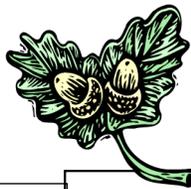


Sept 16, 2018



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Lesson Leaders:

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Class Leaders:

Inreach: Pat Hester

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The First Man Genesis 1:26-2:3

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson examines how God created **The First Man** and why He did. The **study's aim** is to remember that God created man to rule over all the earth. The **study's application** is to realize that if God has put us in charge of all the earth, then we have a responsibility to take care of all creation.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

I love watching my husband and stepchildren. For me, there are few moments in life sweeter than the ones I spend doing that. Whether they are playing a game, completing a chore around the house, or just joking around, those times are precious for me to witness. There are times, though, when the mannerisms of my stepchildren bring me an extra special smile. That happens when one of them does something like his father. Whether it is one of them standing exactly like his father or the other one repeating a phrase his father says, the mimicking of their dad always warms my heart. It reminds me of how much of him is in each of the kids. There is no mistaking that they are his children. In the same way, we were created as God's own children. We are told that Adam was created in God's image. It was God's plan that people should live as His children. Do not gloss over that. Let it sink in for a minute. Think of the children in your life, whether they are your own or someone else's. Have you ever seen them say or do something that completely mimics their parents? Did it make you smile when that happened? What would it have been like to be created in God's own image in the time before sin entered the world? Adam was created to rule over this breathtaking world God had wrought. What was Adam really like? What was God's vision for a blameless man? Our answer comes in Jesus, God's own Son. Jesus told us that whoever has seen Him has seen the Father (John 14:9). As we grow closer to Our Savior, we see Him more clearly. When we grow closer to Jesus, we can better know both Him and His Father each day. Because of this, we can see what God intended for mankind from the very beginning. As we as believers draw nearer to Christ, the benefit of walking in faith is that we begin to mimic Him. God is always sanctifying us, bringing us more in line with His original vision for our lives each day. When we take Christ as our example, we reflect Him more and more (2 Cor. 3:18). When I see my stepchildren's mimicry, it reminds me to think about whether I am reflecting Christ well. When people look at me, do they see Jesus? If not, what do I need to change? God's design for me is not identical to His design for other individuals. I know, though, that all believers are called to a family likeness to their Savior. As I come alongside Him in this purpose, God will mold me into that perfect reflection of Him that He intended. Do you reflect Jesus each day, or is there someone else that you have chosen to mimic? The person you choose to model yourself after is the person you will become. If you are modeling yourself after Jesus, then you will become like Him. If you are not, then you will find yourself drifting away from His design for you. That is a sobering thought. The question then, is, Who do you choose to mimic?

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
You are one of a kind—designed to glorify God as only you can

POEM FOR THE WEEK:
Of all creation's treasures rare,
Not one compares in worth with man;
In God's own image he was made
To fill a place in His great plan.
—DJD

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.
(Ps 139:14 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Feb 18, 2000)

New Series: Beginnings

**UNIT: The Beginning of
Human History**

NEXT WEEK

**Man's First Home
(Gen 2:4-14)**

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

God Created Man in His Image (Gen 1:26-27)

In God's Image (1)

- Created in the likeness of God (Gen 5:1)
- Created in the image and glory of God (1 Cor 11:7)
- Created by God wonderfully, starting with the inner man (Ps 139:13-14)
- Created and formed for God's glory (Isa 43:7)
- Created to do good works (Eph 2:10)

God Created Man to Be Fruitful (Gen 1:28)

It is a blessing from God for man to be fruitful (28)

- Children are a reward from God (Ps 127:3-5)
- The man who fears God will be blessed with children (Ps 128:3-4)
- God created the earth to be inhabited (Isa 45:18)

Man Initial Role: Ruler over all other creation (28)

- God was mindful of man to allow man to be ruler over the works of His hands (Ps 8:4-9)

God Provided Man Food (Gen 1:29-30)

All "seed-bearing" plants were for Man (29)

- After the flood God eventually gave both plants and meat for man to eat (Gen 9:3)
- God also taught Peter that all that God made is clean and can be eaten (Acts 10:11-16)

All "green" plants were for Animals (30)

- God provides food for all (Ps 145:15-16)

Initially no conflicts between Man and Animals (30)

- Animals were so tame that they paraded before Adam to be named (Gen 2:19)
- Animals were so tame that Eve was not afraid to speak to the serpent (Gen 3:1)
- After the fall of man, a curse was put on the ground and the animals as well as man (Gen 3:14, 17)
- Only after the second coming will the curse be removed (Rev 22:3)
- There will be a time during the millennium that temporary peace will be given to animals (Theological Interpretation) (Isa 65:25; Isa 11:6-9)

God's Evaluation and Rest (Gen 1:31-2:3)

The Ultimate Evaluation - Very Good (31)

- God rejoices in His created works (Ps 104:31)
- Everything God created is good (1 Tim 4:4)
- Man should always praise God for His creations even though it is beyond man's understanding (Job 36:24-26)
- The created heavens declare God's glory (Psalm 19:1)
- God's creations are awesome (Psalm 145:4-6)
- God made everything in its time (Eccles. 3:11)

God created the seventh day for rest (2:1-3)

- A rest day that is holy (Exodus 20:11)
- A rest day that is a sign (Exodus 31:17)
- A rest day that can be entered (Heb 3:18-4:7)
- A rest day that was made for man (Mark 2:27)