

## **Genesis 1:26-31 – The Highlight of God’s Creation**

Handfuls, TSK, HebrewLexicon, Notes, JFB, Henry, Calvin, Poole, Gill, Pulpit, Delitzsch, Whyttock, Geneva, Armstrong, Sailhamer, Gaebelein, Beloved in the Lord: **God-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-created the world, not by evolution, but by his powerful word.**

After God made the world with the land, water, and sky, and God after equipped them with beauty, animals, and plants, God then made the pinnacle of his creation: Man!

**When the world was properly equipped, with all things necessary, then and only then, God made man!**

You will hear about this today!

Our headings are:

**The Pinnacle of Creation**

**The Purpose of Creation**

Our goals are: That you will **understand your place and purpose in creation and be moved to fulfill it because you have been restored to a right relationship with God through Jesus.**

### **The Pinnacle of Creation**

26 Then God said, "**Let Us make man in Our image**, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 **So God created man in His own image**; in the image of God He created him; **male and female** He created them. 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, **and indeed it was very good**. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

**1. God formed man after everything was prepared, showing man was the pinnacle of his creation.**

**2. God did not make man by his voice command, as how he made everything else; God made man with his own hands, forming him out of clay...and God breathed the breath of life in man.**

Man’s creation was **not the impersonal, “Let there be!”**

**Even man’s first reproduction was done by God**, making Eve out of Adam’s rib.

**God gave man a perfect soul...free from any corruption and with an inclination to do good.**

What a contrast from man's work today!

After a hard day's work man often finds he has made mistakes.

A woman might over-salt the food.

A surgeon might make a mistake and cause injury.

Not God! His work was perfect.

Even man's most complex machinery has to be improved with no end in sight.

The 1<sup>st</sup> "desktop" computer was 25m long, and weighed 27 tons.

God never had to upgrade his product! Never! Bill Gates must improve! Not God!

**3. God gave man specific commands of how to live, so man knew what God expected him to do.**

**4. God gave man bountiful promises if man remained faithful to him.**

Among those promises was that man would live forever if he obeyed God's commands.

Keeping God's law in a state of perfection would have confirmed Adam to eternal life.

**5. God gave man a will and power – will and power to do God's will.**

Man did not have any inordinate passions. He loved to please God. He was inclined to praise God.

**6. God made man in his own image.**

This does not mean Adam and Eve were little "gods," but it means they had characteristics as God – that God gave them, though not to the same degree.

**God could love, man could love. God was just, man was just.** This perfect soul was called by a scholar "the candle of God in man."

It is a glimpse of who God is. Man was made with a little of the light of God in him.

Man wanted to stay close to God to reflect that light.

### **7. God is described as creating man 3X. Why?**

God wanted to convince man God made him; **he was not a product of time, chance, and matter.**

And 3X mentioning of God creating **man shows the real Trinity did the work: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in creation.**

### **8. Since man was the pinnacle of creation and described as very good, it is obvious that man has a closer relation with God than the land and animals.**

### **9. Lessons:**

**a. Man didn't come from a bacteria that had crept out of primordial slime, became apelike and then become man!**

God made man as he is...or actually better than he is. (Man devolved; he did not evolve.)

All of man's troubles, his resulting poor looks, his health issues...are all because of sin!

**b. Know who you are: Your father Adam was perfectly made, but he deliberately ruined his perfect condition.**

But know (and be thankful) God provided a way back. So love God more!

**c. There are only two genders: male and female.** Won't it be great if our PM, judges, and social engineers knew this? There is only one kind of family.

### **The Purpose of Creation**

28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply**; fill the earth and **subdue it**; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." 29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; **to you it shall be for food.** 30 "Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on

the earth, in which there is life, **I have given every green herb for food**"; and it was so.

### **1. What was God's goal in creation?**

**Everything was made for the glory of God. This means the primary purpose of man is to glorify God.**

Romans 11:36 For of Him and through Him and to Him *are* all things, **to whom be glory forever.**

1Corinthians 10:31 - Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.**

### **2. The 1<sup>st</sup> way man is to glorify God is to have fellowship with him.**

Animals, because they were not made in the image of God, have no ability to have true fellowship with God.

