

# THE STORY OF CREATION

## GENESIS 1-2

COLONIAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
VIRGINIA BEACH - VIRGINIA



# The Story of Creation and Intrusion of Sin

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- I. God Establishes Creation as the Wise Master-Builder.
- II. God Creates Man, the Pinnacle of Creation, as Priest and King.
- III. Man Inverts the Created Order through Sin, Failing as Priest and as King.
- IV. The God-Man (Jesus Christ) as the Perfect Priest-King Reverses Sin's Curse and Recreates a New Humanity.

# The Story of Creation and Intrusion of Sin

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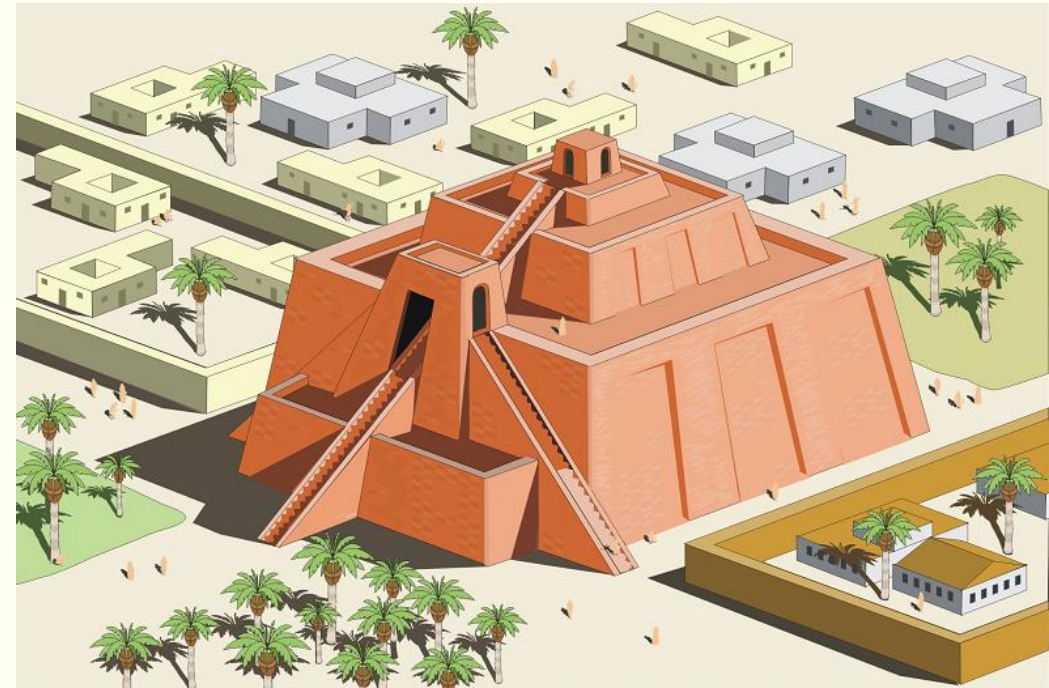
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# Building as the Zenith of Wisdom, Skill, and Knowledge

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“By *wisdom* a house is built, and  
by *understanding* it is  
established;

by *knowledge* the rooms are filled  
with all precious and pleasant  
riches.” (Prov 24:3-4)



# World as the *Creation* and *Furnishing* of God's House

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<b>Creation as Master Building</b>			
	<b>Creation of "Rooms"</b>		<b>Furnishing of "Rooms"</b>
<b>Day 1</b>	Light	<b>Day 4</b>	Sun, moon, and stars
	Separation of light from darkness		Day and night
<b>Day 2</b>	Firmament, lower and upper waters	<b>Day 5</b>	Aquatic and winged creatures
<b>Day 3</b>	Separation of water from dry land	<b>Day 6</b>	Land creatures
	Dry land "Earth" and waters "Seas"		Humans
	Plants		Vegetation for food

# Special Features of Genesis 1:26-28

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1. Noticeable change in style.
  - “*Let us make man in our image*” (Gen 1:26)
2. Different pattern used.
  - Extensive explanation given for Day 6.

