

“What’s Your Gender’s Origin Story?”, Pt. 1
Bible Stories, Pt. 2.1: Genesis 2:4-25

I. Genesis 2 tells two distinct origin stories for male and female.

- A. Thus, men and women are not identical, but complementary.
 - 1. Their authority in this world is not exactly the same.
 - 2. Their roles in this world are not exactly the same.
- B. Thus, the genders are not fluid or arbitrary.

II. Man’s Origin story: The Earth Needs a Worker

- A. Man was created from the earth to bring the earth to its full potential.
- B. Man was placed in Eden to work it and guard it (a priestly work, Num. 3:7-9).
- C. Ultimately, man and his descendants were to spread Eden as a garden city across the whole earth.

III. Woman’s Origin Story: The Man Needs a Helper

- A. God built woman, from man, to be a corresponding helper in his work.
- B. The immediate marriage between man and woman points to childbearing as the primary, though not exclusive, form of such help.

IV. Some implications of the distinct origins of the genders:

- A. Man being created first shows that authority in this world generally lies with the male gender.

1 Timothy 2:12–13 - ¹² I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve... (also see 1 Cor. 11:1-12)

- B. Men were granted such authority because God the Son would become a man one day and remain one forever.
 - C. Men are to exercise their authority as Jesus did and does, i.e. service and the giving of one’s self for the benefit of others and creation.
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IS GENESIS 2 AN ALTERNATE CREATION ACCOUNT?

I. Supposed evidence for alternate accounts...

- A. The introductory statement of Gen. 2:4:
 - 1. “These are the generations of heaven and earth”
 - 2. Some claim that language means: “this is the story of creation’s beginning.”
- B. “No vegetation” yet in Gen. 2:5, implying the events of Gen. 1 had not really happened.
- C. Man being made *before* the animals in Gen. 2:19, contra Gen. 1.
- D. Adam could not have named all the animals in just one day 6.

II. Evidence against alternate accounts...

- A. “These are the generations” does not mean “this is how something or someone came about” but rather, “what happened after they came to be”.

Genesis 6:8–10 - ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. ⁹ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

- B. It was managed plants and harvested crops that had not yet appeared on the earth according to Gen. 2:5, not vegetation in general.
- C. Gen. 2:19, as rightly translated by the ESV and NIV says, “...the Lord God *had* formed every beast...” – before man in other words.
- D. Adam was not required to name every single animal, just those limited numbers that were present in the garden, and not insects or reptiles.

III. Conclusion...

- A. There is no reason whatsoever to assume Gen. 1 and 2 tell two differing and contradictory creation accounts.
- B. Gen. 2:4-25 zeros in on the 6th day of the Gen. 1 creation week.