

The First Article—Humanity

THE CROWN OF CREATION

Imagine the world as God created it before there were humans. It was perfect in every detail, covered with beautiful and useful plants, ready to be cultivated and used. Think of the beauty and variety of animals, birds, and fish, all perfect, none diseased or damaged in any way. How could God create something even better than all this? In what ways was the creation of humans special? What makes humanity the CROWN of God's creation?

To find out, check the Bible references and fill in the blanks.

1. When God created other creatures, He did it simply by (Genesis 1:3,9,11)

2. When God created humans, He did it by (Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

3. What relationship does man have to other living things? (Genesis 1:26)

4. What makes humans especially close to God? (Genesis 1:26-27)



WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

God made the first man and woman to be more than parasites, creatures who take from creation and give nothing in return. The newly married Adam and Eve were given serious responsibilities within God's creation.

1. In **Genesis 1:28** God gave them three general responsibilities. Explain what they were in your own words.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. Read again **Genesis 2:15–25**. Then correct each statement below. Each sentence is wrong because of one or more words. Cross out the incorrect words to correct each sentence.

a. Adam and Eve were created almost perfect by God.

b. In paradise our first parents were not expected to work.

c. In the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve were not married.

d. God allowed Adam and Eve to eat the fruit of all the trees but one, and told them not even to touch that fruit.

In an earlier lesson we learned that Adam and Eve sinned and lost the image of God—their holiness—and destroyed the perfection of God's creation. They were forced to leave Eden, and their lives were cursed by sin. Their work was no longer the perfect joy it had been in paradise. The children that would be born to their marriage would sometimes bring them sorrow. Innocence was lost. Death would follow. Yet God promised a Savior to crush sin's hold (**Genesis 3:15**).



