

Sermon Notes on Genesis 2:4-25

15/8/2021

Male and female created by God for each other

Outline

1. Man created and given life by God (4-7) (all living things had the 'breath of life' given by God (1:30; 2:19))
2. Human responsibility ('man' represents humanity – see 1:28) – obedience linked with life (8-9)
3. Man's role of oversight ('man' represents humanity – see 1:28-30) in God's creation (15-17, 19-20).
4. Adam cannot find a suitable helper/companion, God provides. God's creation of woman – support 'suitable helper' – to be in relationship to man (= 'male') – institution of marriage (18- 23)
5. New relationships – male and female together constitute humanity (see 1:26-27) - lived in harmony (24-25).

Key issues.

1. God is the sole creator
2. Emphasises - 'Man' (ie humankind) has a special role in having authority over and responsibility, before God, for His creation. (v. 15-20 and 1:28-30)
3. Importance of the 'tree of life' and the 'tree of the knowledge of good and evil' (meaning?) (v. 9, 17)
4. Final creation of woman (Eve)- a suitable companion, support for man (Adam). (V. 18, 21-22))
5. Institution of marriage – separating (from birth family) and uniting (to form a new family), also joining of two families. 'bone of my bones, flesh of my flesh' (v. 24-25), emphasis on sameness, gender differences assumed via complementarity.

Reflection/Response

1. How do we express our partnership as men and women in marriage and in other relationships?
2. How do we support married couples and how do we respond to problems?

3. How do we show in our church family relationships and ministry our commitment to express together, as men and woman, God's image?
BB