



“It Is Not Good To Be Alone”

Believers And Community

Genesis 2



15 Adonai, God, took the person and put him in the garden of 'Eden to cultivate and care for it. 16

Adonai, God, gave the person this order: "You may freely eat from every tree in the garden 17 except the tree of **THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.** You are not to eat from it, because on the day that you eat from it, it will become certain that you will die."

18 Adonai, God, said, “**IT IS NOT GOOD** that the person should **BE ALONE**. I will make for him **A COMPANION SUITABLE FOR HELPING HIM**.”

עֹזֶר

‘âzar

To surround,
protect or aid

בָּדָ

bâd

Be isolated

נִגְדָּ

nâgad

Front, expose,
predict, face,
explain, praise

Genesis 2

24 This is why a man is to **LEAVE** his father and mother and **STICK** with his wife, and they are to be **ONE FLESH.**

בָּקַבֵּק
dâvaq

cling or adhere;
follow close, keep,
pursue hard

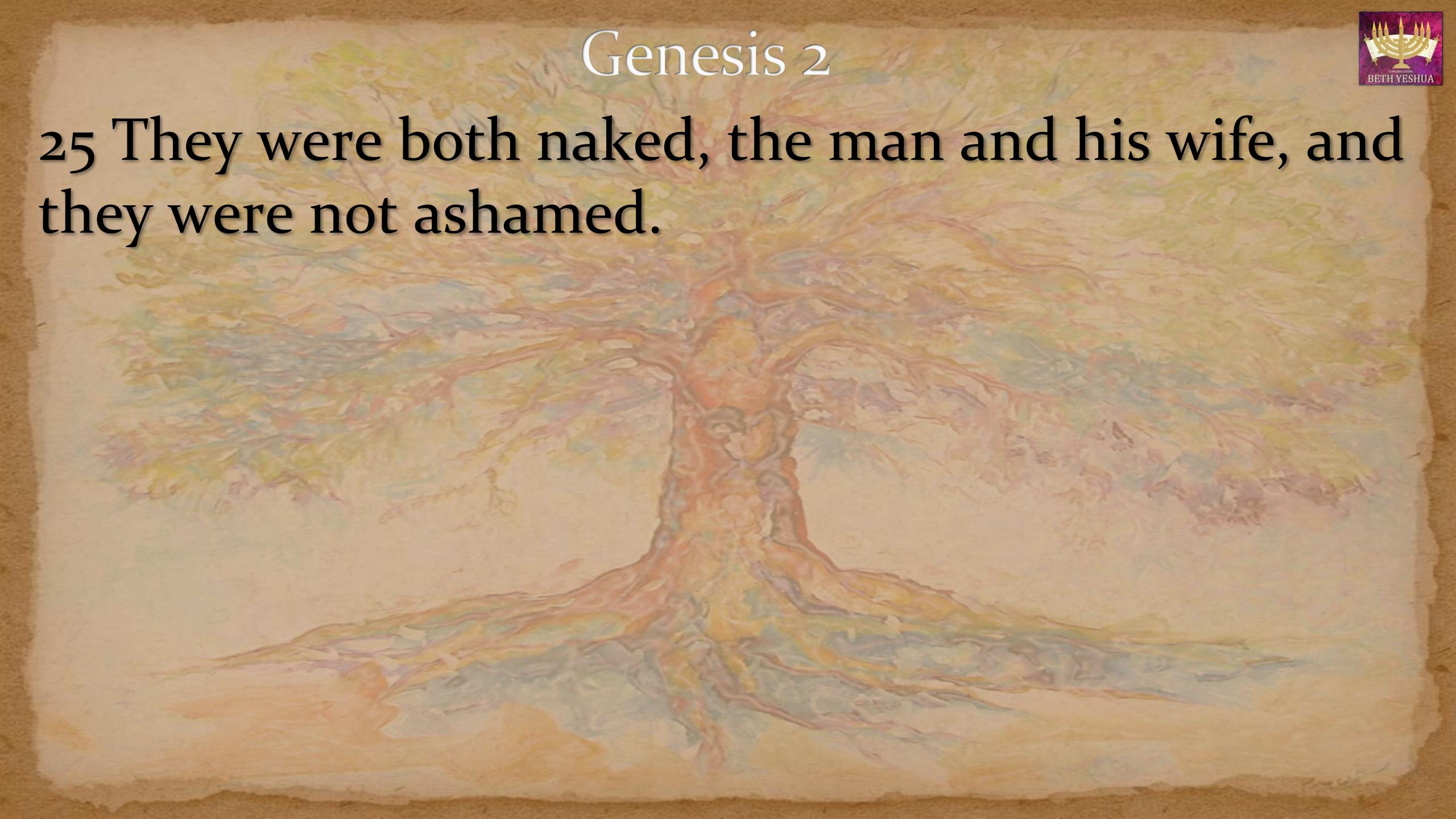
עַזְבָּה
'âzav

To loosen or
relinquish

Genesis 2



25 They were both naked, the man and his wife, and they were not ashamed.



Isolation



Aloneness is deadly – isolation removes accountability and inevitably leads to sin.

What's even worse is when God has provided a way out of isolation, a person or community to be co-transparent with, and you choose to remain isolated.

It is then that you are without excuse when you fall!



Genesis 3

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any wild animal which Adonai, God, had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You are not to eat from any tree in the garden’?” 2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat from the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, ‘You are neither to eat from it nor touch it, or you will die.’” 4 The serpent said to the woman, “It is not true that you will surely die; 5 because God knows that on the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Genesis 3



6 When **the woman saw** that the tree was good for food, that it had a pleasing appearance and that the tree was desirable for making one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her; and he ate.

Genesis 3



7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and **they realized that they were naked**. So they sewed fig leaves together to make themselves loincloths.



Genesis 3



22 Adonai, God, said, “See, **the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil.**

