



Creation

The book of Genesis unfolds the marvellous story of a God whom the authors knew as their saviour before they wrote about Him as their Creator.

There are two accounts of creation written at different periods of Israel's history. The first account written by the priests during the exile in Babylon (587 BC) is a hymn of praise for the act of creation that takes place in seven days: three days of



separation, three days of population, and one day of celebration.

God begins by separating light from darkness, water above (rain) from water below (sea), and the sea from dry land. He then starts populating the sky with sun, moon and stars, the air with stars and the sea with fish, and the land with animals and people. Finally, He blesses the day and rests.

The creation of man is the climax of God's creative activity. Man is created on the sixth day and invited to join God on the seventh day, emphasising that he was created to be in God's presence, to relate to God with trust and love.

The second narrative written during the reign of David and Solomon (1000 BC) is a colourful story wherein God is imagined as a potter, shaping man out of clay and breathing life into his nostrils. Seeing that man was not too happy, God created woman from one of his ribs.

The focus of this version is not on the creation of the world, but on the relationship between man and woman. The Biblical authors portray the woman as a child of God, who is equal to the man she is created from.



Word of God

Genesis 2: 21 – 22

Then the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the flesh. He formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to him.

Insight



Vijay Hazare, Cricketer

Vijay Samuel Hazare (1915-2004) was a veteran cricketer. He was born in a Christian family in Sangli, Maharashtra. He was captain of the Indian cricket team for 14 matches from 1951 to 1953. He had set many records in cricket matches. After retirement from cricket matches, he served as a selector for Indian test cricket panel. Indian government honoured Hazare with the Padma Shri.

Notes

Know Now

BOOK: In the Beginning...: A Catholic Understanding of the Story of Creation and the Fall by Pope Benedict XVI. In four superb homilies and a concluding essay, Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, provides a clear and inspiring exploration of the Genesis creation narratives. While the stories of the world's creation and the fall of humankind have often been subjected to reductionism of one sort or another – literalists treat the Bible as a science textbook whereas rationalists divorce God from creation – Ratzinger presents a rich, balanced Catholic understanding of these early biblical writings and attests to their enduring vitality.

my TASK this week

To Watch

To Read

To Do



Scan For Help

Home

Watch the film *Genesis: The Creation and the Flood*. It is a 1994 television film shot in Morocco, directed by an Italian film director Ermanno Olmi based on the Book of Genesis, first book of the Hebrew Bible, where creation of the world and Great Flood are described. Details at <https://bit.ly/3eCMpKy>