

Bdellium  
and  
Onyx

## Genesis 2:7 - 2:25



~ Our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God came out of the deepest, darkest jungle and into a vast and beautiful clearing of understanding concerning creation in our last report as we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible is becoming fresh, new fields open up, stretching out towards new mountains of God's government; and the foothills are beginning to roll here. To the genuine child of God, the things we have seen in Scripture so far on safari have been beautiful to our eyes. That should be music to your ears because we saw, in chapter one, how everything came from *nothing* to matter. That was quite a journey for some of us. There was nothing when inorganic matter came into existence. Obviously, all we really know for sure in this connection is that God created the Heavens and the earth.

Then we moved from the creation of inorganic matter to the creation of organic matter, that is – life as we know it – as we saw God make the whales, and then the other animals and plant life. Evidently, plant life had not been destroyed in the flood without a Noah. Seed was apparently germane in the earth. Let's not be overly dogmatic about that, but the implication has certainly been made. The earth simply brought forth the grass. In this section of Scripture we're going from organic to man - and there is no natural transition for that. Evolution will never bridge the gap that brings the appearance of Homo Sapiens upon the earth from nothing – so, ultimately, evolution is a moot point; and, friends, you can just write that down. Next, and with all of that in place, the earth was ready for the coming of man....

***7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.***

~ With the limited information given to us here our Spiritual Safari reasonably concludes that man came from the ground; but we also recognize that we could also be absolutely wrong! When a hurricane blows through Florida, the dust in the wind can sandpaper a car and ruin an asphalt shingle roof and the closer you get to the coast the more sand is in the wind. In the Midwest they have severe dust storms that carry fine particles of dust over very large areas. So, there are many ways that man could have been formed from the dust; and, again, this is something else we're just not given many details about! Naturally, every one of the micro and macro chemicals that comprise human flesh are all found in the ground. See, the Bible just happens to make sense, my beloved. The ground is where we came from physically - and that's obviously all we really need to know about that - because man is much more than merely dust. Man's *spirit is going to return to God* for judgment when the flesh dies because God breathed the breath of life into man's nostrils; and man became a living soul responsible to Him.

This is, naturally, where life became physical for man. Man has, actually, been around now since way back in chapter one verse twenty-seven, but has been spiritually based, if you will - purely psychological, that is. Then, God gave man physical life that also contains his spiritual life; man is now brought into a relationship with his Creator. Man now has a capacity for God and, my friend - that separates you from all other creatures that creepeth - as far as we know. What we do know for sure is that there are angels in the universe and we know just as little about them as we do the physical creation of man! Feel free to write me and explain whatever it is you want to explain - but don't waste too much time and effort here because there are some things *we just don't know*.

Evolutionists think that God is utter foolishness and that He hasn't done any of the things we've seen so far in our safari - and they believe that because they don't feel that He is with us. Well, they're dead in trespasses and sins - and separated from God - so, when they say they can't sense Him - they're exactly right! Truths laid down right before our very eyes; sometimes a little too close for comfort, I might add - didn't happen - according to evolution: that is their theory and some other groups take that untenable position also. However, there is no evolutionary theory that can

account for human speech. It cannot account for the ability to articulate and communicate more complexly or more diversely than the animal world. Evolution can never account for human character, personality, conscientiousness or individuality, either! That part of evolution can't be dug up out of the earth, my beloved. May I say this kindly – the dolphins may want to be our friends but they will never be able to talk to us like we talk to each other – *never*. Further, I doubt the dolphins really even want to talk to us. Man is not a mimicking parrot and he is not a gibbering ape. Any theory of evolution known to man - or any that you can concoct, friends – cannot be sustained in the light of these Biblical truths.

According to modern scientific literature, “...ancient bones of a man compared to anthropoids – usually an ape – or a horse - have striking similarities; yet divergence emerges from their similarities” - whatever that means. I mean, I know what the statement means, but it is ultimately unintelligible when you think it through to its final possible conclusion. People build their entire life's philosophy on these absurd things – not understanding that they are a little more important than what most people reduce them to today! Nevertheless, and furthermore, I would expect many creatures to have similar bodily chassis and other physical compositional make-up - to a certain extent - because they have to live in the same environment we do with the same laws of physics. So, by considering their mobility requirements and modus transportation alone it would only make sense for them to bear resemblance to one another.

Now, let's be perfectly clear, there is a world of difference between a Ford automobile and a Chevrolet automobile - or is there? – Well, there is a definite similarity! But don't try telling that to the salesman at the dealership because you will be in for a big surprise. They just happen think there is a *world* of difference between the two. Man is altogether different because God breathed into him the breath of life and made man a living soul; that was not done with the animals – and it makes all the difference in the world. Indeed, we shall see how man dominates animals from the very beginning of the record. Man is fearfully and yet wonderfully made, friends; but it is a fearful thing to fall into the Hands of the True and Living God, too.....

***7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.***

***8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.***

~ All we can be sure of is that the Garden of Eden was somewhere in the Tigris / Euphrates River Valley. It is possible that it covered the entire valley which was, and still is, a very fertile, rich place – part of the green Fertile Crescent where, at one time, they didn't even plant grain there; they just harvested it - while it grew itself in natural perpetuation. It is likely that the area will become the very center of the earth again – wherever it is. These first two trees in the garden that are mentioned specifically were very unusual trees that have become extinct. Notice that the trees were pleasant to look at and they were also good for food. There is the beauty of them; and there is a practical, functional, purposeful use. Well, that would have been a very important thing in the Garden of Eden. Everything would have been sensible in functional with a practical purpose. Those of you who know me understand I could throw in a couple more chapters right here but I won't....

