

STEP 3

The Edenic covenant

PALABRAS CLAVE: EVERYTHING BEGAN IN EDEN... IT WAS VERY GOOD!



**How did the Edenic Covenant begin?
With whom did the Lord establish this covenant?
What is the central element of this covenant?**

God bless you! In Step 2 we studied eight events concerning the Edenic Covenant, which are recorded in Genesis chapters 1 and 2. Can you recall them? Write them below so that you may refresh your memory:

Event 1: Declaration by God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit to make man.

Event 2: Execution of the divine decree.

Event 3: God makes a special dwelling place for man.

Event 4: Positioning Adam in his dwelling place.

Event 5: First part of the Edenic Covenant.

Event 6: The only declaration that something was not Good.

Event 7: God forms the woman as a suitable helper.

Event 8: Wedding of Adam and the woman.

In the previous Step we said that it was necessary to understand this chronology in order to answer the two questions we have been asking ourselves since Step 1; let us look at these questions:



When God made man from the dust, He then declared that it was not good for him to be alone; let us read Genesis 2:18 again, highlight "It is not good that man should be alone", and answer the questions:

¹⁸ And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (NKJV).

- What is it that is not good?: That man should be alone.
- What is the solution determined by God?: To make the woman, the helper comparable.
- On what day did God make this declaration?: On the sixth day.
- Is this a fleeting, temporary, or momentary declaration? What kind of declaration is it? (Support your answer): It is a declaration with eternal repercussions; God never changed His affirmation that it is not good for man to be alone.

The Lord declared that it was not good for man to be alone; this word in Hebrew is **טָד** (bad) and means "separation; by implication a part of the body, branch of a tree".

This word comes from another, which is **טָדָד** (bâdad), which means "to divide, solitary".

טָד bad

"separation; by implication a part of the body, branch of a tree".

טָדָד bâdad

"to divide, solitary".

Based on these two Hebrew words and their meanings, we can conclude that what the Lord said is: “It is not good for man to be separated, to be a part of the body, or to be divided or solitary.” These meanings are very important when we look at what the Lord does afterwards and Adam’s later declaration, when he receives the woman as his wife; let us look:

The solution to what is not good ...

According to what we read in Genesis 2:18 in part b, God declares that, so that the man may not be alone, He will make him a helper; the New King James Version version translates the Hebrew terms as “helper comparable”; let us look at these words:

The term translated as “helper” is עֲזָרָה (*‘âzar*); and the word translated as “comparable” is נֶגֶד (*neged*) and means “a front, that is, an opposite part in order to be joined together or to complement each other; specifically a counterpart or partner”.

עֲזָרָה (*‘âzar*)
“helper”

נֶגֶד (*neged*)
“a front, that is, an opposite part in order to be joined together or to complement each other; specifically a counterpart or partner”.

Read Genesis 2:21 to 22, highlight verse 22, and answer the question:

²¹ And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. ²² Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

- Explain the way in which God made the woman on the basis of the meanings of the words you learned earlier, when the Lord declared that it was not good for man to be alone: God declared that man should never be alone, that this was not good; therefore, He made the

woman as a helper comparable, that is, as a counterpart who would be joined to him, who would complement him. This purpose explains the way in which God made the woman, from Adam's rib. This upholds the decree of marriage, in which the man and the woman are joined in one flesh.

It is evident that the cause of the deep sleep into which God caused Adam to fall in order to take one of his ribs, so as to make the woman, was not to avoid any pain or discomfort, for Adam had not yet sinned and, therefore, there was neither pain nor sickness nor death; consequently, the deep sleep upon Adam has nothing to do with this. We believe that there are two powerful reasons why God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep; let us look:

(a) Adam saw nothing when God was carrying out creation; therefore, neither could he see how the woman was being created, since it was necessary for him to believe in the omnipotence of God; Adam had to have faith in the Creator of all things, and in this way show his love towards the Lord.

This is demonstrated in Hebrews 11:3; read and highlight "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God"; and answer the question:

³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

How do we understand that the universe was created by the Word of God?: By faith. Who was the first to see creation newly made by God?: Adam. Did Adam see how God made creation?: No.

Hebrews chapter 11 is the historical line of faith, built with the servants who believed and fulfilled their mission of believing within the eternal plan of God for salvation and the recovery of the eternal promises that God granted to man in Eden, but which were never fulfilled because of man's sin.