## Special Features of Genesis 1:26-28

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### “Normal” Pattern of Creation Days:

1. Announcement
2. Command
3. Description of Action
4. Evaluation
5. Blessing
6. Temporal Framework

### Pattern of Day 6:

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Announcement          | 7. Decision and Purpose |
| 2. Command               | 8. Action and Purpose   |
| 3. Report                | 9. Blessing and Purpose |
| 4. Description of Action | 10. Food Provision      |
| 5. Evaluation            | 11. Report              |
| 6. Announcement          | 12. Temporal Framework  |

# Special Features of Genesis 1:26-28

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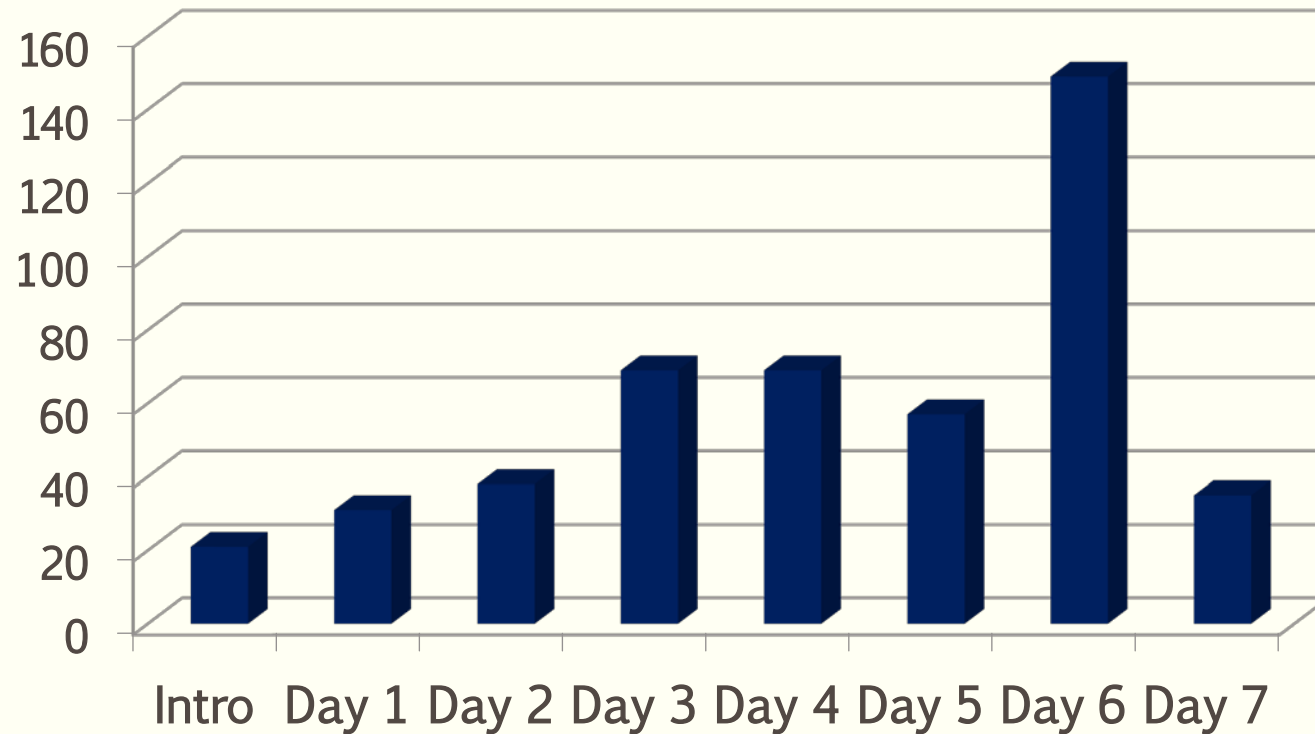
3. Numerical climax.
  - Day 6 as last day is focal point of the narrative.
4. Longer report.
  - Day 6 has the lengthiest report of any day.



