



"It is NOT good that ..."

Text: Genesis 2:18-25

2:18-20- ¹⁸Then YHWH God said, "It is NOT GOOD that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper complimentary to him." ¹⁹Now out of the ground YHWH God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for the man there was not found a helper complimentary to him. (VMT)

- v. 18- "it is NOT good"- seven times in Genesis 1, God says creation is good (1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31). In between 1:25 and 1:31 Genesis 2 occurs and we get the first and only NOT GOOD!
 - It is not moral evil... it is incompleteness that God says is Not Good!
 - "I will make a helper..." NOT a slave, punching bag, battle axe, ball & chain.
- v. 19- "YHWH God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them"
 - + Why does the man get to name the animals? (Gen 1:28)
 - + If naming someone is a sign of authority, what does that say about how we are named?
 - Matt 28:19-20, Acts 4:12
 - Were the dinosaurs around for this?
 - Job 40:14 – 41:34
- v. 20- no helper was found... SO...

2:21-22 So YHWH God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he built into a bride and brought her to the man.

- v. 21-22 -"took one of his ribs" Why the rib?? Talmud says, God did not take woman from man's foot to be walked on, nor his head to be higher; but from the side to be equal, under the arm to be protected, and next to the heart to be loved.
 - +What other **bride** is **built** from the pierced side of a man???
- "built into a bride" Luther explains just how a wife is the "building" of her husband.
 1. She is the dwelling that he returns to
 2. He is to defend her, strengthen her, and build her up
 3. The wife is where the children are raised

2:23-25 ²³Then the man said,
"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Bride,

because she was taken out of Bridegroom."

²⁴Therefore a bridegroom shall leave his father and his mother and cling to his bride, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his bride were both naked and were not ashamed. (VMT)

- This is the most important VMT distinction we will see!! Note the different vocabulary!!

- Would this vocabulary influence modern discussions of marriage and women's rights?

- "they shall become one flesh" – What does this mean? (Don't be shy about answering)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Let's tie it all together now!!

CREATION	NEW CREATION
The man is put into a deep sleep His side is opened Out comes a rib The rib is built into the bride for man God presents the bride to man Bridegroom and Bride become one flesh Bridegroom and Bride produce sons of man	The New Man (Christ) is put to death His side is pierced (Jn 19:34) Out comes blood and water The blood & water (LS, Bapt.) are built into Church The Church is presented to Christ as a bride The Church is united to Christ Christ and Church produce sons of God

Jesus Christ is the New "man" – Rom. 5:12-21

Jesus is the Bridegroom – Matt. 9:15, 25:1-13, John 3:29

The Church is the Bride of Christ! – 2 Cor. 11:2 Eph. 5:31-32, Rev. 19:7, 21:2, 9-14

The Church and Christ become "one flesh" – Rom 12:5, 1 Cor 10:16, 12:12-13, Gal 3:28, Eph 4:1-16, 5:29

Christ works in His Bride through His Holy Spirit to produce sons of God- Luke 20:36, John 3:5, Rom 8:14, Gal 3:26, 1 Peter 1:22-23, 1 John 5:1-5

Psalms 128

M: ¹Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,

W: who walks in his ways!

M: ²You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;

W: you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.

M: ³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house;

W: your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

M: ⁴Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

W: ⁵The LORD bless you from Zion!

M: May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life!

W: ⁶May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever, Amen.

Song of Songs 2:10-13a, 16a

¹⁰My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away,

¹¹for behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.

¹²The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

¹³The fig tree ripens its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

¹⁶My beloved is mine, and I am his