” In fact, it is only one time translated “account.” What is the significance of understanding the word as more accurately referring to “generations” or “genealogies”?
5. Referring back to chapter 1, it is clear that God created everything within a span of six days. Verse 4 refers to “the day that the LORD God made the earth and heaven.” Is the use of “day” here different from the use of “day” when it is used in chapter 1? How do you know? Why might this be an important question?

### DAY 2

6. What four main descriptions related to the earth do you discover from verse 5?
7. Chapter 1:11-13 describes God creating vegetation on day 3. However, Genesis 2:5 makes a statement that, on the surface, seems to contradict what we read regarding day 3. What is that apparent contradiction? Can you think of a way to reconcile this (If you can't, move on in the study and come back to this question later. Perhaps you will be better able to answer it then!)?



8. Consider the following passages, along with a few Hebrew references (you might want to look at the following passages within their larger context):

A. NAS Genesis 1:11 Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation (*deshe*), plants yielding seed (*esev zara zera*), and fruit trees bearing fruit (*peri ets asah peri*) after their kind, with seed in them, on the earth"; and it was so.

B. NAS Genesis 2:5 Now no shrub (*siach*) of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant (*esev*) of the field (*sadeh*) had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth; and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

C. NAS Genesis 3:18 "Both thorns (*qots*) and thistles (*dardar*) it shall grow for you; And you shall eat the plants (*esev*) of the field (*sadeh*); By the sweat of your face You shall eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."

Could in Genesis 2:5-6 be pointing out some differences between a pre-fall and post-fall state? Explain.

Is there possible a change in diet from pre fall to post fall? Explain.

9. Regarding the garden of Eden Genesis 2:5 declares "Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted..." The passage then provides 2 reasons. What two reasons does Moses provide?
10. Verse 5 says that the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth. Clearly, there was a time in which there was no rain. Are there any clues in the larger context of this passage as to how vegetation was watered?

This passage indicates a time in which the hydrologic cycle as we know it did not exist. However, it does not speak as to when such a cycle was put into effect. What are some possibilities regarding the inception of the hydrologic cycle as we know it?

### DAY 3

11. What truths about man do you discover from verse 7?
12. What does God use to form man? In what ways does this give reason to question the theory of evolution?
13. In what ways is God's creation of man different from His creation of other living creatures?
14. What are two significant things we see God doing in verse 8?

15. What do you know about the garden that is described in verses 8-9?
16. In the Garden of Eden we see God causing to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food. What is the significance of this? Is there any application in this for you personally? Explain.
17. Two trees in particular are given special attention. Describe those trees. What do you know about those trees (feel free to cross reference)?
18. What truths about God do you discover from this passage?
19. In what ways does this passage minister to you personally?
20. In what ways does this passage challenge your beliefs or lifestyle? Can you think of any personal applications derived from this passage? Explain.

### **options for teenage adults and children**

Assigned teens should pick one option and come ready to share. Teens are free to use their creativity and come up with a different idea! Please allow your parents to assist you as you prepare for Care Group.

Another option is to give the teen some time during the Care Group meeting to prepare one of the following and then have one of the teens present to the entire group.

- Please create a timeline of events as revealed through 2:4-9. Be sure to illustrate those events.
- Imagine you have been asked to teach these verses to a small class of deaf people. You have nothing to write with. You are left having to present these verses through body movements. Please come up with a 2-5 minute presentation in which you seek to teach these verses to a class of deaf people.
- Come up with 3 ways in which this passage might be applied. Be ready to share your application along with how that application is derived from 2:4-9.