# Special Features of Genesis 1:26-28

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Number of Words Used to Describe Each Day of Creation



# Special Features of Genesis 1:26-28

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5. Definite day.
  - Only Day 6 uses the definite article.
6. Royal rule.
  - The words *rule* and *subdue* are unique to mankind.



# The Story of Creation and Intrusion of Sin

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# Man as the *Likeness* and *Image* of God

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## The Tell el Fakhariyeh Statue and Inscription

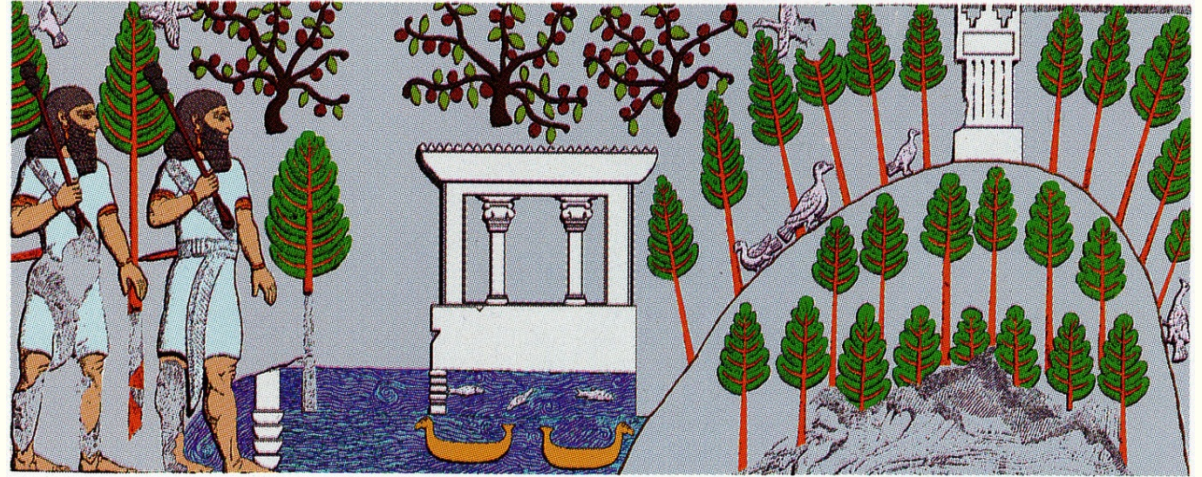
- Constructed in 10<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> century B.C.
- Upper Habur, Northern Syria
- Aramaic inscription containing the terms *likeness* and *image* to describe the figure of the king.



