



PARADISE AND COMPANIONSHIP

Genesis 2:4-25

**CREATION WAS DESIGNED
FOR COMPANIONSHIP.**

Contrast between Gen 1:1-2:3 and Gen 2:4-25

	Gen. 1:1-2:3	Gen. 2:4-25
Name of God	Elohim (Mighty One)	Yahweh (Covenant - Keeping one)
Purpose	Facts of Creation	God's relationship with Human creatures
Emphasis	The world generally	Humankind specifically

The God of relationship made the

W

Genesis 2:4 (NET)

⁴ This is the account
of the heavens and
when they were
– when the
earth and

Account - תולדות **toledoth** –
genealogy or account. Sets outline for
the rest of Gen.

1. Introduction 1:1-2:3
2. The account of the heaven and earth 2:4-4:26
3. The account of Adam 5:1-6:8
4. The account of Noah 6:9-9:29
5. The account of Noah's sons 10:1-11:9
6. The account of Shem 11:10-26
7. The account of Terah 11:27-25:11
8. The account of Ishmael 25:12-18
9. The account of Isaac 25:19-35:29
10. The account of Esau 36:1-43
11. The account of Jacob 37"1-50:26

The God who cares prepared the earth for man

⁵ Now no shrub (probably not edible) of the field had yet grown on the earth, and no plant (edible) of the field had yet sprouted, for the Lord God

had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

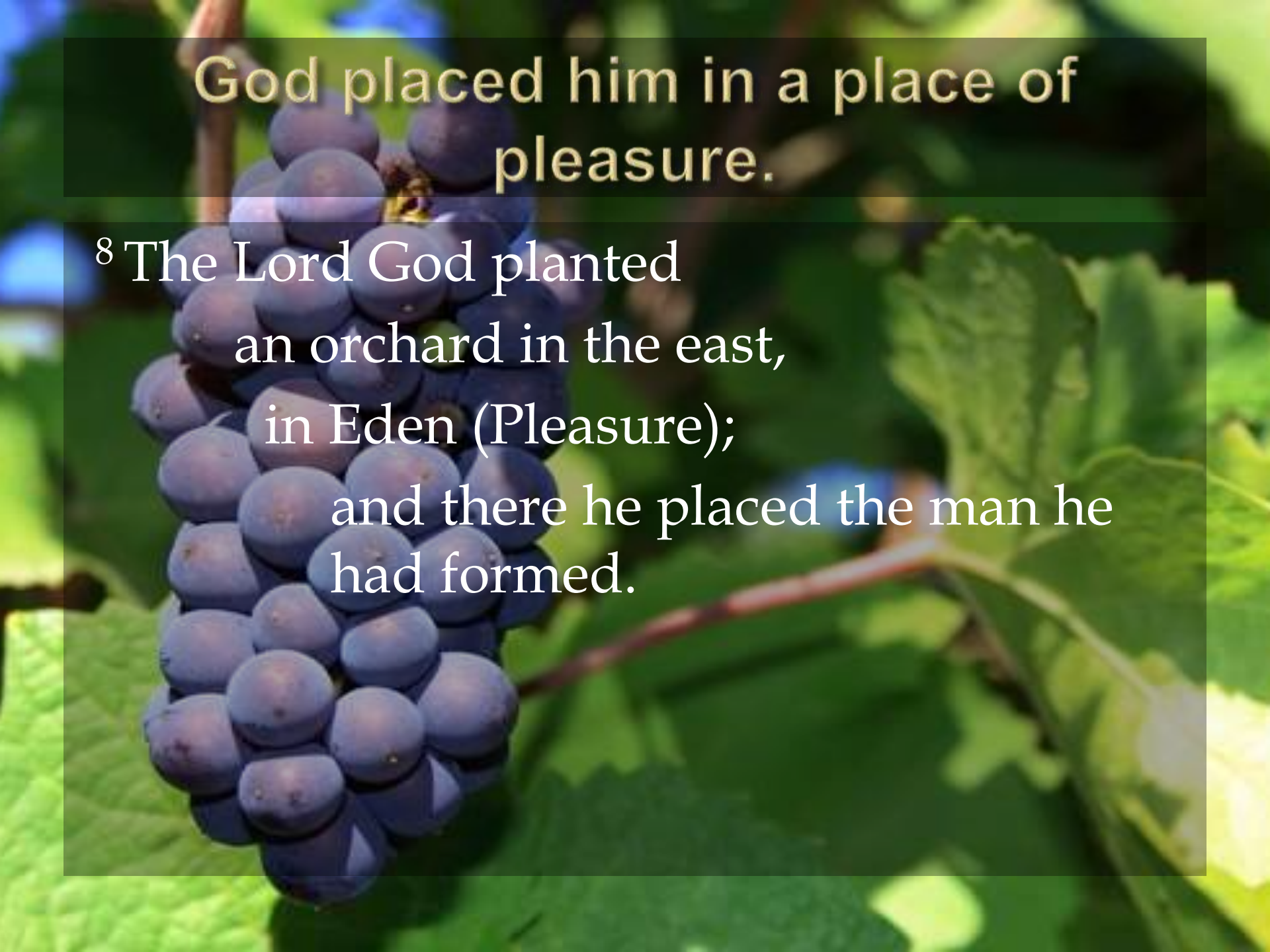
⁶ Springs would well up from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground.

