Genesis

## **The Creation of Man and Woman – Day 6 (2:4-25)**

*From a study of Luther’s Works: Lectures on Genesis, Paul Kretzmann’s Popular Commentary of the Bible, and the Lutheran Study Bible.*

## **The Narrative Begins (2:4-6)**

* These are the generations.
  + A literary device that is used throughout Genesis to introduce a new stage
    - 5:1, 10:1, 11:10, etc.
* And we repeat already
  + Another account of creation.
  + Repetition = Pay attention; this is important!
* No plants, no rain
  + At a time before the vegetation began to produce
  + There is also thought that there was no rain until the time of the flood
* ~yhil{a/ hw"hy> (yahweh ‘elohim)
  + Yahweh (Jehovah) (LORD) God
    - The first time the proper name for God is used in Scripture
    - Vowel pointing
    - The unspoken name

## **The LORD God Forms Man (2:7)**

* Formed
  + Same word used for molding pottery
  + This is different from what we had heard take place in the creation account where God spoke.
  + This is hands-on and personal.
    - Isaiah 64:8
* Man of dust from the ground
  + ~d'a' (‘adam) = man, Adam
  + hm'd'a] (‘adamah) = ground, soil
    - Psalm 103:14
    - Job 10:9
    - Ecclesiastes 3:20
* Breathed into his nostrils the breath of life
  + The LORD God gives man His own breath
  + Not the animals
  + Job 27:3
  + Points to an eternal life

## **The Garden in Eden (2:8-17)**

* The LORD God planted
  + An extension of God’s creative process for man.
  + A place set apart and aside for something uniquely special
* In Eden
  + A luxury, paradise.
* In the east
  + Of what?
  + Does it matter?
* The Tree of Life
  + A tree we recognize from Revelation
    - Revelation 2:7, 22:2, 14
  + A tree that was meant for enabling eternal life.
* The Tree of the knowledge of good and evil
  + A tree we recognize as forbidden
    - 2:17
  + A tree we recognize from the fall
    - 3:22
  + A tree that is set apart for the worship of the LORD God.
* A river divided
  + Before or after the flood?
* Adam’s purpose
  + To work and keep
    - No cases of the Mondays here!
  + Stewardship
* The LORD God speaks to Adam
  + Eat, but don’t eat
  + Luther regards this as the establishment of the church before the home
    - Shows man was created for another purpose over that of other beings
    - No slaughter of oxen, burning of incense, vows, fasting, or bodily torture.
    - All God desires is that Adam praise God, thank God, rejoice in God, and obey God
  + If you eat from the tree of knowledge, you will surely die
    - A Law is given to Adam
      * No sin = no death
        + Not a good thing
        + Romans 6:23
        + Yet what about eternal life?

## **Something is missing (2:18-25)**

* The LORD God recognizes something
  + The first time something is “not good”
    - Not based on sin, but incompleteness
* There is a problem with alone
  + We get into more trouble that way
    - 1 Corinthians 11:9
    - 1 Timothy 2:13
* A complementary helper is needed for God to *make*
* Creation paraded before Adam
  + Adam names
    - And notices nothing “fits”
* So…
  + Nap time for Adam
    - Minus one rib
  + A reversal of the pattern for creation
    - Dust to flesh is now created (built) from the man
    - Yet still done with the LORD God’s own hand
    - By making her out of something of Adam…
      * God makes a complementary helper for Adam
      * God sets the created order
        + 1 Corinthians 11:9
        + 1 Timothy 2:13
      * God gives her to the man/Adam
* Adam’s response
  + WOWZA!
  + She is worth the wait (“at last!”)
  + “bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh”
    - Of common/one flesh
    - Matthew 19:5
  + Adam continues with his task to name God’s creation.
    - Woman
      * From man
      * Woman/she-man
      * hV'ai (Isha) = Woman
      * vyai (Ish) = Man
* Marriage is instituted (v.24)
  + God, Adam, or Moses?
    - In marriage, that which was separated is reunited to “one flesh”
      * Back to the WOWZA
    - After the fall we see the pain when the flesh that is brought together is torn apart.
      * The further the flesh goes to being united, the greater the pain of separation.
* No problem with nudity.
  + Pre-fall, there is no problem with lust