24 So he drove the man out, and he placed at the east of the garden of ‘Eden the k’ruvim and a flaming sword which turned in every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

Isolation & Accountability



When you live in isolation, and make choices in isolation,
you live and choose without accountability.

You will inevitably place yourself in the position of God.

And, as one who is “like God,” you will determine what is
good and what is evil, what is right and what is wrong.

And you will experience “death.”

Why? Because there is only One Person who has indeed
already determined what is good and what is evil, what is
right and what is wrong.

THE ONE TRUE GOD

Exodus 18



13 The next day Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from morning till evening. 14 When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, “What is this that you are doing for the people? **WHY DO YOU SIT ALONE**, and all the people stand around you from morning till evening?”

בָּד

bâd

Be isolated

Exodus 18



15 And Moses said to his father-in-law, “Because the people **come to me to inquire of God**; 16 when they have a dispute, they come to me and I decide between one person and another, and I make them know the statutes of God and his laws.”

17 Moses' father-in-law said to him, “What you are doing **IS NOT GOOD.**”

Exodus 18



19 Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you! You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, 20 and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do.

Exodus 18



21 Moreover, look for **ABLE MEN** from all the people, men **WHO FEAR GOD**, who are **TRUSTWORTHY AND HATE A BRIBE**, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. 22 And let them judge the people at all times.



Exodus 18

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אמת – 'emet

True, stable,
trustworthiness,
faithful

שָׁנְאָ בְּצֻעַ

shanei betza

Hate
manipulation for
personal gain

חַיִל – chayil

virtuous, valor,
strong, valiant,
worthy

Exodus 18



Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So, it will be easier for you, and **THEY WILL BEAR THE BURDEN WITH YOU.**

Exodus 18



23 **IF YOU DO THIS**, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace.”



Proverbs 18



8 Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

Don't isolate yourself – expose yourself to and surround yourself with those who are trustworthy and will not be bribed by the world



Proverbs 18

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desire; he breaks out against judgment.