God personally formed man from the soil

⁷The Lord God formed the man (Adam)
from the soil (Heb. haadama) of the
ground

and breathed into his nostrils
the breath of life,

and the man became
a living being.



God placed him in a place of
pleasure.

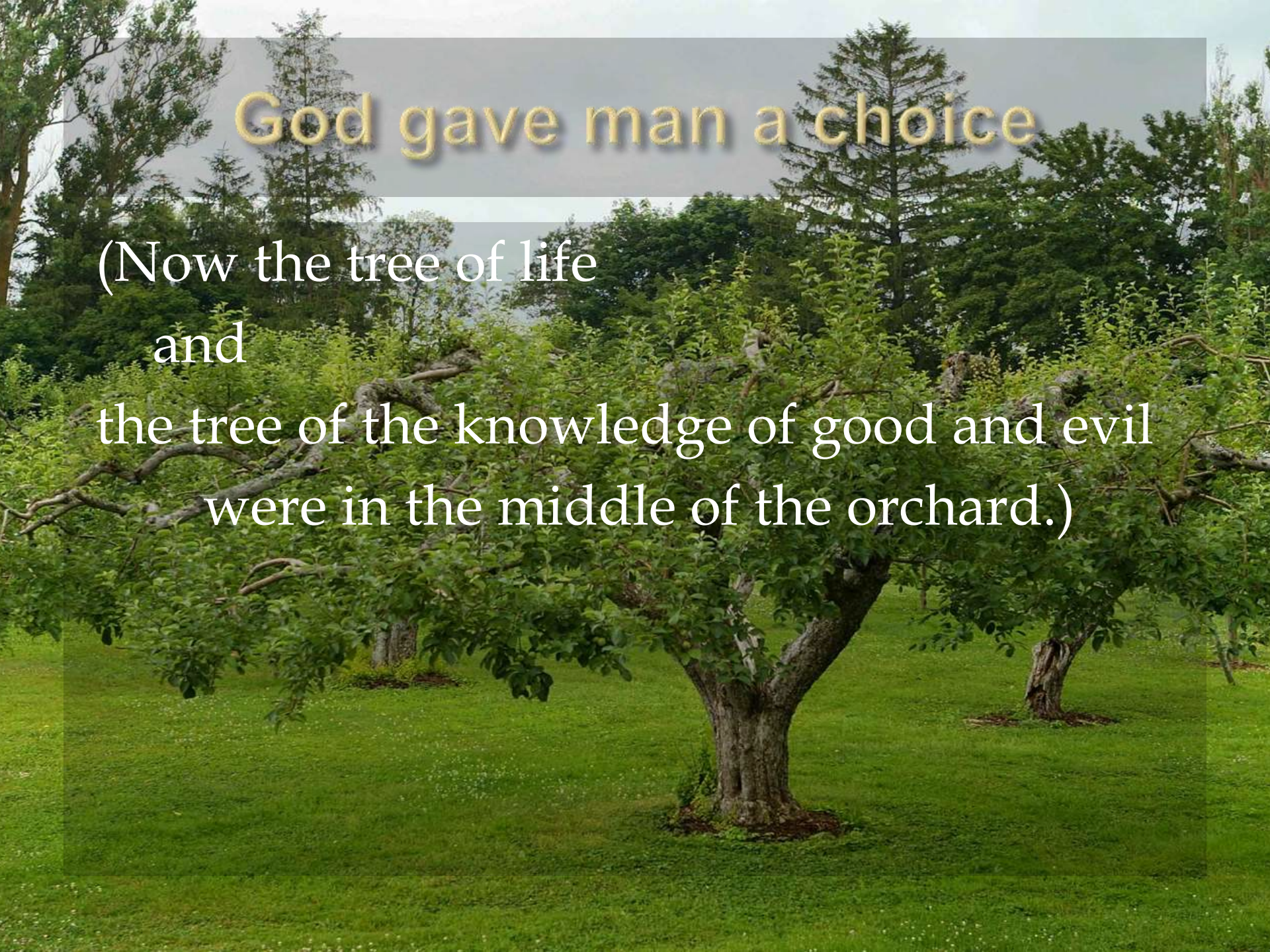
⁸ The Lord God planted
an orchard in the east,
in Eden (Pleasure);
and there he placed the man he
had formed.

