

Who Are the “Us” in Let Us?

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Recorded on December 17, 2022

Recently I was introduced for a speaking assignment during the Feast as a CEO of my son’s business. CEO usually represents the Chief Executive Officer of a business—basically the Head Guy. My designation as the CEO was in error. My son is the CEO of his own business. The CEO is normally the highest-ranking individual of the company. As I was walking up to the podium that day, I was thinking that I wouldn’t want the “demotion” as my son’s dad. I am my son’s dad and that is a God-given responsibility. It is of greater importance to God than any of my being chief of anything else. I would rather be considered as my son’s dad than any other position of authority of any part of a manmade organization. In Genesis 1 in the very first verse of the very first chapter of the Bible gives us an indication of the importance of the responsibility of being a dad. The responsibility of a dad is first addressed in this very first chapter of the Bible. The Bible records the very first organized human relationship. That relationship was established and ordained by God from the beginning. In verse 26 of Chapter 1, God created humans in the likeness of God and gave them dominion over what He had created during the previous five days.

Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, “Let Us make man ... (NKJV)*

The word translated *man* in verse 26 is Strong’s #120, and is pronounced adam the Romanized spelling is Adam.

26 continued) ... in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them [notice man is singular, them is plural] have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (NKJV)

Verse 26 tells us that *man* (Hebrew *adam*) was created in the likeness of more than one God entity.

27) So God created man [the adam] in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (NKJV)

(Note: - In verse 26 the Hebrew word for *man* i.e. “adam” has no definite article “the” in front of it.) However, in Verse 27 the same Hebrew word for *man* does have the definite article in the front of it— “*the adam*”

We’ll look at the first two verses of Genesis 5, for some clarity.

Genesis 5:1 *This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;
2) Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. (KJV)*

So, there were two of them. My point in looking at Genesis 5:2 is to show that at least once in the Genesis account the term *Adam* is used to represent both the “male and female”—*male and female adam*. On the sixth day of creation—the first day of human existence—there were only two humans and they were in existence in the likeness of their Creators. We will come back to this. First, we need to understand why God created Adam or as the word is often translated, “mankind”, as male and female.

Chapter 2 of Genesis gives us a little more detail concerning the creation of the first humans. The man Adam was created first and was created from the dust of the ground.

Genesis 2:7 *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.* (KJV)

Creation of the man from the dust was only part of the creation of humans on the sixth day. As we have already noticed, the man and the woman were created on the same day. In Genesis 2:18.

Genesis 2:18 *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.* (KJV)

Continuing in verse 21.

21) And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;
22) And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. (KJV)

The creation of the first humans was a singular creation of two humans. The male human from the dust of the ground and the female human from the male. The pair that were called Adam, by God, were created as *mankind* of a unique male and a unique female as verse 23 shows.

23) And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. (KJV)
24) Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.
25) And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. (KJV)

The raw material for both was the dust of the ground. The man was created first and then from the man, the woman was created. Continuing in verse 24, we see the reason for creation of male and female was for a man to be joined with a woman as his wife.

24) Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

25) *And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*
(KJV)

So, they were both naked and no one had any problems with that. Adam and Eve becoming a father and mother was a result of them being joined together in marriage. God created humans as male and female for the purpose of a marriage relationship between a man and a woman. In Mark 10:6-9, Jesus is recorded as stating that the male and female family relationship was intended from the very beginning of creation.

Mark 10:6 *But from the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female.'*

7) *For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,*

8) *and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh.*

9) *Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.* (NKJV)

Jesus' comments were His response to the Pharisees wanting essentially, His approval for the desire of humans to shirk their responsibility to be faithful in marriage. His disciples asked Him about it later in verse 11.

11) *So He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her.*

12) *And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."*(NKJV)

Then He expounds on the intended fruit of marriage. The fruit of marriage is children and children are what the Kingdom of God is all about.

Continuing in verse 13.

13) *Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.*

14) *But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased ...* (NKJV)

He was more than just displeased; He was greatly displeased.

