## Genesis 2:18-25 Creation of the woman

<sup>18</sup> And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." <sup>19</sup> Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. <sup>22</sup> Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> And Adam said:

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called

Woman (Hebrew: isha), because she was taken out of Man (Hebrew: ish)."

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. NKJV

Facts to consider regarding the sequential order in creation of the woman:

- ✤ It was a decision of God Himself, His reasoning as well as His approach to it.
- God said, "<u>It is not good</u> that man should be alone, I will make him a helper comparable to him."

Man has natural sexual needs that need to be considered as we can see when God gave the Law regarding sexual behavior in [Leviticus 18:1-30]

And man's fallen nature is revealed in [Romans 1:18-32] where God addresses the sexual tendencies of a sinful human nature to go so far as to gravitate to bestiality (sex with animals) and homosexuality (sex with the same gender).

God knowing the level to which man was going to fall addressed the problem in an unmistakable approach at the very beginning as He said, **"It is not good."** 

- ☆ The solution to the sexual need of the man is to create for him a companion that is in every respect proper, <u>suitable</u>, <u>fit</u>, <u>meet</u>, and <u>compatible</u> not to mention <u>comparable</u> to the man. (see various translations for your appropriate word or synonym)
- $\Rightarrow$  So God demonstrated by sequential approach His answer to the problem.
  - 1. First, out of the ground He formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them, and whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.

This was the first act of taking dominion over every part of creation. It was also an introduction of every living creature that God had made for man to evaluate.

2. We see the proper evaluation in Adam's response when it says "but for Adam there was not found a helper <u>comparable</u>, <u>suitable</u>, <u>fit</u>, or <u>meet</u> for him." (see your translation for your word for this text.) Thus indicating that of all the creatures of God's creation, there is none that is suitable for man. Therefore it is necessary for God to do something special for a suitable companion for man.

- 3. After the above fact was well established and Adam acknowledged its truth, then and only then did God take the next step to provide that suitable companion. God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept, and God took one of Adam's ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.
- 4. Then with the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, He made a woman and brought her to the man.

Notice [v. 7] that man was made from the dust of the ground, but [v. 21-22] the woman, we learn, was made from a higher order - from living tissue from the side of the man, from part of his own body. Being made from part of his own body, man should cherish her and prize her above all else in creation.

- 5. Adam's response, when he saw the naked little beauty that God was presenting to him, since he had already evaluated all other living creatures, was an important revelation: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called woman because she was taken out of man." All other created things were made from the dust of the ground, but the woman was made from part of the man's own body.
- 6. God's answer to the man was; "Yes, therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and they shall be one flesh."

Jesus said, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female' and said 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh" [Matthew 19:4-5] Thus Jesus was indicating that it was indeed God Himself Who said it.

This is why Scripture is abounding with commands for the husband to love his wife, because she is a *special creation* made to complete the man and to be a suitable, fit, meet, compatible, and comparable companion for the man; one for whom the man is willing to leave all to make her a part of himself.

- ☆ The man is to love his wife like Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her, that he might sanctify and cleans her with the washing of water by the Word so as to present her to himself as glorious without spot or wrinkle or any such thing that she should be holy and without blemish. [Ephesians 5:24]
- A husband ought to love his wife as he loves himself by nourishing and cherishing her just like Christ does the Church, remember, no one ever hated his own flesh.
- ☆ He should be understanding, giving honor to his wife as the more precious and fragile vessel and as being equal heirs together of the grace of life. Otherwise his prayers will be hindered. [1 Peter 3:7]
- Don't forget [Malachi 2:14] where God tells us that He is "witness between you and the wife of your youth."

## $\Rightarrow$ They were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

This is a line that God did not have to put in the text to tell of His work of creation. It is a fact that many men have attempted to cover up by saying that they could not see their nudity because of their glorious appearance in the purity of innocence.

But God wanted to point it out to us specifically so we may know that there is no sin in nudity itself and in fact it was while they were both naked that God Himself declared it, **"Very Good."** 

Sin is attached to nudity by the disobedience of man toward the commandments of God and a result of his guilty conscience bringing shame to every aspect of his life as is apparent in the next chapter.

A body made in the image of God cannot be a shameful thing until it is defiled by sin, and then it is not the body that is shameful but the guilt of the sinner.

On the day of Judgment the conscience will play an important role with the thoughts either accusing or excusing as we stand to give account to God for the things done and the thoughts entertained in the decision we made. [Romans 2:14-16]