God satisfied man's aesthetic and physical needs.

⁹The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow from the soil, every tree that was pleasing to look at and good for food.

God gave man a choice


(Now the tree of life
and
the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
were in the middle of the orchard.)



The Location of the Garden

¹⁰ Now a river flows from Eden to water the orchard, and from there it divides into four headstreams. ¹¹ The name of the first is Pishon; it runs through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² (The gold of that land is pure; pearls and lapis lazuli are also there). ¹³ The name of the second river is Gihon; it runs through the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴ The name of the third river is Tigris; it runs along the east side of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates.

Ancient riverbed and delta visible in digital elevation data.



God gave man the perfect home.

¹⁵ The Lord God
took the man

A place of
pleasure and
sustenance.

and placed him in the orchard in
Eden

to care for it and to maintain
it.

A place of
purpose

The conditional covenant

¹⁶ Then the Lord God

commanded the man,

“You may freely eat fruit from every tree of the orchard,

¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil,

for when you eat from it you will surely die.”

Even paradise is lonely without
companionship.

¹⁸ The Lord God said,

“It is not good for the man to be alone.
I will make a companion for him
who corresponds to him.”

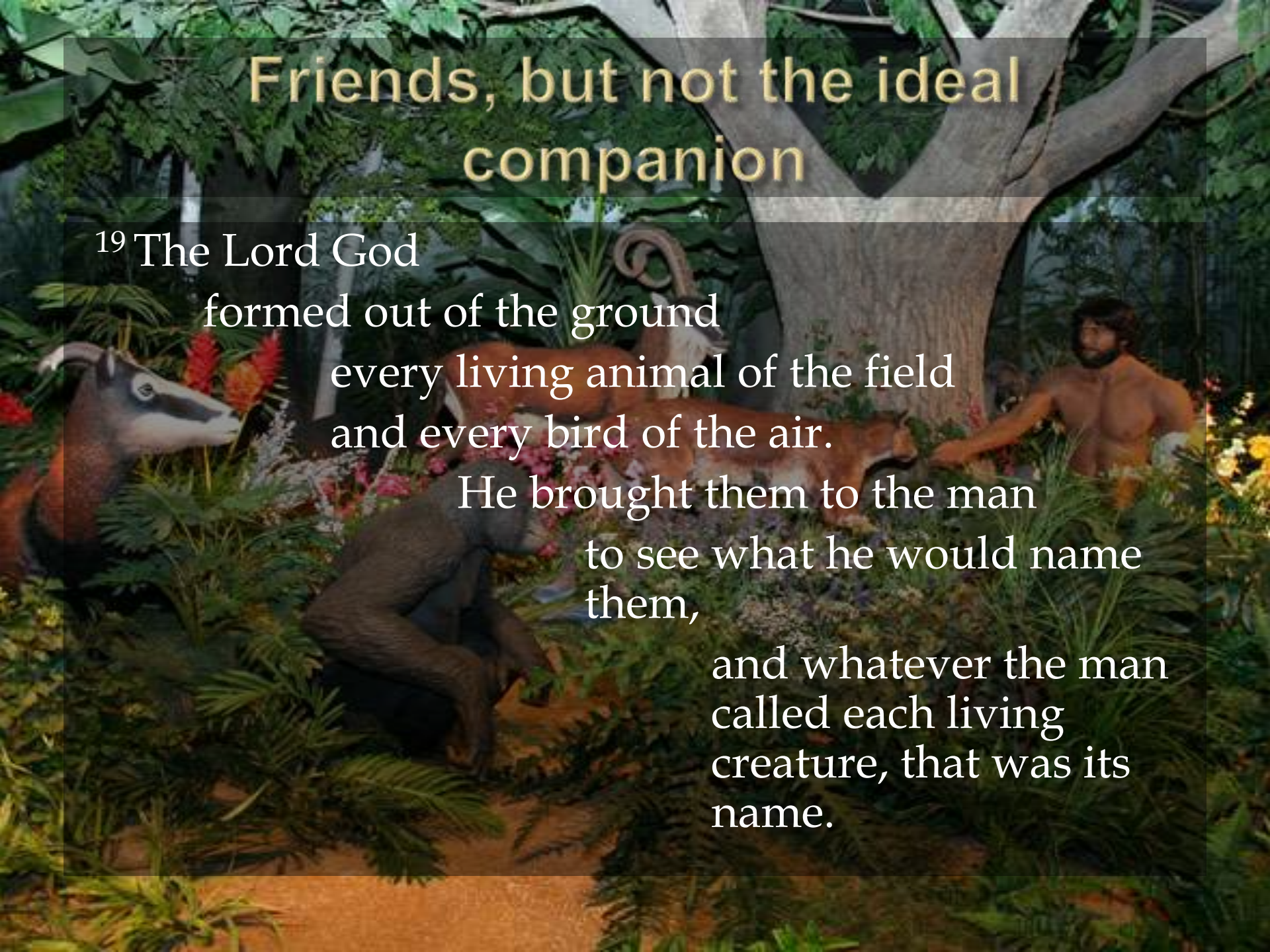


Friends, but not the ideal companion

¹⁹ The Lord God formed out of the ground every living animal of the field and every bird of the air.

He brought them to the man to see what he would name them,

and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.



Sovereignty is not companionship

²⁰ So the man named all the animals,
the birds of the air,
and the living creatures of the field,
but for Adam no companion
who corresponded to him was
found.



The ideal companion is a gift from God.