As can be seen in Hebrews 11:1, Adam is the first to see creation and had to believe that God made it by the Word, which is narrated in Genesis 1. This is the first reason why the Lord caused him to sleep when He formed the woman. Let us look at the second reason:

(b) God wanted to surprise Adam with the gift of the helper comparable, that is, with his complement, counterpart, or partner. This is confirmed by the reaction of Adam's song when he saw the woman who was brought to him by the Lord Himself in the beautiful event

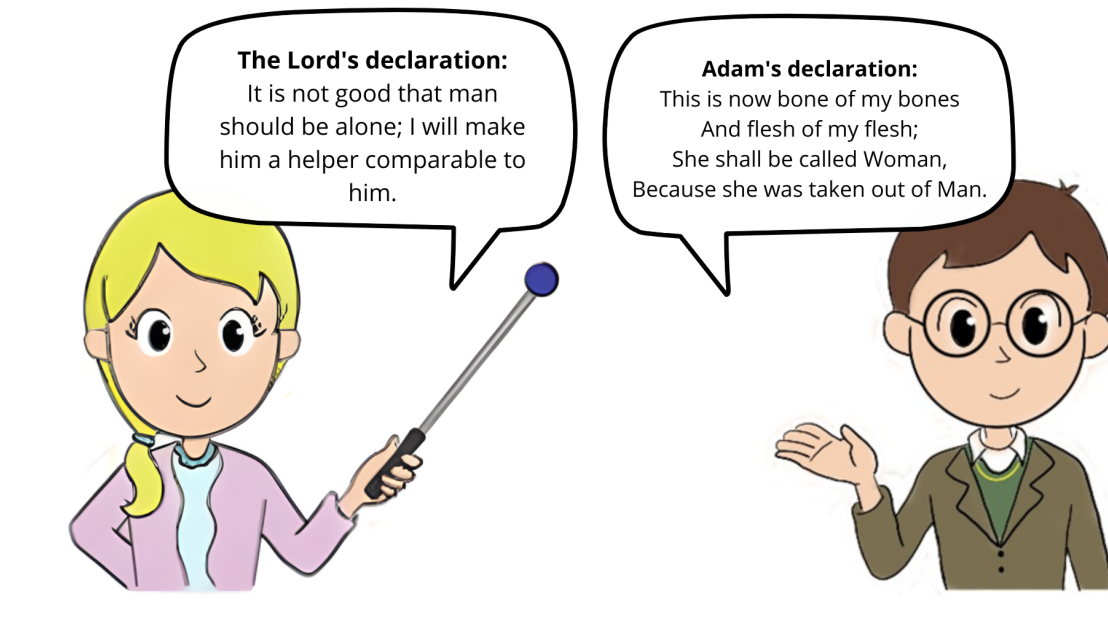
of the wedding or marriage; read Genesis 2:23, highlight “She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man”; and answer the question:

²³ And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones / And flesh of my flesh; / **She shall be called Woman, / Because she was taken out of Man.**”

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

What name was given to the woman, and why?: “Woman,” because she was taken from the man.

Adam knew that God had formed the woman from his own body; therefore, he made the statement you read in verse 23, which corresponds to the fulfillment of God’s statement when He said it was not good for man to be alone; consider the following images:



When Adam says, in Genesis 2:23, that the woman shall be called “Woman”, the Hebrew word is אִשָּׁה ('ishshâh), which means “wife”; and the word for “man” is אִישׁ ('îysh), whose meaning is “husband”. Before this term, in this verse 23, it says מִן (min) (min 'îysh), which means “part of”.

Adam's declaration is indicating that God was officiating his wedding with the woman whom He had formed from his rib. In verse 24 these same two Hebrew terms are also used, אִישׁ ('iysh: "husband") and אִשָּׁה ('ishshâh: "wife"), when it says "man" and "woman"; so that you may see the precise translation, based on the Hebrew words, replace these terms with "the husband-his wife" in Genesis verse 23: This fact corresponds to the eighth event that we listed in Step 2, which you recalled at the beginning of today's Step.

• Based on what you have learned so far, write in order the events of the creation of the woman and of the wedding, relating Genesis 1:28 and 2:21–24:

- God declared that it was not good for man to be alone.
- God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep.
- God took one of Adam's ribs and formed the woman.
- Adam awoke and saw the woman.
- God brought her to Adam.
- God celebrated the marriage between Adam and the woman: He blessed them and gave them the eternal promises; Adam pronounced the song in which the decree of marriage is found, from Genesis.

LET US PRAY TO OUR GOD!

Eternal Father
God of goodness and justice
I praise You and bless You
Holy and mighty are You, my Lord
How much wisdom Your Word contains!
I marvel as I understand it
Keep teaching me, Lord
By Your Holy Spirit
So that I may wait for You full of fire
And of the first love
I pray in the name of Jesus
AMEN!

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LET US WORSHIP OUR GOD!

Gethsemane. Ministerio Berea Barranquilla – YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= UT2uByclDg>