14 continued) *... and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.*

15) *Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."*

16) *And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.* (NKJV)

Without children there will be no Kingdom of God as planned for from the beginning of creation. The very existence of every human from Adam and Eve has required the union of male and female. Our conception and birth bear evidence of the significance of the marriage union. The creation of marriage was for the purpose of our existence and the potential of each human to be born into the Kingdom of God. Every one of

us is expected to honor the sanctity of marriage. If we are fortunate enough to be married, we have additional responsibility and God-given obligation to care for and nurture that marriage. If you never have and never will be married or have never had the opportunity for children, you still have responsibility to honor the sanctity of marriage of others and assist as you are able to nurture other children. From a broader perspective, we all are children and God expects all of us to be a blessing to each other. We need to be a blessing and a helper to each other. The first twenty-five verses of Genesis chapter 1 describe the creation of a physical infrastructure in preparation for the creation of humans. As we have already noted, God created man and woman in the likeness of God. He also gave them dominion over what He had created over the previous five days.

Genesis 1:26 ... *let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.*" (NKJV)

Adam and Eve were given dominion over every living thing on the earth. The creation of everything on the earth, to that point, was for their dominion. The rest of the first chapter covers what I believe to be the very first wedding ceremony. Let's read verses 28-30 with that in mind.

28) Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (NKJV)

I have been to weddings where prayers are offered, asking God to bless their marriage. Here, God pronounces a blessing. The blessing was that they be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. To be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth means that they were blessed with the ability to have children. Usually at a wedding ceremony, there are gifts. The next two verses look to me like the example of wedding gifts.

29) And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.

30) Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. (NKJV)

Notice God gave them every physical thing on the earth. Then notice verse 31.

31) Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. (NKJV)

This all happened on the sixth day. The man and woman were created as husband and wife, they received a blessing on their marriage to be fruitful and multiply, they were given as a gift, dominion over everything on earth. On that day, the sixth day, there was no such thing as a Sabbath. The Sabbath was not yet created. In Mark 2 we see the Sabbath was another gift. Adam and Eve were not created for the Sabbath, the Sabbath was created for them.

Mark 2:27 *And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. (NKJV)*

I believe the sanctity—my personal opinion—of marriage and the responsibility that God places on all of society to honor and support that sanctity, is an even more important matter to God than the Sabbath. We do place a very high priority on the Sabbath as God does. We must not be slack in keeping the Sabbath. We must keep the Sabbath. But in doing so, we must emphasize the matters that are of greater significance and importance of God. The institution of marriage was created before the Sabbath existed. Adam and Eve were already one, she was made from part of his body.

Let's look at Malachi—I know I've covered Malachi in the last year or so but I think it's so critically important. A major God-given priority for us is supporting the family and taking care of whatever family responsibilities we are allowed to have. I believe diligence to my responsibilities as a father were and continue to be of greater importance to God than success in business, wealth or any power or authority I may have in an organization. As our children age, our responsibilities and authority as parents does change. God hates divorce and does not approve when we shirk our responsibilities.

Malachi 2:15 *But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.
16) For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence," Says the LORD of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously." (NKJV)*

The purpose of marriage and the family is for God to have Godly offspring. Humans having children is a type of God's purpose of having spirit-born children. I want you to notice in Genesis 3 that the Creators are God Beings. This is the account where Adam and Eve had sinned and God determined to evict them from the garden. The identity of one of the Creators is clearly revealed in this passage.

Genesis 3:22 *Then the LORD [Yehovah] God [Elohim] said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. (NKJV)*

The word for *us* is Strong's #4480, pronounced *mennu* and is a preposition, first person coming plural. The *us* here are more than one God and only includes those of the same likeness.

*22 continued) ... And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—
23) therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. (NKJV)*

Notice, Yehovah Elohim made the decision and communicated the decision. Clearly, of the Creators, Yehovah Elohim is in charge. The description of the Creator that pronounced the decision to evict Adam and Eve from the garden is specifically

identified in chapter 3 as Yehovah Himself. In this passage where it says “LORD God”, the Hebrew is *Yehovah Elohim*. Psalms 83 says that the Most High God’s name is Yehovah. In Isaiah 45 one of the Creators—Yehovah Elohim—declares to be above all others. He declares that there is not any other entity that is at or above His level of greatness. He is supreme and no other entity is His equal.

