**Article: Creation** *(continued)*

Moses turns his attention to the account of the creation of woman. God created the man first. He also awakened in the man a realisation that he had no companion. God brought the birds and animals to the man and had him give them names. The first man was not some Neanderthal who shuffled around the earth, uttering grunts and banging the ground with his club. The first man was very intelligent. He didn’t need hours of deliberation before coming up with an appropriate name for each creature. He saw, understood, and gave the animals their names.

As Adam went through this process, he became aware that he did not have a companion suitable for him. Thus, God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. From the man, God took a rib. From this rib, God made woman as a suitable helper for the man. It is important to note that the entire human race is descended from one head. Even woman came from man. Thus, when Adam sinned, we all sinned. When Christ obeyed God’s will for us, His righteousness was credited to the world’s account (Romans 5:18; 1 Cor. 11:8-9). God also established at creation the roles that He wanted man and woman to have. It must be noted that God made marriage heterosexual. God didn’t create an ‘Alfred’ for Adam. He created a woman for Adam. Marriage is also to one spouse. God did not create a harem for Adam. He created one person who was uniquely suitable for him.

By creating the woman for the man, God instituted marriage. Adam recognised that the woman had been taken out of him. God Himself added the information that He had instituted marriage, a union in which one man and one woman are to be united to each other.

The Lord also indicated that part of the companionship of marriage was for the man and the woman to become one flesh. Not only do the two form one unit, but they also engage in sexual relations as part of the companionship God intended for marriage (1 Cor. 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4). In chapter 1, Moses also indicates that God had another purpose for the sexual union in marriage. God blessed the man and the woman with the ability to reproduce. He said, “*Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it*” (v. 28). God expects husbands and wives to place their marriages in the service of his work of preservation. In this way God preserves human life on the earth. Furthermore, the Bible also tells us that children are a blessing from God (Psalm 127:3-5).

Finally, God gave the man and the woman vegetation to eat for food. God also gave every green plant for food to the animals He had created. The first direct statement in the Bible that speaks of God’s permission to eat meat is to Noah after the flood (Gen. 9:3). Perhaps animals were already eaten after the fall into sin. The first divine permission, however, is recorded in connection with God’s words to Noah after the flood.

At the end of the sixth day of creation, God declares that all that He had made was very good (Gen. 1:31). God is not the author of evil. The creation He made was totally good, in every respect. It was the disobedience of Satan and of Adam and Eve that corrupted God’s good creation.

On day seven God rested (Gen. 2:1-3). God made everything in the six days of creation. Moses wrote, “*Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array*” (Gen. 2:1).

The account in Genesis 1 and 2 gives us a factual account of God’s creation of the world. When people say it doesn’t make any difference how God made the world, they are wrong. It does make a difference. We cannot depart from what God has revealed to us in His Word. Where God has not clearly spoken, we cannot speak in more detail than He does. Where He has spoken, we cannot deviate.

*To be continued…*