***9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.***

~ In spite of the curse upon the physical earth that came with the fall of man we still see things of beauty in the world. It still brings forth the thorn and the thistle – but thorns come on roses, which I happen to love. There are some very difficult-to-get-to places in Maui that have fabulous, fantastic foliage that is beyond description – like you've never seen in your life! All of that surrounding you in that little scenic spot with coconut, papaya, hibiscus and every other type of banana and bamboo – and there is a little church among those trees that sway in the breeze. Some missionary started that church. You will be privileged if you ever see that spot. Standing there becomes a startling state of reality in ones mind – in fact, so much so, that I ask that we pause and bow our heads and just thank God

for everything He has placed on the planet for us - His people. Frankly, I wish we could just stop and stay here forevermore. A-Men....

***10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.***

***11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;***

***12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.***

***13 And the name of the second river is Gihon (Nile): the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.***

***14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel (Tigris): that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.***

***15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.***

***16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:***

***17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.***

~ Man had dominion over the earth and all of its contents were subject to him. Every force of nature was directed by Adam at his "beck and call." It was not Gods intent in the beginning that man should die - but man was placed on a sort of probation from the very start - why? – Because man has the privilege of free will, friends. Privilege always creates responsibility – that is an irrefutable axiomatic truth. When man was given free will – he was also given a test. That test would reveal whether he would obey God or not. Adam didn't. See, I don't have any questions about the tree of the knowledge of good and evil - which was amongst the best fruit in the garden. All I need to know is what I have been told: the day Adam ate of that fruit he died spiritually. Man is a trinity so Adam would actually die in a

three-fold way. Of course, Adam didn't die physically until 900+ years after this, but God had said, "...in the day ye eat of it ye shall surely die." – Death means separation and Adam was separated from God spiritually the day he ate of that tree – so, he took his wife and they went and hid from God in the bushes....

***18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.***

***19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.***

~ I believe there was a very definite purpose for God placing man on earth for a period of time before woman arrived: to show man that he had a need. To reveal to Adam that he needed someone in the world to help him; and a woman is to be a help for man today. "Help-meet" would have a tandem meaning with "agreeing" and "answering" to him; or, a helper as a counterpart; the other half of him. This is not a marriage promotional on safari, but the man is only half a man until he is married - and the woman he marries is to answer to him. Further, homosexuals cannot be married. They may have a certificate of marriage on file down at the courthouse, and they may honestly and sincerely think they are married, but God does not recognize their unholy union as holy – it's a disgusting abomination of perversion to God – and you can just write that down – because He said so. Some people don't like that talk – and, if you are one of them - then my advice would be to stop reading right here - because if you think that's bad, we are going to a very rough neck of the woods real soon in our safari. This may be a good place to add this side note, too: my personal estimation is that when a "new species" of animal is "discovered" today – it's really just being *re-discovered*; perhaps it has been in "hiding," or something like that. When God brought the elephant to Adam, Adam said, "...looks more like an elephant than anything else!" – Well, I guess it did; but I digress.

***20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help (meet) for him.***

***21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;***

~ Woman was not taken from the head of man to be his superior; nor was she taken from his feet to be beneath him. Woman was taken from the side of man to be his equal; from under his arm where he can protect her – and be close to his heart. Woman is the other half of man. The man becomes subject to his wife in the sense that he is now responsible for her. She is an indirect creation of God and is a part of him – one with his flesh. They are no longer to be under the control of father and mother, either. This is what God means when He says, “Wives, obey your husbands.” It also means the woman is to respond to her husband – to answer to. A woman who recognizes her functional and practical place by man will ALWAYS be a woman of very good moral character who is much more spiritually discerning than the man is; and she will have much finer sensibilities than the man. This is a very fresh account of the creation of man and woman. This is a couple that God truly joined in holy matrimony. Woman is not an undeveloped man – but she is diverse. This is the most beautiful account of the most beautiful act mankind has been given....

***22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.***

***23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.***

***24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.***

***25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.***

~ As we end this leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God, let's consider how God has given the human race the "institution" called marriage. Remember, it means exactly that, God instituted it. Right here in the Word of God is where man learned about marriage. This is an axiom that man is trying to throw off today, of course. What is man REALLY trying to do? – Well, the answer is always obvious – he's trying to get rid of God and disprove His Word. Well, God, my friend, established marriage - right here in chapter two of Genesis – a long time before you and I made it into today – and right after He made the Heavens and the earth – in the beginning. Make a note.

We have now located the place of man, seen the condition that he is in when he is created and have been told of the responsibility that man has been given by God. In chapter two we saw how man had a kinship with God. We saw man's worship of God, man's fellowship with God, man's service to God, his loyalty to God, man's authority from God, and man's social life that is separated unto and set aside for God. Of course, all of that means man developed a real need right here – a need for a companion. So, God created woman. An identity is always to be formed between the husband and the wife. That's why God said, "Husbands, love your wives." This is the important part of the creation account.

The chaplain at Nuremberg Prison described his last days with those men in a journal. One was "Henry," of which he writes, "...that evening I had a session with Henry during which he made sport of the story of creation; ridiculed divine inspiration of the scriptures and flatly denied certain Christian fundamentals. Less than two hours later Henry committed suicide." If the Bible is the Word of God then nothing else matters; if the Bible is not the Word of God then nothing matters, friends. The Bible is the Word of God. This so called safari is merely attempting to teach you the Bible properly, correctly and completely. We should, as Christians, let men and women know that they are a creature of God and that they are responsible to their Creator. This is the only effective and only acceptable sensible initial approach to a solution for many very real societal problems. Those problems of mankind are compounded by other, even bigger problems – all of which we are going to examine as we continue into the dark, dark, lowland jungle in our next report ~



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