Yes, God provides for them, but God never chose to spend private times with animals, as the Lord Jesus did to Adam every evening before the fall.

**Even when that fellowship with man was lost, because of God's love for the gold of his creation, he sent his Son to die for the gold of creation so fellowship with him could be restored.**

### **3. The 2<sup>nd</sup> way man is to glorify God is to have dominion over the world through good rule and godly children.**

**a. Adam had to have and teach his children** about the covenant of works that God established with him.

**b. Adam had to take care of the world,** which reflected the rulership of the one in whose image he was made! He had to rule the fish and the trees, the sky and the rivers. Animals weren't his equals!

**c. Adam had to enjoy the benefits of the world as he ruled it – food, intimacy, the Sabbath.**

All 3 of these things brought glory to God. This command has never changed.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "**Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "**teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you**; and lo, **I am with you** always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Ezekiel 36:11 "**I will multiply upon you man and beast**; and they shall increase and bear young; **I will make you inhabited as in former times, and do better for you than at your beginnings**. Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD.

**4. God absolutely provided everything man needed so man could do his work and glorify God.**

#### **5. Lessons:**

**a. Worship God in church and in the home is for your instruction, but the primary goal is for you to know how to work to glorify God.**

What a contrast from "you must love yourself first," philosophy!

**b. Those who confess their sins to animals (or ask forgiveness) before they kill and eat them don't understand the Bible and end up worshiping the creatures rather than the Creator.**

**c. The call to have dominion over the earth does not mean man may become a tyrant over creation and refuse to care for it.**

It does not mean you can senselessly cull animals for fun. When you cut down trees – which is a good thing, plant new ones.

Don't pump poisons into the river.

Take horribly smoky cars off the roads.

Don't over-farm the land; give it rest to recover.

If man does not care for the world, he will rob himself of its goods and rob God of his glory.

**d. Put effort into having and raising godly children.** This will bring glory to God. Now Canadians have 1.3 children per family.

Many have selfishly refused to have children because they want to invest their time in themselves, or be world travelers, or not to hurt their body.  
Godly women are hurt when God's providence prevents them from bearing children.

And yet, they can still put in the effort to help care for other people's children.

**e. This command to have children is given in the context of family – one man, one woman.** God's goals have not changed!

Homosexuality is anti-God's glory.

Not all "love" is "love," just like not all "water" is "water." Sewer "water" is "water," but it is not drinking water.

**f. A man is complete when he has a wife.** This is the norm.

This is strong motivation to love your wives and to teach your sons to love their wives.

It is a strong motivation for young women to get godly men with whom you may have godly children. Men are weak without women. Why? You are not a product of evolution. That's how God made you.

**g. Those who live adulterous lives and hate marriage are in rebellion against God.**

**h. Because man lost that ability to accomplish the goals set out by God, man needed to be restored in order to begin to fulfill that goal.**

That restoration of man's ability to fulfill God's goals in creation is restored by Christ's sacrifice in the place of sinners on the cross.

Ephesians 4:22 - that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

God continues to provide everything man needs to do the work he has called him to do.

## **Conclusion:**

Man was the pinnacle of God's creation – created in the image of God and given a wife to help him and to have children with her.

Adam had no diabetes, no depression, and no cancer! He had power over all the animals. If he told a cobra to move away, it did! More, Adam only had inclination to do what was good.

**That good work was to have dominion over the earth for the glory of God.**

Beloved in the Lord Jesus:

**a. Even though man sinned and lost the ability to fulfill the creation mandate, and even though his family became corrupted, God restored man that ability by re-creating him in Christ.**

**b. So start to have dominion over the world by evangelizing and discipling the world for Christ.**

Start this by having children, and raising those children for the glory of Christ.

Let them be salt to a tasteless world!

Finally, if you are not under the dominion of Christ, surrender.

Give up! If you willingly submit and accept his sacrifice as yours, and plead that to God, you will be brought into his kingdom and given rich blessings.

If you don't, you will be crushed with a royal crushing and sent to hell.

I pray to God you will make the right choice.