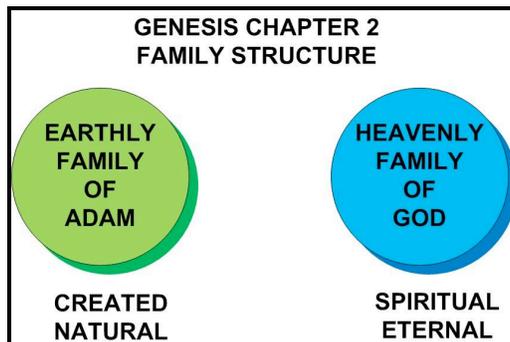


FALL QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2013

THEME: FIRST THINGS

Unit One: First Days Unit Two: First Nation Unit Three: First Freedom

“MEET ADAM AND EVE...GOD’S FIRST FAMILY ”



Sunday School Lesson No. II – September 8, 2013

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text:	Genesis 2:18-25
Required Reading:	Genesis 2:1-25
Motto Text:	Genesis 2:18, “ <i>And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.</i> ”
Reliable Resources:	Logos Bible Software; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Standard Commentary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library

INTRODUCTION

We now embark upon God’s creation, the human race. It is without question that humanity is superior to all of the earthly beings in God’s creation. Note Psalm 8:3-9, “*When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas. O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!*” According to the Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator: “We live in a day when the natural and normal relationship between man and woman has been disturbed by society. The normal sexual relationship has been perverted in the minds of many to something sinful and discouraging to the sincere Christian. We can only recover the right viewpoint by learning how God established the human relationship at the time of Creation.”

So let us go back to the beginning and meet Adam and Eve, God’s first family. **Anticipated Power Points:**

- **The Setting.** Genesis 2:7-17
- **The Solitude.** Genesis 2:18
- **The Strategy.** Genesis 2:19-20
- **The Stillness.** Genesis 2:21-22
- **The Surprise.** Genesis 2:23
- **The Security.** Genesis 2:24-25

LESSON OUTLINE

I. The Setting for the First Family. Genesis 2:7-17

A. God demonstrates His care. vss. 7-15

After the creation of Adam the first man, God prepared a most suitable home for him by preparing a garden paradise as his home (vss. 7-9). God further demonstrates His care by giving the garden a tremendous irrigation system by creating a wonderful river to run through it that would divide into four great rivers of tremendous influence of life (vss. 10-14). God teaches us that there was never to be a sense of idleness in man by giving him a vocation as a gardener and the greatest job, working for the greatest employer (vs. 15).

B. God’s distinct commandment. vss. 16-17

Of every tree in this paradise of God, the man could freely eat, but of the one tree in the middle of the garden called “*the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*” he was not to eat under the sentence of death! Warren Wiersbe declares:

“Adam was a perfect creature, one having never sinned, but he had the ability to sin. God made Adam a king with dominion (1:26ff). But a ruler can only rule others if he can rule himself, so it was necessary for Adam to be tempted... This test was perfectly fair and just.”

II. The Solitude of the First Man. Genesis 2:18

The statement has been made, “Silence is golden,” to which we might concur because of this crazy, never resting society. But God had a purpose for Adam’s solitude and was for Adam’s personal observation. In the realm of this paradise in which Adam had been placed, he was able to note in his solitude that the animal world had been created with great beauty and distinction. Also, they were all in pairs that had compatible functions. They shared their lives with each other, but Adam had no companion or one who was compatible with himself. Oh that we humans would admit the truth of our personal solitude in which we truly reflect and have truth sessions with ourselves. God needs us to walk in personal truth with ourselves and with Him.

God’s Word in Genesis 1:31 says that everything in His creation was **“very good.”** But in 2:18 He makes this seemingly contradictory statement, **“It is not good that the man should be alone.”** This is God’s way, not as an afterthought, but of saying, “I have yet one more act of creation to finish the job.” But why the solitude? I believe it was for Adam’s sake, that he would like all men to realize that we are not complete as the human race without the ability to share, stare and care for a woman who would help us fulfill our role and desire in Him. Thank God for the **“help meet,”** meaning a suitable equal partner. Notice no other could fill this position; not a pal, pet or even parent fills this bill!

III. The Strategy to Create the First Family. Genesis 2:19-20

As God would do years later for Noah, He brought the pairs of animals for Adam to name and over which to exercise dominion (Gen. 7:9). Again, the strategy of God allowed Adam to labor and look at the created beings of God. He was able to realize there was a distinction in the animal kingdom, male and female, but for him there was none to sustain his species or compatible for his fellowship and comfort as he gave names to the animals. vs. 20

IV. The Stillness of God’s Hand on the First Man. Genesis 2:21-22

The Psalmist wrote in 46:10a, **“Be still and know that I am God...”** Most of us get busy trying to figure things out and make things happen, but God made Adam still and performed surgery on him. God reached within the man and took a part of the man and formed (creatively developed with precise skill) just what the man needed and had now come to desire. Why? Because Adam stood still and allowed God to do His best work. Oh that people would learn to be still and let God do His best work in their relationships and seek the Lord’s will for their lives as it relates to a mate. Don’t be led by fleshly lust, but seek the Lord’s will and be still and know that He is God! (Read Philippians 4:19)

V. The Surprise for the Man. Genesis 2:23

God awakens Adam after a perfect surgery and presents to him his “dream love,” the one he earnestly searched for while doing God’s work! When God walked this bride down the aisle of His garden, He was pleased, knowing that she would be received by Adam. And so as God unveiled this special surprise gift to man, Adam, with total acceptance, declared (“this is the one that I’ve been looking for”) – **“This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman.”** In the scholarly sense “Ishshah” (Heb.) means “she-man, man with a womb.” This totally distinguishes her from “Ish,” (Heb.) for male or man without a womb. Matthew Henry wrote: “The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected, and near his heart to be beloved.”

VI. The Security of the First Family. Genesis 2:24-25

God’s security for the first family and your and my families rests on four words: **“Independence, Commitment, Intimacy and Transparency.”** When these four entities are in place the marriage is secure and the family will have longevity! Mark 10:7-9 states, **“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”**

Closing:

Quoting the Woman’s Study Bible, “Marriage is a threefold miracle. It is a biological miracle in which two people actually become one flesh; it is a social miracle by which two families are grafted together; it is a spiritual miracle in that the marriage relationship pictures the union of Christ and His bride, the church (Eph. 5:23-27). God clearly intended transparency and openness as part of His plan for the successful marriage relationship – vulnerability without shame (Gen. 2:25).”

Bibleway Missionary Baptist Church, New Orleans, LA & Little Bethel Baptist Church, Amite, LA

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 19768, New Orleans, LA 70179-0768 Phone: (504) 486-7876

Website: www.thestudyhour.com (See and hear lesson taught via Video)



Radio Broadcasts: WLNO AM 1060, Saturday 8:30 a.m.; Sunday 5:30 a.m.

WHNO TV-Channel 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.

LOOKING AHEAD: September 15, 2013 Genesis 3:8-17, 22-23

Pastor Davis invites you to attend the Sunday School class that he teaches at Bibleway on Wednesdays at noon.