

LESSON 2

Name _____

Second Story of Creation Genesis 2:4-10

Directions: Read the scripture passage listed above and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

- Chapter 2 of Genesis gives another account of the story of creation. Despite its obvious contradictions to the first story of creation, the Biblical authors must have put this story next to the story in chapter 1 for a special _____.
- This second account of creation contradicts the first account in several ways. For instance, in the second account, in relation to the other living things, human beings are not created last, but _____.
- In the second account, all creation seems to be happening in a very short time, unlike the first account when creation lasted for _____.
- In the second account of creation, God does not seem far away from the work of creation, but rather _____.
- God does not give commands in the second account to create things. We find these differences:
 - For his creatures, God created a garden called Eden by actually _____.
 - Like a sculptor, God himself molded the man out of the _____ and to create a woman, God fashioned her from the man's _____.
 - To bring the man to life, God blew into his nostrils the _____.
- In the second account, God seemed to have difficulty in creating the right mate for the man. None of the animals was suitable. It almost seemed as if God did not know what to do. This is not typical divine behavior, but is more characteristic of _____.
- God finally created a mate for the man by casting a deep sleep over him and removing one of his _____.
- In this second account of creation, God is referred to by the title of _____.
- Now, if there are two different versions of the story of creation in the Bible, which is the true one? But perhaps this is the wrong question to ask. Remember, the stories are not intended to teach literal, scientific truth, but to present a deeper _____.
- Perhaps the stories were left in the Bible side by side because each story contains some, but not all of the truth we are to learn to learn about _____.
- We must study both accounts to grasp the full meaning of God's creation of the world.
 - From the first account, we learn that our God is all-powerful and can create with just a _____.
 - From the second account, we learn that our God is a caring God, who is not far away, but intimately involved with _____.
 - Creation was not done in a chaotic or haphazard way but with great _____.
 - In Genesis 1, man and woman are created together. In Genesis 2, woman is created from the same material as man. Both show that in terms of respect and dignity, men and women are _____.

Lesson 2 continued

12. Two very different accounts of creation suggest that the biblical story of the beginning of the world was not written by one author or group of authors, but by at least _____.
13. In fact, the first account of creation was written by a group called the Priestly writers. The second account was written by a group known as the Yahwist writers. These two groups wrote two different stories of because each group wanted to emphasize its own _____.
14. The generally accepted date for the priestly writer's account is c. 500 B.C.E (which means Before the Common Era and is the term preferred in religious studies). The Yahwist writer's generally accepted date is c. 950 B.C.E. Notice that although the Yahwist writers composed their story first, that version comes _____.
15. By examining the two accounts, we can see the different characteristics of the two writing sources:
- A. The Priestly source calls God by the term _____.
 - B. The Yahwist source calls God by the term _____.
 - C. The Priestly source portrays God as being distant or _____.
 - D. The Yahwist source describes God as being involved and _____.
 - E. The Priestly source likes to include family trees called genealogies in their writings. For instance, an ancestor list can be seen in Genesis 10. The Yahwist source likes to speak of God in anthropomorphic terms. This means that they give God human qualities even though God is not human. List two actions in the second account of creation which make God appear to act as a human:

16. In addition to the Priestly and Yahwist sources, there are two other sources which contributed to the writing of the first five books of the Bible. (The first five books are known as the Torah, a Hebrew word which means "law" and refers to the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.) These two other sources are the Elohist and the Deuteronomist. The Deuteronomist obviously wrote the book of _____.
17. Each writing source has a code letter for easy reference. These code letters are:
J for the source called _____
(Notice that the code letter is not Y because the theory of the four writing sources was originated by German scholars and this code letter has been retained from the original language.)
P for the source called _____
E for the source called _____
D for the source called _____
18. Each source has its own characteristics by which we can identify it. We have already mentioned some of the characteristics of the first two sources. As for the other two sources, the Elohist like to use dreams and visions in their writings to show a way God communicates to people. The Deuteronomists use a literary style which includes long speeches. The theory that four sources are responsible for the writing only applies to the first five books of the Bible known as the _____.