

# Genesis 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

## Analysis

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**And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and b...** This passage continues the detailed account of Eden, human creation, and God's design for human flourishing. Genesis 2 complements chapter 1 by providing intimate details about human origins, the garden setting, marriage institution, and humanity's vocation as priest-kings in God's sanctuary-garden.

The narrative emphasizes God's personal involvement, careful preparation of human habitation, clear communication of covenant requirements, and provision for human needs including work, rest, relationship, and worship. The garden of Eden represents perfect environment where heaven and earth intersect, God dwells with humanity, and everything needed for life and blessing exists.

Key theological themes include human dignity as divine image-bearers, work as divine calling (not curse), marriage as covenant partnership, moral freedom with accountability, and the necessity of obedience for blessing. The detailed geography and placement of Eden in historical space-time (rivers, lands) presents this as real history, not mythology. These foundational truths establish the pattern for understanding humanity's purpose, relationships, and destiny throughout Scripture.

## Historical Context

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Genesis 2 provides a detailed account of human creation and Eden's establishment, using different literary style than chapter 1. Ancient Near Eastern parallels include the Sumerian Paradise myth and the Gilgamesh Epic's plant of life, but Genesis transforms these motifs within strict monotheism. The garden sanctuary with its rivers, trees, and divine presence parallels ancient temple theology where gods dwelt in sacred spaces.

The geographical references (Pishon, Gihon, Hiddekel/Tigris, Euphrates) ground the narrative in historical space-time rather than mythological timelessness. While the exact location of Eden remains debated, the inclusion of identifiable rivers presents this as real geography, not allegory. The Mesopotamian setting connects to humanity's ancient origins in that region, confirmed by archaeology.

Ancient audiences would have recognized marriage's divine institution as countercultural, elevating women beyond their typical status as property. The intimate account of woman's creation from man's side presented revolutionary equality and partnership. The garden-temple imagery established patterns for Israel's tabernacle and temple, where God would again dwell with His people in sacred space requiring holiness and obedience.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to the biblical doctrine of creation, fall, or redemption?

2. How does this passage challenge modern cultural assumptions about identity, purpose, or morality?
3. How does this passage point forward to Christ and the gospel of redemption?

## Interlinear Text

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|                          |           |                          |          |                |                       |          |             |             |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| תִּיצַּר                 | יְהוָה    | יְמִן                    | אֱלֹהִים | מִן            | קָדְםָה               | הָרָא    | כָּל        | תִּיְהֵן    |
| formed                   | the LORD  | God                      |          | H4480          | And out of the ground |          | H3605       | every beast |
| H3335                    | H3068     | H430                     |          |                | H127                  |          |             | H2416       |
| בָּשָׂדָה                | בָּשָׂדָה | אֶת                      | כָּל     | וְעַד          | בְּשָׂמֵם             | יְמִן    | וְעַד       | אֶל         |
| of the field             |           | H853                     | H3605    | and every fowl | of the air            |          | and brought | H413        |
| H7704                    |           |                          |          | H5775          | H8064                 |          | H935        |             |
| בָּאָדָם                 |           | לְרֹא                    | וְתַ     | מָה            | לְרֹא                 | וְתַ     | כָּל        | אֲשֶׁר      |
| them and whatsoever Adam |           | to see                   |          | H4100          | called                |          | H3605       | H834        |
| H120                     |           | H7200                    |          |                | H7121                 |          |             |             |
| לְזַקְנָה                |           | בָּאָדָם                 |          | בְּשָׂמֵם      | בְּשָׂמֵם             | תִּיְהֵן | תִּיְהֵן    | הַזְקָנָה   |
| called                   | H0        | them and whatsoever Adam |          | creature       | every beast           |          |             | that        |
| H7121                    |           | H120                     |          | H5315          | H2416                 |          |             | H1931       |
| שְׁמָוֹן:                |           |                          |          |                |                       |          |             |             |
| was the name thereof     |           |                          |          |                |                       |          |             |             |
| H8034                    |           |                          |          |                |                       |          |             |             |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 1:28** (References God): And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

**Genesis 6:20** (Parallel theme): Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

**Genesis 9:2** (Parallel theme): And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

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