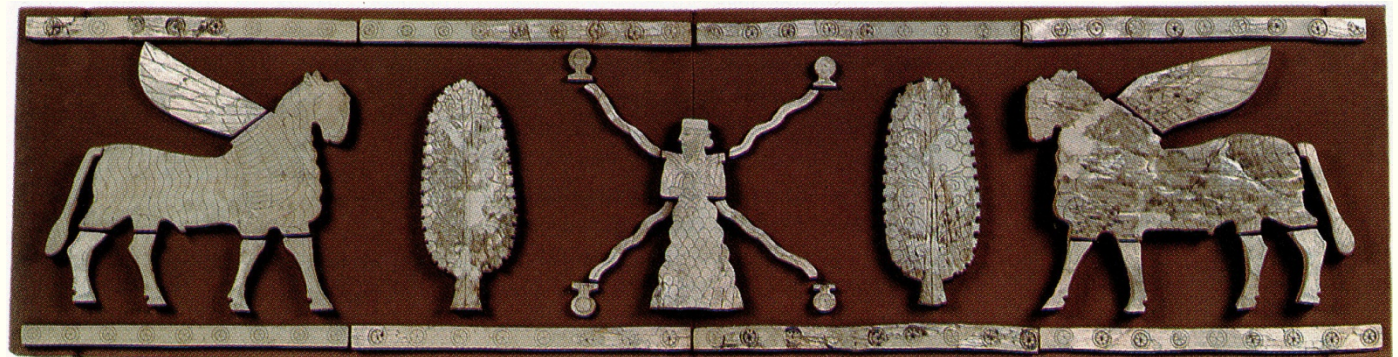
# Gardens as Sacred Space

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Garden of Assyrian King  
Sargon II (721-705 BC)



Ivory Assyrian Relief from 13<sup>th</sup>  
century B.C.





# Eden as Sanctuary

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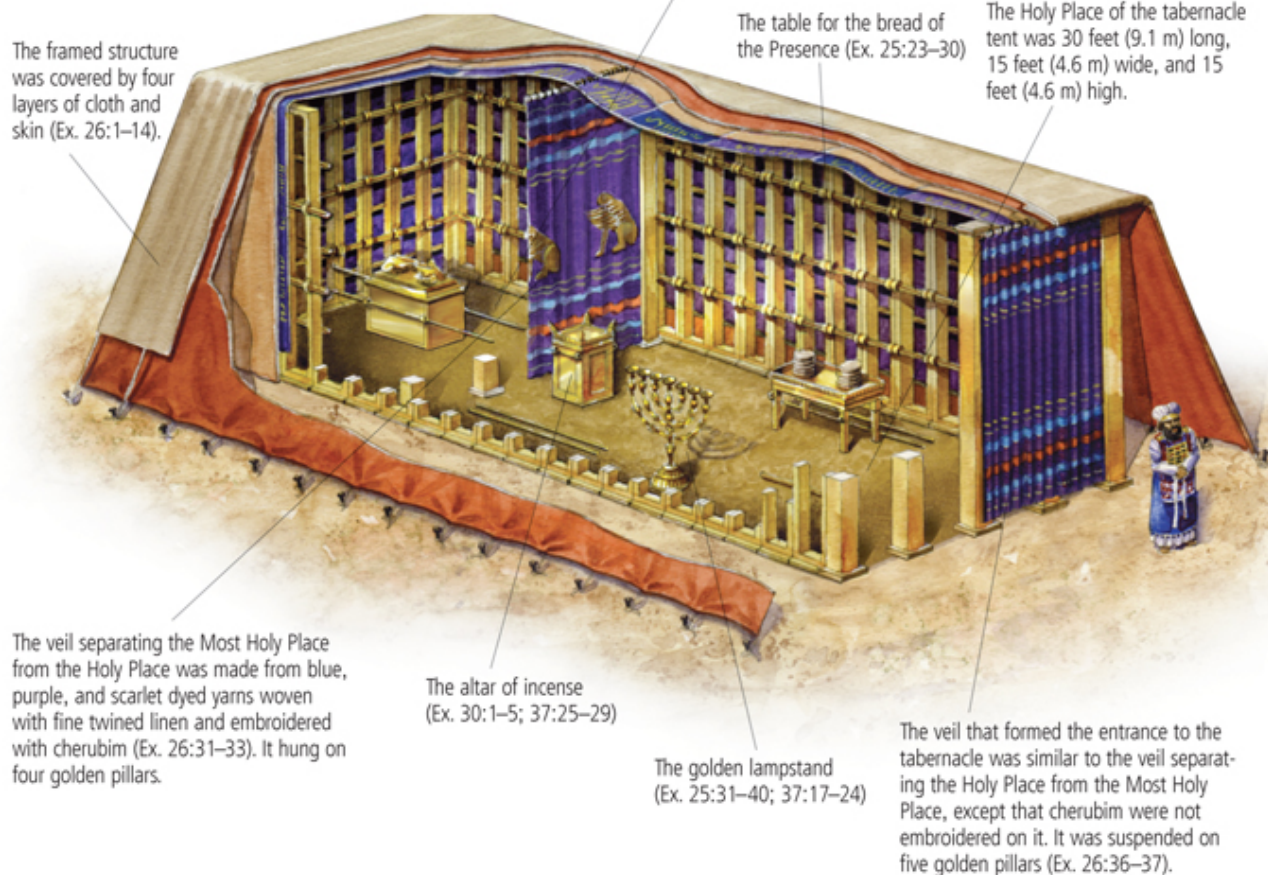
Features of the Sanctuary	Garden of Eden	Tabernacle/Temple
Entered from the east	<p><i>And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, <u>in the east</u>, and there he put the man whom he had formed. (Gen 2:8); He drove out the man, and <u>at the east of the garden of Eden</u> he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life (Gen 3:24)</i></p>	<p><i>Those . . . were to camp before the tabernacle <u>on the east</u>, before the tent of meeting toward the sunrise, were Moses and Aaron and his sons, guarding the sanctuary itself, to protect the people of Israel. (Num 3:38); He set up the pillars in front of the temple, <u>one on the south, the other on the north</u>; that on the south he called Jachin, and that on the north Boaz. (2 Chr 3:17)</i></p>