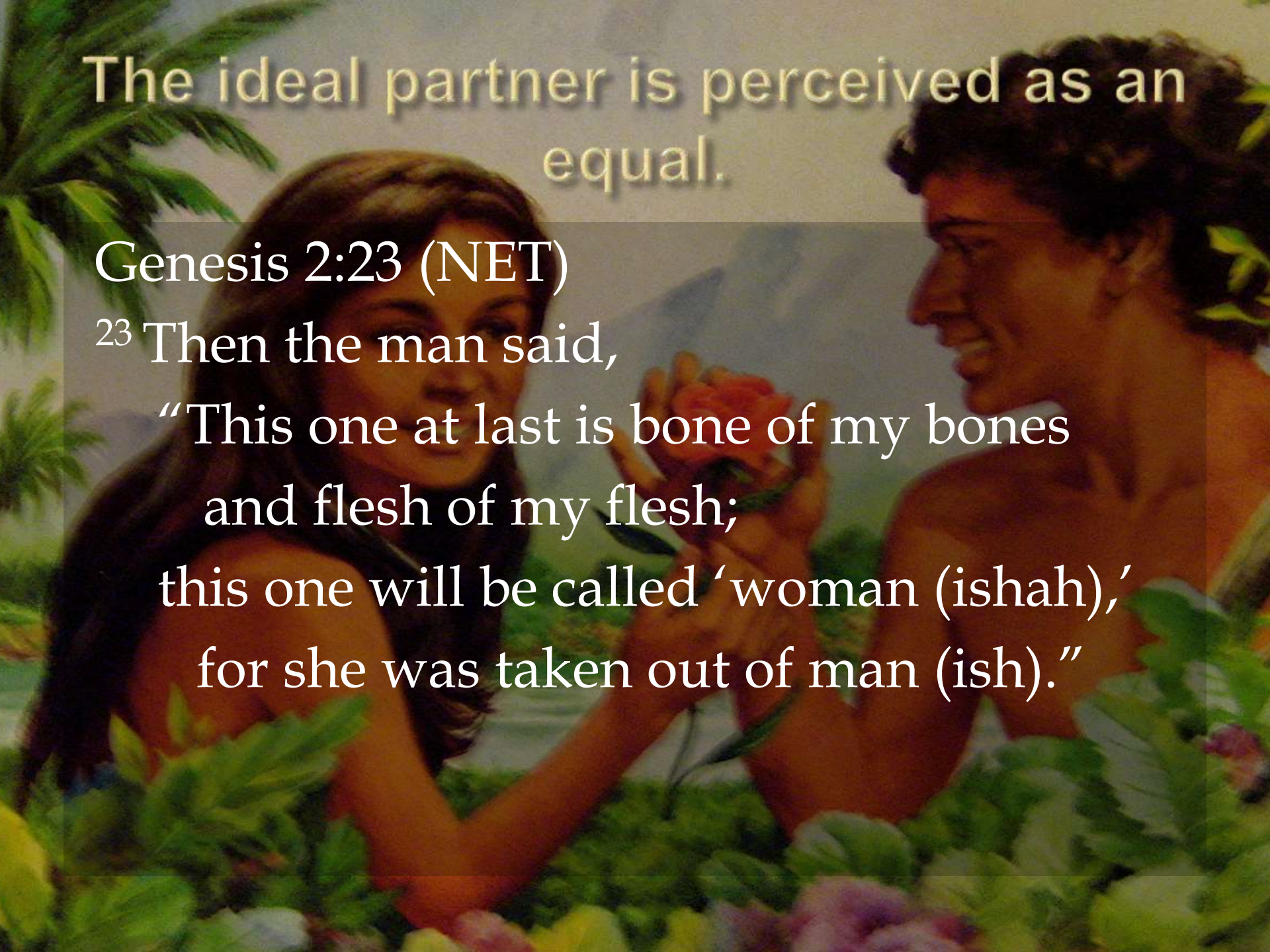
²¹ So the Lord God
caused the man to fall into a deep sleep,
and while he was asleep,
he took part of the man's side
and closed up the place with
flesh.



God's gift of companionship

²² Then the Lord God
made a woman
from the part he had taken out of the
man,
and he brought her to the man.





The ideal partner is perceived as an equal.

Genesis 2:23 (NET)

²³ Then the man said,

“This one at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;

this one will be called ‘woman (ishah),’
for she was taken out of man (ish).”

A photograph of a bride and groom in a wedding ceremony, standing in a grove of cherry blossom trees. The bride is wearing a white dress and a veil, and the groom is wearing a white shirt and a black tie. They are holding hands and looking at each other. The background is filled with pink cherry blossoms and green grass.

