

PROBATION IN THE GARDEN, PART 2
(Genesis 2:15-25)

- I. The MORAL CHOICE (Gen. 2:15-17)
 - A. Adam was created for a PURPOSE
 1. God is a God of LOVE (1 John 4:16-19)
 2. God created man according to His WILL and His GOOD PLEASURE (Rev. 4:11)
 3. God intends to demonstrate the exceeding RICHES of His GRACE on man's behalf through all the AGES to COME (Eph. 2:7)
 5. God created man in order to have a race of beings with whom He would SHARE His LOVE and by whom He would be GLORIFIED
 - B. Adam was made RESPONSIBLE for WORKING the Garden
 1. He was to CULTIVATE it
 2. He was to GUARDE it
 - C. Adam was RESTRICTED in on MINOR area—He was FORBIDDEN to EAT of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil
 1. He should OBEY out of LOVE
 2. He should OBEY out of FEAR—"you will SURELY DIE"
 3. DISOBEDIENCE would demonstrate DENYING God's GOODNESS and DEFYING God's AUTHORITY

II. Man and the ANIMALS (Gen. 2:18-20)

A. Adam was UNIQUE and ALONE

1. God determined to MAKE for him a SUITABLE HELPER
2. "NOT GOOD" does not imply "EVIL" but "INCOMPLETE"

B. Adam's ALONENESS was demonstrated when he NAMED the animals

1. Included the BIRDS, CATTLE, and beasts of the FIELD
2. Omitted the FISH, CREEPING things, and beasts of the EARTH

III. FLESH of His FLESH (Gen. 2:21-25)

A. God made EVE (2:21-22)

1. Union was truly "ONE FLESH" and ETERNAL, foreshadowing the relationship of CHRIST and the CHURCH
 - a. Bride formed in Adam's "DEEP SLEEP"
 - b. Bride formed from Adam's "WOUNDED SIDE"
 - c. Bride formed by the PURPOSEFUL act of GOD
2. Both were made "in GOD'S IMAGE" (cf. 1:27)
3. Each had an INDEPENDENT SOUL

B. God ESTABLISHED the HOME (2:23-24)

1. Union was both SPIRITUAL and PHYSICAL
2. INTEGRITY and PERMANENCE are vital (Eph. 5:22-23)
3. Jesus' teaching on MARRIAGE based on this text (cf. Mt. 19:3-9; Mk. 10:2-12)

C. There was no SHAME in NAKEDNESS before SIN (2:25)