# Eden as Sanctuary

## THE TABERNACLE TENT

The entire tent was 45 feet (13.7 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It was a wooden skeletal structure, overlaid with gold, with no solid roof or front wall (Ex. 26:15–29). Five wooden bars (overlaid with gold) passed through rings attached to each frame (Ex. 26:26–30).

The Most Holy Place was a 15-foot (4.6-m) cube, containing only the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10–22; 37:1–9). It was here that Yahweh would descend to meet with his people in a cloud theophany (divine appearance). The high priest could enter only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (see note on Heb. 9:7).



# Eden as Sanctuary

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<b>Features of the Sanctuary</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Tabernacle/Temple</b>
Guarded by cherubim	<p><i>You were an <u>anointed guardian cherub</u>. I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked (Ezek 28:14); He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed <u>the cherubim</u> and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life (Gen 3:24)</i></p>	<p><i>Moreover, you shall make the tabernacle . . . with <u>cherubim</u> skillfully worked into them. (Exod 26:1); In the inner sanctuary he made two <u>cherubim</u> of olivewood, each ten cubits high (1 Kgs 6:23); Around all the walls of the house he carved engraved figures of <u>cherubim</u> and palm trees and open flowers, in the inner and outer rooms (1 Kgs 6:29)</i></p>



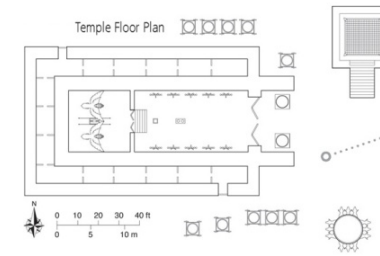
# Eden as Sanctuary: Layout of the Temple

A structure was built around the walls of the temple containing three levels. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (9 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5–6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31–32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).

The vestibule was 30 feet (9.1 m) wide and 15 feet (4.6 m) deep (1 Kings 6:3; cf. 2 Chron. 3:4)



The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "Jachin" (1 Kings 7:21; cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (cf. 2 Chron. 4:1).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:33–35).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1-m) cube (1 Kings 6:15–29; 2 Chron. 3:8–14). Such rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim were on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15-foot (4.6-m) wingspans (1 Kings 6:23–28). The ark of the covenant was between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1–11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2–14).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18.3 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17–18; cf. 2 Chron. 3:5–7). It contained the golden altar for incense; the golden table for the bread of the Presence; and ten golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48–49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).

Ten bronze wheeled stands and basins held water for rinsing off what was used for the burnt offerings (1 Kings 7:27–38; cf. 2 Chron. 4:6).