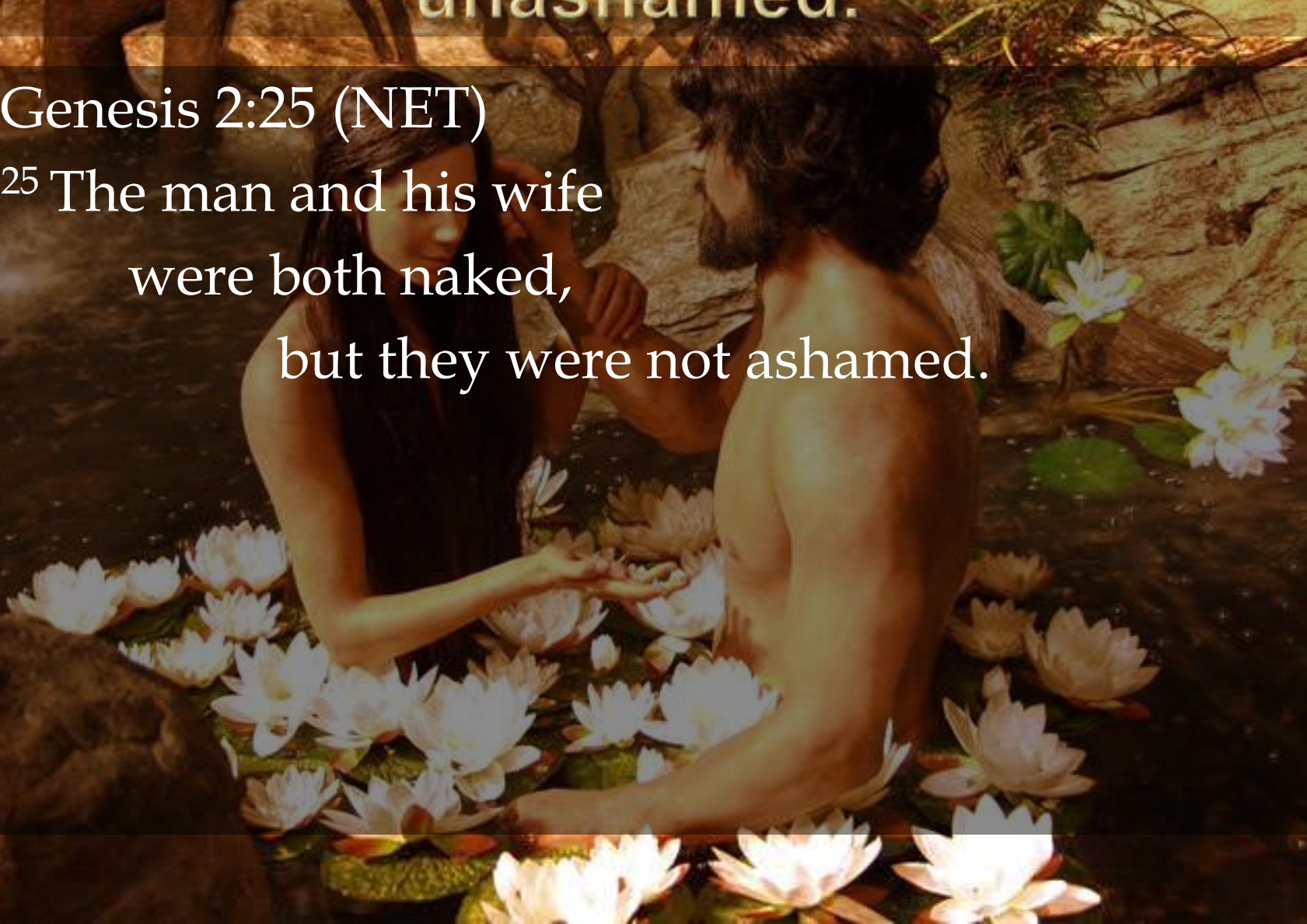
The ideal marriage is commitment.

²⁴ That is why
a man leaves his father and mother
and unites with (clings to) his wife,
and they become a new family
(one flesh).

The ideal marriage is naked and unashamed.

Genesis 2:25 (NET)

²⁵ The man and his wife were both naked, but they were not ashamed.



God's created us for paradise and companionship.

From start to finish, God created the world with man in His mind.

He created us in His image

To have fellowship with Him.

To oversee His creation.

To enjoy the pleasures and gifts of Creation.

To enjoy an ideal companionship.

Death is not normal.

The image was marred, but not destroyed.

Jesus came to restore Paradise and the ideal marriage.

John 3:16 (NET)

¹⁶ For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.