

What About Us?

The Beginning of Us

Genesis addresses the existence of people very directly as shown in the following:

“²⁶Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ ²⁷God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸God blessed them; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ ²⁹Then God said, ‘Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; ³⁰and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, *I have given every green plant for food*’; and it was so.” (Genesis 1:26-30)

“⁴This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven. ⁵Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground. ⁶But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. ⁷Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. ⁸The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” (Genesis 2:4-9)

“²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. ²²The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. ²³The man 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.’

²⁴For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”
(Genesis 2:21-24)

In Genesis chapter two we see a more detailed accounting of the creation of humankind. There are several things that we should consider to better understand the circumstances and existence of Adam and Eve that differ from our experience.

First, we need to remember that as God created, He did so in Unity and consistency with Himself. This means that all of creation experienced what it means to be in perfect relationship with God the Creator.

At some level, even if it was at the level of base elements of the earth, Unity with God and all of creation existed. All living things connected in Unity with God, without being God.

How could that be? Because the essence of the elements that made the earth and all upon it came directly from Who God was, and is, and will be forever.

The Personhood of God was retained within the three Persons of the Trinity who coexisted as one Person: God. Being the Origin of all things did not extend the Personhood of God into what was created.

So, God could freely interact with all of creation, and all that was created could interact with God to the degree for which it, or they were designed. Nothing inhibited that interactive relationship.

Today that Unity with God does not exist at the core of what remains of the world we know. Still, what an atom consisted of originally came directly from God. At creation, a relationship of Unity was the only reality.

We can challenge that idea because it doesn't seem possible, or doesn't fit into our understanding of things. Please remember, however, the Creator is not limited by what He created, or what we think. So, it is important for each of us to seek the Truth from the Holy Spirit as we consider anything that impacts our perspectives.

Limitations?

There are no boundaries for God other than Who He is and how He chooses to express Himself. In whatever way that happens it will be consistent with Who God is eternally.

To seek to define the “way” or “depth” of the experience and knowledge of God, and the resulting relationship with Him that existed within all of creation in the beginning, goes far beyond our understanding today. My caution, however, is that we do not diminish our thoughts about the depth of Unity with God that His creation had with the Creator originally.

Instead we should hold our minds open to the idea that it was as consistent as God desired across all of creation. It was a consistent manifestation of Who He was, and is. It had to be, because all that creation consisted of came directly from God. Also, nothing had happened that could separate any part of the creation from its Creator.

This was especially true for Adam and Eve, and in some ways uniquely so. When Adam was formed from the dust of the earth this clearly demonstrated the oneness that humankind shares with all of creation; his body was made of it.

Why make a body for Adam and Eve? We know that eternal beings can exist without a physical body like ours. This is made evident by God (Exodus 13:21), the angels (Luke 2:15), the spirits of people after death (2 Corinthians 5:8), and demons (Acts 19:12).

My thought is God created the physical body of mankind to provide another dimension of Unity with Him through His creation. Their bodies provided the ability for them to enjoy that Unity with all the sensory capabilities of their bodies. This was coupled with simultaneously interacting with God, and His creation, within the Unity of God as Living eternal-beings.

Giving Adam and Eve bodies was not a burden for them, it was a blessing. Their bodies acted as an extension of their ability to enjoy and manifest Who God is. Why use "is" instead of "was"? Because God has not changed even though all His creation has changed.

The physical dimension of creation was intended to manifest what it means to be in a perfect relationship with God and all that God had created. Through these God-created relationships the essence of Who God is would be demonstrated, and result in experiencing true joy and love that only God can give.

Unity How?

As God created man from the earth Adam experienced oneness with creation in his physical dimension, because the earth had come from God Who was its origin. When formed, Adam's body existed, but he did not as an eternal-being.

God also "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life"- God was Adam's Life. So, Adam experienced oneness with God as an eternal-being occupying the body God had created. Then Adam existed as a person.

This breath of Life might be seen as God creating the soul and/or spirit of mankind. While this can get complex, it is sure that what God breathed into Adam was much more than air. It was not a special animating "breath" that caused Adam to start breathing air and keep on breathing; animation.

My belief is the personhood of Adam was created by God and breathed into the body, which became Adam's at that moment. Thus, as a whole person, Adam was a body, a soul, and a spirit fully united.

Adam was not a person with different things he possessed, such as a body, a soul, and a spirit. Adam simultaneously was a body, he was a soul, and he was a spirit. Acting with a mind, emotions, and will with all elements being full interconnected as one eternal-being.

There was no need for any distinction that might suggest separation. Today we might say people exist within the physical shell we call the body. So, soul/spirit/mind/emotions/will constitute the eternal-being who exists within a body. No such distinction existed when Adam was created.

For me, his Unity with God was to be expressed through Adam as a complete person. Every aspect of Adam was to be a manifestation of God's will. Adam's physical body and eternal-person were knitted together. All of this and much more happened by God breathing Life into Adam.

No other part of God's creation had the breath of Life breathed into it by God; only mankind. Thus, the essence of all that was humankind came directly from God, Who is Life. How Adam looked isn't the focus of him being made in the image of God. At this point, however, my thought is all eternal elements mentioned above formed Adam into the image of God.

When looking at these words as written in the Hebrew language, to me, it's like God blew the "Life" of "Life" into mankind. For the first time God imparted His Life into an eternal-being who also was a body.

