

# The Perfect Life

Genesis 2:4-25

## Introduction

### I The Perfect Man

- A. God formed man from the **dust** of the ground - Ps 103:14
  - 1. Man was made in the **image** of God - Rom 8:29; 1 Jn 3:2
- B. God breathed into man the breath of **life** - James 2:26
  - 1. Man became a living being

### II The Perfect Environment

- A. God planted a garden in Eden
  - 1. It became man's dwelling place
  - 2. It had all kinds of trees that were:
    - a. **Pleasing** to the eye
    - b. Good for **food** - James 1:17
- B. God provided two special trees in the middle of the garden
  - 1. The tree of **life** - Rev 2:7; 22:2, 14
  - 2. The tree of the **knowledge** of good and evil - Gen 3:5
- C. God provided a river to water the Garden
  - 1. It flowed from Eden - Rev 22:1-2
  - 2. It separated into four headwaters

### III The Perfect Job

- A. God appointed man to:
  - 1. **Work** in the Garden of Eden - Jn 5:17; Col 3:23-24
  - 2. Take **care** of the Garden of Eden - Matt 25:14-23
- B. God commanded man to:
  - 1. **Eat** of any tree in Garden
  - 2. **Not to eat** of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
    - a. When you eat of it you will **die** - Rom 6:23
- C. God gave man responsibility in His creative work
  - 1. He brought the animals to Adam for him to **name**

### IV The Perfect Woman

- A. God recognized man's need for a helper
  - 1. It was not good for man to be **alone** - Eccl 4:9-12

- 2. There was no suitable **helper** for man - Ex 18:4
- B. God created woman
  - 1. He caused man to fall into a deep sleep
  - 2. He took one of Adam's **ribs** and made woman
  - 3. He presented her to Adam
    - a. Adam declared her to be:
      - 1. "Bone of my bone" - Gen 29:14
      - 2. "Flesh of my flesh" - Eph 5:28; 1 Pet 3:7
    - b. Adam named her, "**Woman**"
  - 4. He established the covenant of marriage
    - a. Man is to **leave** his father and mother - Matt 19:4-5
    - b. Man is to be **united** to his wife - Matt 19:6
    - c. Man and woman will become one flesh - 1 Cor 6:15ff
- C. God created Adam and Eve with moral **innocence**
  - 1. They were naked and unashamed - 2 Cor 5:17; Is 1:18

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. How would you describe the "perfect life?"
2. Why do you think God chose to make us from the dust of the ground? Why not gold, silver or precious stones?
3. The work you do, whatever it is, is meant to be an expression of God's divine nature. Read Col 3:23-24. Does this verse reflect your attitude toward work? Why or why not?
4. Woman is described as man's helper. Read Hosea 13:9 and Ps 115:9-11. How do these passages [same Hebrew word for "helper"] change your perspective on the significance of the wife's role in the marriage relationship. If you are married, why not take time today to share with your spouse how he/she is being used by God to help you accomplish His purposes.
5. Are you struggling with any unrepentant sin in your life? Read 1 John 1:9. Why not confess it to God right now, repent of it and enjoy His wonderful forgiveness.

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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