Isaiah 45:18 *For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: “I am the LORD, and there is no other. (NKJV)*

Yehovah created the heavens and formed the earth to be inhabited. Yehovah Elohim declared Himself to be supreme to all others. In John 20. Jesus confirmed Yehovah is declared to be greater than all other Gods by confirming that Yehovah is His God. Mary Magdalene in chapter 20 had gone to check on Christ’s tomb and the disciples had also come to the tomb and had already gone home but she waited around and Jesus appeared to her.

John 20:17 *... I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.” (NKJV)*

Now that we know the identity of one of the Creators, we may be able to ascertain the identity of any other creators. We also have confirmation by a statement from Jesus that one of the “us” is His God. Ephesians 3 verse 9 tells us that from the very beginning, God has a plan to create all things through Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul was explaining the purpose of his ministry.

Ephesians 3:9 *... and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; (NKJV)*

The individual described in verse 1 is Jesus Christ.

John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (NKJV)*

The Word as described in John—Jesus Christ—was a God and He was with Yehovah.

Continuing in verse 2.

2) *He was in the beginning with God.*

3) *All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (NKJV)*

Everything that was made by Yehovah Elohim, was made through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is also another God being. There we have it. Everything was created by Yehovah Elohim and everything that was created by Yehovah Elohim was created through Jesus Christ. These two God beings are the “us” in “let us”. They created humans in their likeness, they created humans to be fruitful, to multiply and fill the

earth. They created marriage so that Adam and Eve and their descendants would have children to raise within a stable environment.

Continuing verse 10.

10) He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

11) He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. (NKJV)

As the God Being that Almighty God created everything through, Jesus also claims all humans as His own.

Continuing in verse 12.

12) But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

13) who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (NKJV)

If we are accepted by God to be born again as Spirit beings, that will be by the will of Almighty God. We have that opportunity through Jesus Christ.

14) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (NKJV)

In 2 Corinthians 6, the very last verse of the chapter, the Apostle Paul testifies that we as humans can become sons and daughters of the LORD Almighty.

2 Corinthians 6:18 *"I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty."* (NKJV)

God created humans, male and female in the likeness of their Creator God and the God through Whom He created everything. The ability of Adam to have children is a type of the LORD God Almighty's goal of having children. Not only has God created all things through Christ, He also has reconciled us to Himself through Christ. By our reconciliation through Christ and God's Holy Spirit, we become part of the family of God. The family of God is a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (NKJV)*

John 17 contains Christ's prayer stating that He has completed what He was sent to do. He knew the next steps in the process would be His torture and crucifixion. This prayer might actually be one of the most important conversations to have ever occurred. This prayer is the prelude to Jesus suffering the most important trial that has ever been. No other trial throughout all of eternity will rise to the significance of the consequences of that trial. He had to succeed. In that prayer, in verse 24, Jesus states that He was loved by God before the foundation of the world.

John 17:24 *Father ...* (NKJV)

Skipping down to the bottom of verse 24.

24 continued) ... You loved Me before the foundation of the world. (NKJV)

God also loves us. Verse 23.

23) I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. (NKJV)

Continuing in verse 26.

26) And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.” (NKJV)

A successful family that is able to provide for and nurture children requires love. God provided love to be a part of the physical family relationships as a type of Their love. Everything belongs to God the Father. Those of us who have God's Holy Spirit, belong to the Father. We also belong to Christ and to God the Father.

Back to verse 9.

*9) I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours.
10) And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them.* (NKJV)

We all exist through the process of the physical family that God created. From our limited physical perspective, family is not new. However, the physical family, instituted by God on the sixth day of creation, was created in the likeness of the yet to come spiritual and eternal family—the family of God. God's goal is that we become one in Them.

Continuing verse 21.

21) that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. (NKJV)

Personally, I have been fortunate enough to obtain the role of husband and father in this life. For me, this role is the most important responsibility in my life. I have other roles and I cannot leave them undone. I must do my best to fulfill those roles to the best of my ability. I have raised four children. I had each of my children through my wife. Together we provided for and nurtured our children to become adults and parents in the hope that they will do the same for their children. God the Father is the Creator of all things through Jesus Christ. God the Father is also Creator of a new thing—the family of God. He has created a family of spirit beings of which Jesus Christ is the Firstborn. He is adding members to that family through Jesus Christ.

The members of that family will be born again as spirit beings to live forever as part of the family of God.