**‘Creation Revisited – A Different Perspective, Part One’**

***4These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.***

***In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, 5when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; 6 but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face 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. 8 And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 And out of the ground the Lord God made 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 the knowledge of good and evil.*** Genesis 2:4-9

It doesn’t take long when reading this passage to realize that it is quite different than the creation account of Genesis 1. Why would this be the case? May I suggest that it is to give us some details we need. Genesis 1 is written in broad brush strokes. It’s a nice outline, but we need more information. If we didn’t have Genesis 2, Genesis 3 wouldn’t make any sense to us. Still, this is a bit confusing because it doesn’t follow what we read in Genesis 1. That’s okay. What we’ve got to do is this: we’ve got to roll with the Holy Spirit and go wherever He takes us.

The focus in Genesis 1 is God and all that He said and did. God remains the focus in Genesis 2 because God IS the focus of the Bible, but now our attention is directed toward the creation of man, the Garden of Eden, and the two trees in the midst of the garden.

The immediate challenge we have in front of us is this: We have one very LONG sentence to contend with here. This sentence begins with the latter part of verse 4 and it doesn’t end until the end of verse 7! How are we to deal with that? Upon further investigation, I see that the sentence includes several “parenthetical statements” which interrupts the flow. The passage could just as easily have been written: ***“In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens…then 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.”*** What we see now is how important the creation of man is.

We have another interesting detail in the Genesis 2 creation account which was not included in the Genesis 1 account that we must notice. This detail is easily missed in our English translations. In Genesis 1, the Hebrew word for ***God*** is ***elohim***. Now, in Genesis 2, the word ***LORD*** precedes it. What are we being told by this inclusion? I believe we are being told a lot! The English ***LORD*** is the translation of the four Hebrew letters ***YHWH***. ***YHWH*** is God’s Name and many Bible reading people think that God’s Name won’t be introduced until Moses asks God what His Name is in Exodus 3. But it is found already in Genesis 2!

Our English translations render these four letters ***“LORD,”*** but it may have been just as well for the translators to have transliterated[[1]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2016/09/22/creation-revisited-a-different-perspective-part-one/" \l "_ftn1) the Hebrew letters and left it as ***“YHWH”*** (Yahweh). Surely the word ***LORD*** is important. But students of the Bible would have had an easier time connecting the Genesis 2 creation account with the account of Moses at the burning bush in Exodus 3 if the letters ***YHWH*** had been transliterated rather than translated.

*Kathleen*

[[1]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2016/09/22/creation-revisited-a-different-perspective-part-one/" \l "_ftnref1) Transliteration is the conversion of one script to another. Since English speaking people cannot read Hebrew letters, Hebrew letters are given English equivalents. In the present example the Hebrew letters יהוה become YHWH in English.