

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
SEPTEMBER 29, 2021
GENESIS 2:15-25

INTRODUCTION:

1. Why are we here? What is our purpose? Humanity has searched for the answers to these questions throughout the ages and has failed to come up with an adequate answer.
3. In Genesis 2, God Himself reveals the purpose of our existence in the creation account.

I. CONTRIBUTION

- A. **GENESIS 2.15:** *Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.*”
1. Garden of Eden: Garden – “enclosure”; Eden – “delight.”
 2. In the garden, *“there was no man to till the ground.”* (Gen. 2.5)
 3. The first man was created for the purpose of taking care of the garden.
 - a) **GENESIS 2.5:** “Till the ground” (Heb., “abad”) Literally, “to serve.” (v. 15)
 - b) **GENESIS 2.8:** “To keep” (Heb., “samra”) Literally, “to guard.”
 4. It wasn’t until the fall of man that tilling the ground became difficult. (Gen. 3.17-19)
- B. God created humanity as people designed to contribute to society.
1. Generally, God expects us to work.
 - a) We are expected to work physically. (2 Thess. 3.6-10; Prov. 24.30-34)
 - b) We are expected to work spiritually. (Eph. 2.10; Titus 2.14)
 2. Specifically, God has created each one of us with a purpose. (Ps. 139.13-16)

II. COMMANDMENTS

- A. **GENESIS 2.16:** *“And the Lord commanded the man...”*
1. Permissive: *“Of every tree of the garden of you may freely eat.”*
 2. Restrictive: *“but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat”*
 - a) Nourishment, Knowledge, and Eternal life. (Gen. 2.8,9; cf. Deut. 1.39)
 - b) There was only one restriction. (cf. Gen. 3.22)
 3. Punishment: *“for in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die.”* (Gen. 2.17)
- B. The purpose of humanity is still to live in obedience to God’s commandments.
1. **ECCLESIASTES 12.13:** *“Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all”*
 2. Our entire lives are to be centered around giving honor and glory to God. (Rev. 4.11)
 3. How do we honor and glorify God? By keeping His commandments. (Lev. 10.1-3)
 4. Why do we honor and glorify God? Because we love Him. (1 John 4.10.19; 5.3)

III. COMPANIONSHIP

- A. **GENESIS 2.18:** *“And the LORD God said, “It is not good that man should be alone”*
1. We were created to be social creatures in need of companionship. (Ecc. 4.9-12)
 2. **GENESIS 2.18:** *“I will make him a helper comparable to him.”*
 - a) Helper (ezer): Literally, someone who provide assistance.
 - b) Comparable (neged): The idea is one who is appropriate, a partner.
 3. **GENESIS 2.19,20:** The search for a comparable helper. (cf. 2 Sam. 12.3; Heb. 2.5-8)
- B. Humanity has a relationship with humanity.
1. **GENESIS 2.21-25:** *“from man He made into a woman and brought her to the man”*
 2. Even Jesus needed His friends. (Mark 3.14; Matt. 26.36-38)
 3. The church is a group of people who support each other. (1 Cor. 12.25,26)