

The Word of God – 5

Ge 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

We have seen in previous weeks that the 6 days of work found in Genesis Chapter 1 are 6 days of restoring the material creation that was ruined, became formless and void, because of Satan's rebellion.

And here at the beginning of Genesis Chapter 2, we get a summary of God's work along with the significance that He attaches to the 7th Day. We will note that the 7th Day is mentioned 3 times in 3 verses. Something that is deliberately done to draw our attention to it.

And if we follow the sequence God has given, it is clear that the purpose for His 6 days of work is to bring about the 7th Day of rest.

And again, if we follow the sequence, the Man and the Woman were created on the 6th day for the purpose of ruling together over the restored earth during the 7th Day, the day of rest. Rest from the work of the previous 6 days. And as we think about this, we must keep in mind that God had said – *Ge 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."*

'It is not good that man should be alone' – God's plan for rulership in the 7th Day includes a Man and a Woman, who are to rule together in a marriage relationship – *Ge 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.*

Because of the way God established this, it was not possible for the Man to rule alone, nor was it possible for the Woman to rule without the Man. They were one flesh. Each completed the other. At this point then, we can

ask ourselves the question, 'Has God ever changed His mind about this?' We will come back to this another week.

Now, there are some other important things that we need to note –
Ge 1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

God's restorative work begins by bringing light where there was previously only darkness. This is the point of beginning. Where everything must start. But it is not the end – *Ge 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. 13 So the evening and the morning were the third day.....19 So the evening and the morning were the fourth day..... 23 So the evening and the morning were the fifth day..... 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.*

It takes 6 days to complete God's restorative work. It was not finished the moment the light came in the darkness. And although the work from day 1 remained in place, God never returned to or dealt with that which happened on day 1 again.

And the completion of His work had to do with Man and rulership and the 7th Day. It had to do with restoring that ruined by Satan and replacing Satan as the ruler of the earth. And we will hopefully remember from last time, that if Man was to rule, not only did he have to be present, which Adam clearly was, but also proven worthy to replace the disqualified ruler, Satan.

So, what do we see? *Ge 3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"*

Just so that we are clear as to who the serpent is, we just need to compare Scripture with Scripture – Re 12:9 *So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan....*

It's clear isn't it. The serpent in the Garden is Satan, the disqualified ruler of the earth, confronting the Woman who is to rule with the Man in Satan's place.

So, another question, 'Why does Satan confront the Woman and not the Man?'

And another, 'What is his purpose in being there?'

And as we continue with the Scripture – Ge 3:6 *So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.*

We can ask, 'Why did Adam eat the fruit?' Especially as the Scripture says 1 Ti 2:14 *And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.*

Adam ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil knowingly and intentionally.

We will have to come back to this next time.