MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM

Sunday, November 15, 2026 -- GENESIS 1-11 series -- msg 13 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

GENESIS 1:26-28 English Standard Version (ESV)

> **26** *Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*
> **27** *So God created man in his own image,*
> *in the image of God he created him;*
> *male and female he created them.*
> **28** *And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

REVIEW: GOD CREATES…

Day One: God created light and separated light from darkness.
Day Two: God separated the waters from the expanse, made the sky.
Day Three: God separated land and sea, He made dry ground and vegetation.
Day Four: God made the sun, moon and stars.
Day Five: God made the sea and air creatures.
Day Six: God made land animals and human beings.
-- The God-head (Trinity) created man
-- In His image/likeness
-- He created them male and female

TODAY: *Why did God deliberately create humanity male and female?*
Why did He bless them with the ability to reproduce?

KEY OBSERVATIONS FROM THE TEXT:

I. GOD CREATED HUMANITY MALE AND FEMALE — HIS DESIGN. vs 27

27 *"So God created man in his own image,*
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them."

A. God *deliberately* created humanity as male and female.

- The threefold repetition of CREATED emphasizes God's deliberate action.
- The third poetic line gives special prominence to the male-female distinction.
- Sexual distinction is part of God's original, good creation, not a consequence of the Fall.
- Male and female are equally human, equally image bearers, and equally valuable before God.

GENESIS 5:1–2

1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. 2 Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created.

MATTHEW 19:3-6 — Jesus affirms the original design:

3 And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" 4 He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, 5 and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

B. God designed male and female with meaningful differences and complementarity.

- Equal dignity does not require identical characteristics or functions.
- The distinction is intentional, meaningful, and good.
- Genesis 2 provides the fuller explanation of the relationship between man and woman.

GENESIS 2:18

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

GENESIS 2:21–23

21 So the Lord 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. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man."

GENESIS 2:24 The man and woman become "one flesh."

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

IMPORTANT OBSERVATION:

The woman is neither an inferior version of the man
nor an interchangeable duplicate.
God creates a corresponding partner who shares his humanity and complements him.

II. GOD BLESSED HUMANITY WITH THE ABILITY TO <u>MULTIPLY</u> — SEE HIS <u>GENEROSITY</u>! vs 28

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

A. God gave humanity the extraordinary ability to <u>reproduce</u>.

- God personally created Adam and Eve.
- He then designed human beings with the ability to bring forth succeeding generations.
- Through human reproduction, new human beings bearing God's image enter the world.
- God graciously permits His creatures to participate in the propagation of human life.

GENESIS 4:1 — Eve acknowledges God's involvement in the birth of Cain.

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord."

PSALM 139:13–16 — God is intimately involved in the formation of human life in the womb.

13 *For you formed my inward parts;*
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
14 *I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.*
Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.
15 *My frame was not hidden from you,*
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
16 *Your eyes saw my unformed substance;*
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.

ACTS 17:25–26 — Paul proclaims all life and nations come from God.

24 *The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,* ***25*** *nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, <u>since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything</u>.* ***26*** *And <u>he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth</u>, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,* ***27*** *that <u>they should seek God</u>, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,*

IMPORTANT DISTINCTION:
Human beings ***do not*** possess God's unique power to create <u>from nothing</u>.
But God's AMAZING DESIGN of male and female grants us the <u>privilege</u> of reproduction as a remarkable means by which He brings new human lives into existence.

B. God declares <u>human fruitfulness</u> to be a blessing. vs 28

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

GOD <u>BLESSED</u> THEM — THEN GOD <u>COMMANDED</u> THEM.

- Fruitfulness is not merely a <u>biological function</u>.
- The ability to conceive and bear children is a <u>divine gift</u>.
- Children are not simply the by-product of human desire or activity; they are human lives <u>entrusted</u> to us by God and <u>a blessing</u>.

PSALM 127:3–5

3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward.
4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.
5 Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate

PSALM 128:1–4 — See the Divine Pattern of blessing—the treasure of children.

1 *Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,*
who walks in his ways!
2 *You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;*
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.
3 *Your wife will be like a fruitful vine*
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.
4 *Behold, thus shall the man be blessed*
who fears the Lord.

FOR THOSE <u>WITH</u> CHILDREN:

Remember the <u>privilege</u> you have been given.
Recognize the <u>responsibility</u> you have been given.
Rely on the Lord for <u>wisdom</u> and <u>strength</u> in raising your children.

FOR THOSE <u>WITHOUT</u> CHILDREN:

Remember the greatest blessing of Psalm 128 is not children <u>but the Lord</u>.
Recognize that, with the Lord, the trial of your pain can produce the <u>riches</u> and <u>reward</u> of a grace that otherwise would never have been realized.

1 PETER 1:6-7 -- FOR <u>EVERYONE.</u>

6 <u>In this you rejoice</u>, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.