The "Sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) tall and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons (44,000 liters) of water for the priests to wash in. It was supported by twelve bronze oxen in sets of three, facing in each direction (1 Kings 7:23–26; cf. 2 Chron. 4:2–5).

## SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1–2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 B.C. (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27.4 m) long, 30 feet (9.1 m) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 m) high. It resided in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

# Eden as Sanctuary

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Features of the Sanctuary	Garden of Eden	Tabernacle/Temple
The Lord "walks about"	<i>They heard the sound of the LORD God <u>walking about</u> in the garden in the cool of the day (Gen 3:8)</i>	<i>The LORD your God <u>walks</u> in the midst of your camp (Deut 23:14); I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been <u>moving about</u> in a tent for my dwelling. (2 Sam 7:6)</i>

# Eden as Sanctuary

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Features of the Sanctuary	Garden of Eden	Tabernacle/Temple
Tree of Life in its midst	<i>The <u>tree of life</u> was in the midst of the garden (Gen 2:9)</i>	<i>You shall make a <u>lampstand</u> of pure gold. (Exod 25:31)</i>
Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil	<i>The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the <u>tree of the knowledge of good and evil</u> (Gen 2:9); The woman saw that the tree was <u>good for food</u>, and that it was a <u>delight to the eyes</u>, and that the tree was to be <u>desired to make one wise</u>, (Gen 3:6)</i>	<i>The Law is <u>good</u>, <u>delightful</u>, and <u>enlightens the eyes</u> (Psa 19:8-9)</i>



# Eden as Sanctuary: Menorah as Tree of Life

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# Eden as Sanctuary

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<b>Features of the Sanctuary</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Tabernacle/Temple</b>
God's representative is to "serve" and to "keep/guard"	<i>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden <u>to work it and keep it.</u> (Gen 2:15)</i>	<i>They shall keep <u>guard</u> over him and over the whole congregation before the tent of meeting, as they <u>minister</u> at the tabernacle (Num 3:7)</i>

# Eden as Sanctuary

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<b>Features of the Sanctuary</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Tabernacle/Temple</b>
<p>Sweet, life-giving water flows out from it</p>	<p><i>A <u>river flowed out of Eden</u> to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers (Gen 2:10)</i></p>	<p><i>There is a <u>river whose streams make glad</u> the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High (Ps 46:4); He brought me back to the door of the temple, and behold, <u>water was issuing from below the threshold of the temple</u> toward the east (for the temple faced east) (Ezek 47:1)</i></p>

# Eden as Sanctuary: Pure Streams from the Mountain of God

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# Eden as Sanctuary

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<b>Features of the Sanctuary</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Tabernacle/Temple</b>
Gold is plentiful and pure	<i>The <u>gold</u> of that land is <u>good</u> (Gen 2:12)</i>	<i>You shall overlay it with <u>pure gold</u> (Exod 25:11); Solomon overlaid the inside of the house with <u>pure gold</u> (1 Kgs 6:21)</i>



# Eden as Sanctuary

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Features of the Sanctuary	Garden of Eden	Tabernacle/Temple
Sacred jewels adorn it	<p><i><u>Bdellium and onyx stone are there (Gen 2:12); You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering, <u>sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle;</u> and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. (Ezek 28:13)</u></i></p>	<p><i>You shall set in it <u>four rows of stones: sardius, topaz, and carbuncle; an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond; a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper (Exod 28:17-20)</u></i></p>

# Eden as Sanctuary: Sacred Jewels on the Priestly Garments

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# Eden as Sanctuary

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<b>Features of the Sanctuary</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Tabernacle/Temple</b>
High in elevation (sacred mountain)	<i>A river <u>flowed out of Eden</u> to water the garden (Gen 2:10); You were on <u>the holy mountain of God</u> (Ezek 28:14)</i>	<i>Solomon began to build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem on <u>Mount Moriah</u> (2 Chr 3:1); I have set my King on Zion, <u>my holy hill</u> (Ps 2:6)</i>