So, to me God imparted His Life into Adam. This was the same Life-giving power with which He willed, spoke, and molded the world into being. His eternal Life, God Himself, was now within Adam, united with Adam's eternal-being. That gift of God-Life and that alone caused Adam to be truly Alive. That Life had to be a life of oneness with God because Adam's Life came directly from God.

This does not make Adam a type or form of God, or a god within creation. It does mean that he was made in the image of God, and existed within the Unity of God. Adam was still an individual person, but within that personhood existed a Unity with God Who was his Life, and continuous Life giver.

Here we are introduced to the Truth about the ability for us to be one with God, without being God. It's worth remembering. Adam was not created as a being who was separated from God.

Eve was made from Adam and the Unity that they shared is clearly stated in verses 20-24. Man and woman, one within each other and one with God. It was the intention of God to have all people existing in Unity with Him and one another.

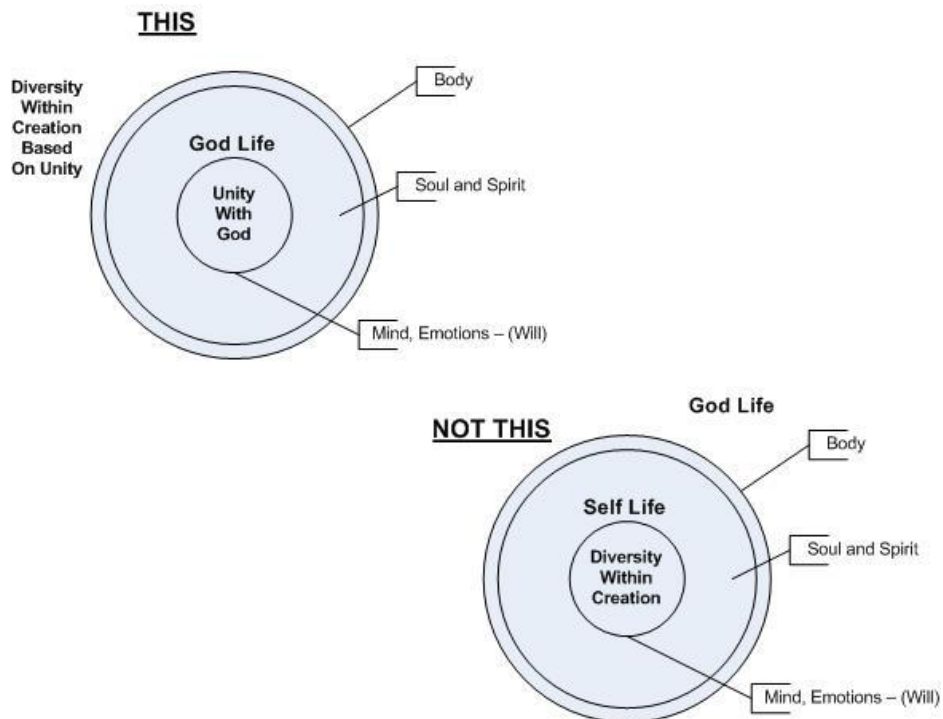
God would be their Life-Giver. He would be the sustainer of their Life as they experienced Unity within their intrinsic relationship with God, and thus one another, which was intended to last forever.

Unity Why?

Thus, the fundamental understanding of "self" or any other part of creation had its origin within the "Originator". God was the foundational source of all understanding, Unity, and self-perception.

It must have been amazing to experience what it means to be one with God and His creation. The relationship between Adam and Eve must have been very powerful as it was built upon the Unity they had because of God and with God, and thus with one another.

We've never experienced such a relationship unmarked by the impact of separation-thinking, and existence. No separation-thinking could have existed within the Unity created by God. Awareness of individual personhood, making each one distinct within their existence of God's oneness, did exist. It was, however, not based upon separation or individualism. There was no need for it, because the fullness of everything came from the oneness of God and within God Who was and is Life.



A critical point in Truth, principle and concept is that Adam, Eve, and all of creation had Unity as its base of existence under the authority of God as created by Him. While the various parts of creation were very diverse, their base of existence, and their experienced reality was Unity and not separation.

Diversity, at that time, only expressed the wealth of variation within this God created Unity, rather than experiencing separation because of God given diversity. My point suggests that Adam and Eve began their consideration of God, "self", one another, and everything else from their God created reality. Their realization of their God given Unity came before diversity was considered or explored.

In the first three verses of Genesis chapter two we see that by the seventh day God had completed His work and He rested. He was not tired. He simply stopped doing what He had been doing because He was done. It was finished. God's rest is always within the completeness of His work.

The earth was teeming with life of all kinds. God had placed Adam and Eve within the Garden of Eden to live out the Unified Life God was within them. That experience was intended to be eternal for Adam and Eve, and their children.

He had told them to be fruitful and multiply within the perfection that He created. (Genesis 1:28) By the essence of their state of existence everything they did would naturally be the specific will of God. They were in every way in alignment with God simultaneously.

Now in the Garden, God had created two particular trees. The tree of life, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Within all of creation, God only set one limitation; that Adam and Eve refrain from eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We'll pick up from here in the chapter "The Garden Event" after considering some perspectives about creation, and God Who is the Creator.