

Sermon notes for 4.10.09  
Gen 2.18-24 (Mk 10.2-16)

## INTRO

Gen = the book of first principles. Starting point for most of the important biblical themes. Creation, Fall, Redemption and Restoration, the nature of God and of human beings, of human relationships with each other and with God.

Ch 1 'big picture' account of creation is familiar – principles are...  
God initiates, creates, brings order and beauty and reflects his nature in what he creates, supremely in human beings. Note how each part of creation is created 'good' and when all is done it is 'very good'.

A second complimentary creation story begins at 2.4 and focuses especially on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of creation, expanding on 1.27, placing the man in the garden of Eden with specific attributes and a role to play and then creating the woman out of the man's body.

Whole range of opinions about historicity of this account. We may not all agree. More important is to extract the principles and apply them.

- Humans created to co-operate with God in creation. Stewardship, cultivating role;- work is a good thing
- God puts his breath (spirit) into humans in order to make them living beings (one of the things lost at the fall, therefore Jesus breathes the HS back into us??)
- It is not good for Adam (the man) to be alone. He is incomplete until Eve is created (out of Adam)... Do men have less ribs? Spare Rib feminist magazine – IS this account offensive to women if properly understood?
- The importance of living in community – God (Trinity) is essentially community
- Origins of marriage