

BIBLICAL VIEW OF CREATION

GENESIS 2:4-25

Chronology Issues

*How do chapters one and two harmonize?

1. View A

- Understands chapter one as chronological, and therefore the events of chapter two must be interpreted to fit the order of chapter one
- Sees nothing in chapter two as exegetically insurmountable to prevent it from being reconciled with the order of chapter one

2. View B

- Does not understand chapter one as chronological, and therefore makes no attempt to reconcile the apparent order of chapter two with that of chapter one
- Sees the chronological “discrepancies” between the two chapters as further evidence that chapter one is not meant to be understood as chronological

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Chronology Issues (i.e. harmony w/ chapter one)

1. 2:4-7: “no shrub or plant” before man

View A: refers only to plants and thistles that appear after the fall (part of the curse)

View B: signifies no vegetation existed prior to man's creation

2. 2:8-9: The creation of the garden after man

View A: a special creation of a specific garden separate from the vegetation created prior to man on day six

View B: the creation of edible vegetation for man because none yet exists

3. 2:19-20: The creation of animals after man

View A: a special creation of animals for a specific purpose separate from the creation of animals prior to man

View B: the creation of all animals which occurs after the creation of man

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Chronology Issues (i.e. harmony w/ chapter one)

4. 2:21-24: Creation of woman after man

View A: It does not violate the chronology of chapter one, but only adds details not given in chapter one

View B: Another example of how chapter one is not concerned with chronology