

# CREATION

## A study of where we came from and why it matters in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### LESSON 12: Man, Part II

READ: Genesis 1:26-2:3

Man is unique above all the created realm. Man is the centerpiece of God's creation. All else was created as the environment in which God's plan would unfold for those beings created in his image.

Last week's study on the image of God in man and this week's study of man's God ordained purpose establish the place of man within the cosmos, a place you cannot come to apart from the God of the universe declaring it to be so. As man rejects these passages, he's left with no explanation for man's existence in the cosmos and no purpose for his life. We are a cosmic accident. He's left searching for a biological purpose for meaning. Friedrich Nietzsche was honest enough to admit that there was no meaning.

And so, we plow headlong into God's plan and purpose for man. Hang on tight.

1. As God communicates his plan for man, but not yet to man, in verse 26, what did God intend man to do? Have dominion over the created order.
2. God's communicated purposes to man?
  - a. Be fruitful and multiply
  - b. Fill the earth
  - c. Subdue the earth
  - d. Have dominion over the living creatures
3. Further guidance
  - a. Man's food
  - b. Animals' food
4. Implications for these commands:
  - a. For man's place in the world?
  - b. For work in the life of man?
  - c. For family in the life of man?
  - d. For sex in the life of man?
  - e. For being green in the life of man? God created the earth to be used and tended by man, not for man to bestow upon animal life an image that they do not inherently have.