# Eden as Sanctuary

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Features of the Sanctuary	Garden of Eden	Tabernacle/Temple
Resting place for God	<p><i>God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it <u>God rested from all his work</u> that he had done in creation (Gen 2:3)</i></p>	<p><i>Son of man, this is the place of my throne and <u>the place of the soles of my feet</u>, where I will dwell in the midst of the people of Israel forever (Ezek 43:7); King David rose to his feet and said: "I had it in my heart to build <u>a house of rest</u> for the ark of the covenant of the LORD and for the footstool of our God" (1 Chr 28:2)</i></p>

# Eden as Kingdom

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Features of the Kingdom	Garden of Eden	Kingdom of Israel
Dominion	<i>God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and <u>have dominion</u> over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth" (Gen 1:28); You have <u>given him dominion</u> over the works of your hands (Ps 8:6)</i>	<i>[Solomon] <u>had dominion</u> over all the region west of the Euphrates from Tiphseh to Gaza, over all the kings west of the Euphrates. And he had peace on all sides around him (1 Kgs 4:24); May he <u>have dominion</u> from sea to sea (Ps 72:8)</i>

# Eden as Kingdom

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Features of the Kingdom	Garden of Eden	Kingdom of Israel
Sonship of Regents	<p><i>God created man in his own <u>image</u> (Gen 1:27); When Adam had lived 130 years, he <u>fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth</u> (Gen 5:3); Seth was the son of Adam. Adam was the <u>son of God</u>. (Luke 3:38)</i></p>	<p><i>The LORD said to me, "<u>You are my Son</u>; today I have begotten you" (Ps 2:7); He shall cry to me, '<u>You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation.</u>' And I will make him the <u>firstborn</u>, the highest of the kings of the earth (Ps 89:26-27)</i></p>

# Eden as Kingdom

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Features of the Kingdom	Garden of Eden	Kingdom of Israel
Crown	<i>You have . . . <u>crowned</u> him with glory and honor (Ps 8:5)</i>	<i>LORD, in your strength the king rejoices. . . . You set a <u>crown</u> of fine gold upon his head (Ps 21:1, 3)</i>
Land	<i>God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and <u>fill the earth</u>" (Gen 1:28)</i>	<i>Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the <u>ends of the earth</u> your possession (Ps 2:8)</i>

# Eden as Kingdom

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<b>Features of the Kingdom</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Kingdom of Israel</b>
Seed	<i>God said to them, "<u>Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth</u>" (Gen 1:28)</i>	<i>I will <u>establish his offspring</u> forever and his throne as the days of the heavens (Ps 89:29); <u>His offspring shall endure forever</u>, his throne as long as the sun before m (Ps 89:36)</i>



# Eden as Kingdom

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<b>Features of the Kingdom</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Kingdom of Israel</b>
Blessing	<i>God <u>blessed</u> them. (Gen 1:28)</i>	<i>For you, O Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your <u>blessing</u> shall the house of your servant <u>be blessed forever</u> (2 Sam 7:29)</i>

# Eden as Kingdom

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<b>Features of the Kingdom</b>	<b>Garden of Eden</b>	<b>Kingdom of Israel</b>
Rest	<i>God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God <u>rested</u> from all his work that he had done in creation (Gen 2:3)</i>	<i>The king lived in his house and the LORD had <u>given him rest</u> from all his surrounding enemies (2 Sam 7:1); Now the LORD my God has <u>given me rest</u> on every side (1 Kgs 5:4)</i>

# Closing Thoughts from Genesis 1-2

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- **Repent of the lie**, any of the “wrong stories” you’ve believed. Pursue Christ and His purposes for a new humanity, redeemed and renewed to serve and to reign.
- Realize we were created **to serve and worship the true and living God**, not idols. Find our real joy in Him.
- Ask for God’s wisdom to **represent** him and to **lead** with righteousness, integrity, and fruitfulness.