

The Nature of Things Genesis 1-3

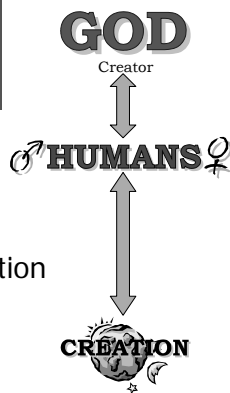
- 1.27: So God created humankind (*adam*) in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

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- 2.7: The LORD God formed *adam* from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the *adam* became a living being.

Relationships that Define Human Being

- God >< human
- human >< creation



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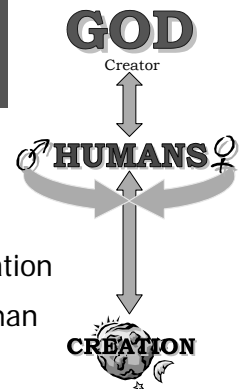
- 2.15-17: The LORD God took the *adam* and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the *adam*, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

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- 2.18: Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the *adam* should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ...
- 2.23-24: Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."
²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Relationships that Define Human Being

- God >< human
- human >< creation
- human >< human



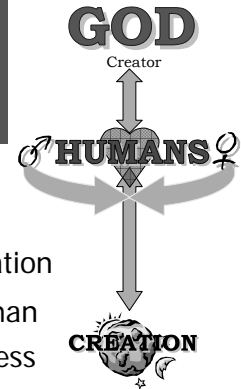
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- 2.24-25:
"This at last is bone of *my* bones
and flesh of *my* flesh..."

And the man and his wife were both
naked, and were not ashamed.

Four Key Relationships that Define Human Being

- God > < human
- human > < creation
- human > < human
- self-consciousness



If everything's so good, how did things get so bad?

Genesis 3:1-7

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'"

⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

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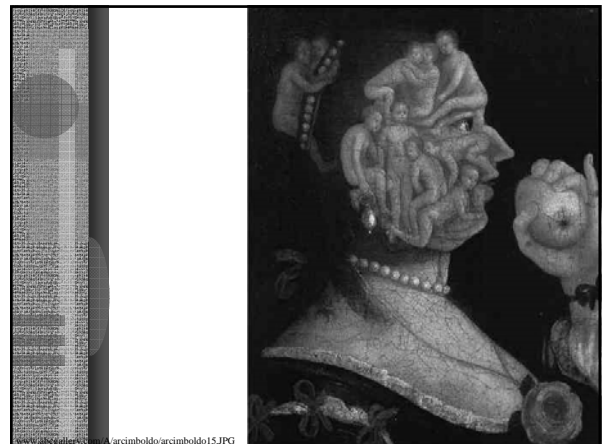
Genesis 3:1-7

⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; ...

**If everything's so good,
how did things get so bad?**

Genesis 3:1-7

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.



**If everything's so good,
how did things get so bad?**

Genesis 3:1-7

7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

What Happened?

They wanted to be "like God" and...

- "Nakedness, fear"
- "The woman..."
- "... that YOU gave me"
- "The serpent..."

**The Nature of Things
Genesis 1-3**

- 3:22-23 Then the LORD God said, "See, the *adam* has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"-- 23 therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken.

**The Nature of Things
Genesis 1-3**

In 3:22-24, why is God afraid that the people might live forever?

- Before they sinned, Adam and Eve would have lived forever. Because they sinned, they are going to die, and to make sure they don't avoid the punishment by eating from the tree of life, God sends them out of the garden.
- Human beings were never created to live forever. God casts them out of the garden so that they don't eat of the tree of life and live forever in a state of sin.

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With which of these do you agree?

- Death is evidence and result of sin.
- Death is natural.
- Death is a tragic enemy.
- Death can be a blessing.
- Death is an enemy which has been defeated by Christ.
- (To be) a living dog is better than a dead lion. (*Ecclesiastes 9:4*)

What is the
problem?

Whose
problem is
it?

