

15. Creation pen and brush: Let Us make man in Our image



YHWH created Man in His perfect image; with everything we could possibly need around us. Even after the Fall, the land was still pristine and the food available and nutritious. Today with the pesticides and the geo-engineering, there is still the possibility to grow food with a certain amount of nutrition; I believe that YHWH has provided for us and what we need to do is trust in His provision even though this may be a struggle in these *days of Noah*. With this in mind, I will explore with you how YHWH provides and cares for His creation. Let's go!

²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over

the cattle, 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...*²⁹ *And God said, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.*”³⁰ *Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food”; and it was so.*

When YHWH created humankind, we read in Genesis Chapter One just how much He cared for His creation and, indeed, how He still does care for us. If we analyse the few verses above, we can see YHWH’s bountiful provision for us:

1. YHWH created us in His Own image (v 26); He made us to look like Himself rather than like one of the angelic beings which reside in the Heavenly realms. He made us like His Son, Yeshua. We read in Colossians Chapter 1:

¹⁵He (Yeshua) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

Now the thrones, dominions, principalities, powers (strongholds, seraphim and cherubim), together with the angels, are all beings from YHWH’s creation which do not look like humans! (Note: angels are able to transform into human character if needed and there are many verses pertaining to this, such as: Hebrews 13v2” *Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.*”). We can read many verses in the bible about these varied angelic beings and the picture we get is very different from what humankind looks like. We need to keep this in mind, which is why I am making a slight detour here...

In the book of Revelation 4:8, we read:

Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.”



Also, in the book of Ezekiel Chapter 1 we read:

¹⁰ As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle. ¹¹ Thus were their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two wings of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies. ¹² And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went. ¹⁵ Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel was on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. ¹⁶ The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the colour of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel. ¹⁷ When they moved, they went toward any one of four directions; they did not turn aside when they went. ¹⁸ As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims were full of eyes, all around the four of them. ¹⁹ When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

2. YHWH gave us dominion over all the creatures of the earth (v 26 -28). So we have some kind of authority over all these creatures but I would surmise that it is an authority with a responsibility; these creatures are given for our pleasure and wonderment, to be subdued by us in a compassionate manner. Barrett Duke writes: *“We often quote Matthew 10:29-31 to emphasize God’s concern for humans. In this passage, Jesus helped his listeners grasp the extent of God’s concern for them: If God*

cares about the death of a common bird, he certainly cares about the needs of humans. That isn't all we learn from this passage, however. Jesus also gave us insight into God's attitude toward animals. True, humans are "more valuable" than a common little bird, but Jesus didn't say that animals have no value to God. In comparison to humans, the little sparrow has little value, but God still values the life of that little sparrow enough to be moved by its death. It isn't just that God notices the sparrow's death, like one might notice that the wind is blowing. Jesus wanted his listeners to understand that God is emotionally invested in that sparrow. He cares about what happens to it; he just cares more about what happens to people. Once we acknowledge that God is emotionally invested in birds, i.e., animals, as well as humans, we are now talking only about a difference in the degree to which he is, not whether or not he is."

Further commenting on the verses above, we find that YHWH gave humankind: *"every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food"* (v29). This shows us how YHWH knew right from Creation what we needed to sustain ourselves and to survive. Meanwhile, the animals were also provided for. It would seem that at the beginning of Creation both humans and animals ate a vegetarian, even vegan, diet and that YHWH had provided the plant life that was required. Later all this changed, I suppose when after the Fall everything altered.

Even so, in verse after verse the bible tells us about YHWH's provision for us: Psalm 136 v 25-26: *"He gives food to every living thing. His faithful love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of heaven. His faithful love endures forever."* Psalm 145 v 15-16: *"The eyes of all look to you in hope; you give them their food as they need it. When you open your hand, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing."*

In the book of Matthew Chapter 6 v 31-32, we hear Yeshua say: *"Don't worry and say, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' The people who don't know God keep trying to get these things, and your Father in heaven knows you need them."*

A comment from *Chris Hawksbee* discussing the trees in Genesis Chapter One says: *"They are not mentioned just for their beauty, but because each gave fruit with seeds in it. They were given for us to use. This shows God's generosity to us in abundance and variety. Some seeds produced oil that could be used for*

cooking and lighting, medicinal purposes, and for beauty treatments. Fruit and seeds provided food. We can add to this list: shade, wind breaks, habitats for animals, building and construction materials, sweet perfumed trees and incense. And God saw that it was good!"

The seed-bearing plants of all and varied kinds were provided for our nourishment but we also find many occasions in the bible where plant-life is used to illustrate something which YHWH and, then, Yeshua were telling us. Interestingly, Clarence Larkin tells us these facts: *"These three trees are particularly fit symbols of Israel, for in Palestine the "Vine," the "Fig-tree," and the "Olive," stand for the fruitfulness of the land. And the "Vine" and "Fig-tree" prefigure the Millennial days when every man shall sit under his own "Vine" and "Fig-tree." Micah 4:3-4. When Jacob (Israel) was about to die he summoned his sons, and prophesied their future. Of Judah he said that his portion of Canaan should be so full of vineyards that asses should be tethered to the vines, and that the juice should be so plentiful that they would wash their clothes in it as in water. Gen. 49:9-12.*

THE VINE is a symbol of Israel's ***Spiritual*** privileges.

THE FIG-TREE is a symbol of Israel's ***National*** privileges.

THE OLIVE TREE is a symbol of Israel's ***Religious*** privileges."

As with many parts of the Bible when we read about these trees (or other objects), we need to view the message being given in light of the symbolism attached. YHWH gives us His messages in many ways as we read His word and discern through His Holy Spirit.



As many of us find ourselves struggling in the times we now find ourselves in, it is good to remember that YHWH does provide for us; sometimes in the most unexpected ways. Sometimes all we might see around us is the corruption brought about by the evil one who plans our demise, but take heart, YHWH knows our struggles and he has given us a lifeline through His Son and His Holy spirit.

Yeshua says: *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"* Firstly, *Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you* (Matthew 7:7). So that: *according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue...*

2 Peter 1:3.

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