עַזָּר
'azar
To surround,
protect or aid

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Front, expose,
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Don't isolate yourself – expose yourself to and
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trustworthy and will not be bribed by the world

Hebrews 10



23 Let us continue holding fast to the hope we acknowledge, without wavering; for the One who made the promise is trustworthy. 24 And let us keep paying attention to one another, in order to spur each other on to love and good deeds, 25 NOT NEGLECTING OUR OWN CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS, as some have made a practice of doing, but, rather, encouraging each other. And let us do this all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10



26 **FOR IF WE DELIBERATELY CONTINUE TO SIN** after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but only the terrifying prospect of Judgment, of raging fire that will consume the enemies.

1 Peter 5



1 Therefore, I urge the congregation leaders among you, as a fellow-leader and witness to the Messiah's sufferings, as well as a sharer in the glory to be revealed: 2 shepherd the flock of God that is in your care, exercising oversight not out of constraint, but willingly, as God wants; and not out of a desire for dishonest gain, but with enthusiasm; 3 also not as machers domineering over those in your care, but as people who become examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5



4 Then, when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive glory as your unfading crown. 5 Likewise, you who are less experienced, submit to leaders. Further, all of you should clothe yourselves in humility toward one another, because God opposes the arrogant, but to the humble he gives grace. 6 Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that at the right time he may lift you up.

Hebrews 13



17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your lives, **AS PEOPLE WHO WILL HAVE TO RENDER AN ACCOUNT**. So, make it a task of joy for them, not one of groaning; for that is of no advantage to you. 18 **Keep praying for us, for we are certain that we have a clear conscience and want to conduct ourselves properly in everything we do.**

Hebrews 13



19 And all the more I beg you to do this, so that I may be restored to you that much sooner. 20 The God of shalom brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep, our Lord Yeshua, by the blood of an eternal covenant. 21

MAY THAT GOD EQUIP YOU WITH EVERY GOOD THING YOU NEED TO DO HIS WILL; AND MAY HE DO IN US WHATEVER PLEASES HIM, THROUGH YESHUA THE MESSIAH. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

Culture



values



Behavior



It takes 5-7 years
to establish a
culture within a
community

We are in year 6



1-2 Years: Initial,
visible shifts in values &
behaviors

3-5 Years: The “strong
& robust” culture is
cultivated

5-7+ Years: The culture
is deeply embedded and
sustainable, will outlive
the original leadership
that began it





Culture Of Accountability





**The Year
of
Accountability**

Hebrews 13



11 Furthermore, he gave some people as emissaries, some as prophets, some as proclaimers of the Good News, and some as **SHEPHERDS AND TEACHERS.**

Hebrews 13



12 Their task is **TO EQUIP GOD'S PEOPLE FOR THE WORK OF SERVICE** that builds the body of the Messiah, 13 until we all arrive at the unity implied by trusting and knowing the Son of God, at full manhood, **at the standard of maturity set by the Messiah's perfection.**

Hebrews 13



14 **We will THEN** no longer be infants tossed about by the waves and blown along by every wind of teaching, at the mercy of people clever in devising ways to deceive. 15 Instead, **SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE**, we will in every respect grow up into him who is the head, the Messiah.

Hebrews 13



16 Under his control, the whole body is being fitted and held together by the support of every joint, **WITH EACH PART WORKING TO FULFILL ITS FUNCTION**; this is how the body grows and builds itself up in love.

Romans 12



4 For just as there are many parts that compose one body, but the parts don't all have the same function; 5 so there are many of us, and in union with the Messiah we comprise one body, with each of us belonging to the others. 6 But we have gifts that differ and which are meant to be used according to the grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, use it to the extent of your trust; 7 if it is serving, use it to serve; if you are a teacher, use your gift in teaching; 8 if you are a counselor, use your gift to comfort and exhort; if you are someone who gives, do it simply and generously; if you are in a position of leadership, lead with diligence and zeal; if you are one who does acts of mercy, do them cheerfully.

Romans 12



9 Don't let love be a mere outward show. Recoil from what is evil, and cling to what is good. 10 Love each other devotedly and with brotherly love; and set examples for each other in showing respect. 11 Don't be lazy when hard work is needed, but serve the Lord with spiritual fervor. 12 Rejoice in your hope, be patient in your troubles, and continue steadfastly in prayer. 13 Share what you have with God's people, and practice hospitality.