Main Thought This retelling of creation (2:4-25) details Adam’s SETTING (4-6), CREATION (7), GARDEN (8-14), PROBATION (15-17), and BRIDE (18-25).

INTRODUCTION

• Whereas God was the sole actor (1:1-2:3), now humanity is the reactor.
• This retelling focuses on man. Notice the shift in “heavens and earth” (1:1; 2:4a) to “earth and heaven”. More importantly note the shift from the transcendent God (NIV; HEB=elohim [1:1-2:4a]) to the immanent, personal, and covenantal (Ex. 3:13-14) LORD GOD (NIV; HEB=yahweh elohim [2:4-25]; Jehovah [KJV]).
• This account (HEB=toledot) is the first of 10 books in Genesis (5:1; 6:9; etc.).

ADAM’S SETTING (4-6).

• In this retelling, there are two negatives (no shrub; no plant [5] / formless; empty [1:2]) and one positive (streams came up from the earth [6] / Spirit hovered [1:2]).
• NO RAIN foreshadows the ominous future (7:4) as NO MAN (HEB=adam) TO WORK THE GROUND (HEB=adam) foreshadows Adam’s struggle (3:17-19).
• Work is not a curse. Prior to the fall man was created to WORK (15; 1:28; Eccles. 2:24; 3:22; 1 Cor. 3:9). The curse made it more difficult. Christ, the second Adam (1 Cor. 15:45-49), came and finished His work (John 17:4).

ADAM’S CREATION (7).

• The LORD GOD is the actor (1:3) who FORMED man as the potter does the clay (Jer. 18:2-4). This is deliberate and intentional (Job 10:8-9; Isa. 29:16).
• MAN (HEB=adam) is inseparably linked to the GROUND (HEB=adam) for that is his name, cradle, home, and grave (19; Eccles. 2:20).
• This BREATH (HEB=neshama) OF LIFE is imparted to man (Ezek. 37:4-5; John 3:6), never animals. More than animation, it brings spiritual understanding (Job. 32:8).
• All Scripture is GOD-BREATHED (2 Tim. 3:15-16) and is able to make you wise unto salvation. It can make you spiritually alive – BORN AGAIN (John 3:7).