

The background of the slide is a deep black space filled with numerous small, distant stars. In the center of the image, there is a single, much brighter star or planet, which appears as a small, glowing white orb with a soft, out-of-focus halo. The overall effect is that of a cosmic or celestial scene.

# Paradise Gained

(Genesis 2:4-25)

# Evolutionary views did not originate with Darwin

Greeks: 6<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.

- a. Their 'science': sun traveled East to West because of wind.
- b. Big bang hypothesis rejects biblical account of creation.

Genesis accounts for First Cause: eternal God.

What is first cause for big bang?



# Genesis 2:4-6

1. History: theme of ch.2 –
  - a. Does not describe how people / things came into being, but what happened after they appeared.
  - b. Jacob, Gn.37:2, history...
2. Created: made (synonyms).
3. In the day: for details, ch.1.
4. Before plant / herb (3:18).
5. For: explanatory; no rain, but mist

# Genesis 2:7

- Man ... ground: word play. (3:19)
- Day six (1:24-31): God formed man; origin of human life.
- Formed: of potter, Jer.18; ironsmith, Is.44:12; eye, Ps.94:9
- Dust:
  - Restrains pride, 18:27.
  - Reminds of physical mortality, Ec.12.
  - Realizes dignity, Ps.100:3.
- God breathed: dignity
- Living being: 1 Co.15:45



# Genesis 2:8-9

- Garden: cultivated place of domestic plants and produce trees. Enclosure.
- Every tree: <sup>a</sup>pleasant to sight; <sup>b</sup>good for food.
- Tree of life...3:22.
- Tree of knowledge of good and evil. (3:3)

# Genesis 2:10-14

- River waters the garden.
- Places describe pre-flood geography.



# Genesis 2:15-17

- God...man...put him... (8) ...tend...keep.
  - In paradise – work to do. (Before Fall)
  - Work: **1**beneficial; **2**helpful; **3**rewarding
- How would Adam know gardening?



# Genesis 2:15-17

God's first command implies . . .

1. Adam understands what God tells him
2. Adam understands prohibition
3. Right of God to command His creatures
4. Adam has capacity to distinguish good and evil
5. Punishment must follow disobedience
6. Goodness of God warned him in advance
7. Adam knows what eating is / what to eat
8. Adam understands death
9. Free will



# Genesis 2:15-17

- God...man...put him... (8)...tend...keep.
  - In paradise – work. Before Fall...
  - Work: <sup>1</sup>beneficial; <sup>2</sup>helpful; <sup>3</sup>rewarding
- How would Adam know gardening?
- Tree of knowledge – free will . . .
  - God does not place tree out of their reach
  - If out of reach: cannot disobey; no choice

“And the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day” – Dt.6:24

# Genesis 2:18-20

- *It is not good* – a first!
- Alone – incomplete
- Make . . . helper comparable

Matching. Counterpart.  
Corresponds to him.  
Complements him.



# Genesis 2:18-20

- *It is not good* – a first!
- Alone – incomplete
- Make . . . helper comparable
- Formed every beast... – flashback.
  - Logical, not chronological.
  - Typical in history narratives.
- Adam ... call them.
- No helper comparable to him.
- Brought them to Adam...
- Did not find...

Ug?  
English:  
Bug  
Dug  
Hug  
Jug  
Lug  
Mug  
Pug  
Rug  
Tug

# Genesis 2:18-20

- It
- A
- M
- F
- Logically chronological.
- Typology in history narratives.
- Adam ... call them.
- No helper comparable to him.
- Brought them to Adam...
- Did not find...

