

Creation of Humans

Genesis 1:24-30

(Exploring Our Biblical Heritages Study Bible)

1. **The Creation of Animals** – Both the Creator and the Earth were involved in the creation of animals. The Creator told the Earth to “*bring forth a living soul*” and then the Creator created them. In Hebrew a soul is the seat of a *creature’s appetites, desires and longings*. Animals are creatures with *appetites, desires and longing linked to the Earth*. The Creator made three types of animals – *large animals, smaller animals and wild predatory animals*.
2. **The Creation of Humans** – Both the Creator and the Earth were involved in the creation of humans. Once again the Earth “*brought forth a living soul*” and then the Creator made them. The humans are creatures with *appetites, desires and longing linked to the Earth* like animals. But the Creator created humans with some things the animals don’t have.
3. **Presence of the Creator** (“*the image of God*”) -- The Creator’s presence bestows the ability to create like the Creator creates and make things that measure up to the Creator’s TOV Standard – create things that protect lives, preserve lives, make lives more functional and increase the quality of life.
4. **Male and Female Genders** – There are only two types of humans and their names are defined by their functions in the creation of and raising new human lives. It requires a male and a female acting together to make a human baby naturally (organically). *Males and females are equals in authority, status and power*.
5. **Self-Discipline & Impulse Control** -- The Creator empowered all humans with the capacity to learn how to *exercise impulse control and self-discipline over their earthly appetites, desires and longing*. This is an essential requirement for functioning as an adult human in the eyes of the Creator.
6. **Act as the Creator’s Co-Shepherds** -- Humans are created *be the Creator’s co-shepherds over all living things on the Earth, which will include other humans*. Males and females are to *act as the Creator’s co-shepherds over each other*.
7. **Freewill** -- *At one extreme, every human has the ability and power to reveal the presence (image) of the Creator, while at the other extreme to reveal the presence (image) of a wild predatory animal*.

Option 1: *Be like the Creator and speak words and do things that protect lives, preserve lives, make lives more function, and/or increase the quality of life.*

Option 2: *Be like a wild predatory animal and do things that destroy lives, threaten lives, make lives less functional, and/or decrease the quality of life.*