Every beast of the field  
(not earth)

Every bird of the air  
(not fish)

Ug?  
English:  
Bug  
Dug  
Hug  
Jug  
Lug  
Mug  
Pug  
Rug  
Tug



# Genesis 2:21-22

- Deep sleep. Anesthesia
- Took rib. Surgery ... Transplant ... Closed
- Taken from man. Kinship
- Made (built). Ro.5:18
- Woman – last creature named in ch.2.
- Man
- Brought to man. Marriage. Adam met his...

superior in the Creator

inferiors in the animals

equal in the woman

# Genesis 2:23

- Now ... at last
- Flesh of my flesh. 29:14



# Genesis 2:24-25

- Therefore: precedent
- Leave: for our benefit
- Joined: cling to, stick to, join fast, cleave, stay close
- Wife: (sg.; female); ct. 4:19
- One flesh: two can be one; more than two cannot
- Not ashamed: only time it is so. Ct. 3:7

# I. Does Chapter 2 Contradict Chapter 1?



Genesis 1	Genesis 2
<p><b><u>Chronological history:</u></b> 1<sup>st</sup> day . . . 6<sup>th</sup> day</p>	<p><b><u>Topical history:</u></b> 2:4 -2:7, man; 19, animals -2:8, 15, two gardens?</p>
<p>‘Man’ 1:27: generic (M-F); ‘them’</p>	<p>Details, 2:21-25</p>
<p>Marriage – multiply, 1:28</p>	<p>Details, 2:21-25</p>
<p>1:31 – 6<sup>th</sup> day 5:1-2 – day when ‘they’ were created</p>	<p>No reference to day.</p>

# Genesis 2 illustrates God's goodness to man

- A. Created in divine image.
- B. Blessed with perfect physical body, sound mind
- C. Placed in beautiful environment.
- D. Furnished every physical necessity / luxury.
- E. Meaningful, satisfying work to do.
- F. Warned of danger to avoid.
- G. Fellowship and lovingkindness ... easy to obey.



I. Does Chapter 2 Contradict Chapter 1?

II. Do Other Passages  
Confirm Genesis Account?

# III. Paradise Lost

(Genesis 3:4-25)



## The serpent's strike, 3:1-5

- Serpent: did not work through duress
- Cunning (shrewd): blames God in Eden!
- Woman: caught Eve by herself
- Has God said... (leading question)
- You shall not eat of every tree of the garden? – exaggeration; cast doubt
- You will not surely die: contradiction
- God knows... attacks God's goodness

Doubt God's goodness . . . wickedness of sin

# The fall, 3:6-10

- Woman saw . . .
  1. **Good food**: lust of flesh
  2. **Pleasant to eyes**: lust of eyes
  3. **Make wise**: pride in possessions
- Eyes opened (v.5) . . .
- Gave to husband...

Shame, fear, broken fellowship, death (7-8)

knew

sewed

made

heard

hid

afraid



# The domino effect, 3:11-13

A Man blames woman. Ct. 2:23

B Woman blames snake.

X Snake is judged first (14-15)

B' Woman is judged, 16

A' Man is judged, 17-19

## IV. Lessons



# Eve's wrong view of God let her into sin

- If God is cruel, unjust, indifferent, unloving, He is not good and disobedience comes easy
- Satan's first attack is against God's word

All that we can know of God's will  
comes through His word, 7, 17

Command to avoid eating of tree implies...

- Man's ability to understand what God says
- God's right to command
- Capacity of man to distinguish right / wrong
- Punishment follows disobedience to God
- God's warnings are great blessings
  - Not left alone to discover consequences of sin
  - Only two choices: personal desire or God's law
  - Reject Creation...: why believe rest of Genesis?



# God speaks clearly in His word.

- Eve's problem was not a difficulty in understanding what God had spoken

We, not God, are to blame  
for the mess we're in, 17-19, 22-23



# God, not man, deserves credit for way out of world's madness, 15

- Even in judgment, God remembers mercy.
- He could have destroyed them on the spot.

12 “What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? 13 And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray... – Mt.8

## IV. But What About The Talking Snake?



## Think about it . . .

1. Is Gn.3 stranger than spontaneous genera.?
2. Should we reject Numbers because of 22:28?
3. What satan can do? Lk.4:4-8
4. Satan can work through people, Lk.8; Ac.5.
5. Reject Jesus too? Jn.8:44.
6. Ro.16:20, direct allusion to Gn.3:15.
7. 2 Co.11:3 – direct link to Gn.3, serpent...
8. 1 Tim.2:13-14 endorses Gn.3; applies it.
9. Rv.12:3, 9, symbolism places satan in Gn.3

# Consistency

Cannot consistently reject Genesis 3 because of a talking snake and then accept the rest of the Bible.

It all stands or falls together.