

## **Genesis Chapter 2:4-24**

### **Old JPS Translation (1917)**

**4** These are the generations of the heaven and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven. **5** No shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no herb of the field had yet sprung up; for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground; **6** but there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. **7** Then 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. **8** And the LORD God planted a garden eastward, in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. **9** And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **10** And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became four heads. **11** The name of the first is Pishon; that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; **12** and the gold of that land is good; there is bdellium and the onyx stone. **13** And the name of the second river is Gihon; the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Cush. **14** And the name of the third river is Tigris; that is it which goeth toward the east of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. **15** And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying: 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; **17** but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.' **18** And the LORD God said: 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him.' **19** And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto the man to see what he would call them; and whatsoever the man would call every living creature, that was to be the name thereof. **20** And the man gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him. **21** And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the place with flesh instead thereof. **22** And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from the man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man. **23** And the man 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.' **24** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh.

## **Genesis, Chapter 2:4-24**

**Everett Fox**

**2:4** These are the begettings of the heavens and the earth: their being created.  
At the time of YHWH, God's making of earth and heaven,  
**5** no bush of the field was yet on earth,  
no plant of the field had yet sprung up,  
for YHWH, God, had not made it rain upon earth,  
and there was no human/*adam* to till the soil/*adama*  
**6** but a surge would well up from the ground and water all the face of the soil;  
**7** and YHWH, God, formed the human, of dust from the soil, he blew into his nostrils the  
breath of life  
and the human became a living being.  
**8** YHWH, God, planted a garden in Eden/Land-of-Pleasure, in the east,  
and there he placed the human whom he had formed.  
**9** YHWH, God, caused to spring up from the soil  
every type of tree, desirable to look at and good to eat, and the Tree of Life in the midst of the  
garden  
and the Tree of the Knowing of Good and Evil.  
**10** Now a river goes out from Eden, to water the garden,  
and from there it divides and becomes four stream-heads.  
**11** The name of the first one is Pishon/Spreader—that is the one  
that circles through all the land of Havila, where gold is;  
**12** the gold of that land is good, there too are bdellium and the  
precious-stone carnelian.  
**13** The name of the second river is Gihon/Gusher—that is the one that circles through all the  
land of Cush.  
**14** The name of the third river is Hiddekel/Tigris—that is the one that goes to the east of  
Assyria.  
And the fourth river—that is Perat/Euphrates.  
**15** YHWH, God, took the human and set him in the garden of Eden, to work it and to watch it.  
**16** YHWH, God, commanded concerning the human, saying: From every (other) tree of the  
garden you may eat, yes, eat,  
**17** but from the Tree of the Knowing of Good and Evil—you are not to eat from it,  
for on the day that you eat from it, you must die, yes, die.  
**18** Now YHWH, God, said:  
It is not good for the human to be alone,  
I will make him a helper corresponding to him.  
**19** So YHWH, God, formed from the soil every living-thing of the field and every fowl of the  
heavens  
and brought each to the human, to see what he would call it;  
and whatever the human called it as a living being, that became its name.

**20** The human called out names for every herd-animal and for the fowl of the heavens and for every living-thing of the field,

but for the human, there could be found no helper corresponding to him.

**21** So YHWH, God, caused a deep slumber to fall upon the human, so that he slept, he took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.

**22** YHWH, God, built the rib that he had taken from the human into a woman and brought her to the human.

**23** The human said:

This-time, she-is-it!

Bone from my bones,

flesh from my flesh!

She shall be called *Woman/Isha*, for from *Man/Ish* she was taken!

**24** Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

## **Genesis, Chapter 2**

**Robert Alter**

<sup>4</sup> This is the tale of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

On the day the Lord God made earth and heavens, <sup>5</sup> no shrub of the field being yet on the earth and no plant of the field yet sprouted, for the Lord God had not caused rain to fall on the earth and there was no human to till the soil, <sup>6</sup> and wetness would well from the earth to water all the surface of the soil, <sup>7</sup> then the Lord God fashioned the human, humus from the soil, and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the human became a living creature. <sup>8</sup> And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, to the east, and He placed there the human He had fashioned. <sup>9</sup> And the Lord God caused to sprout from the soil every tree lovely to look at and good for food, and the tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge, good and evil. <sup>10</sup> Now a river runs out of Eden to water the garden and from there splits off into four streams. <sup>11</sup> The name of the first is Pishon, the one that winds through the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. <sup>12</sup> And the gold of that land is goodly, bdellium is there, and lapis lazuli. <sup>13</sup> And the name of the second river is Gihon, the one that winds through all the land of Cush. <sup>14</sup> And the name of the third river is Tigris, the one that goes to the east of Ashur. And the fourth river is Euphrates. <sup>15</sup> And the Lord God took the human and set him down in the garden of Eden to till it and watch it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the human, saying, "From every fruit of the garden you may surely eat. <sup>17</sup> But from the tree of knowledge, good and evil, you shall not eat, for on the day you eat from it, you are doomed to die." <sup>18</sup> And the Lord God said, "It is not good for the human to be alone, I shall make him a sustainer beside him." <sup>19</sup> And the Lord God fashioned from the soil each beast of the field and each fowl of the heavens and brought each to the human to see what he would call it, and whatever the human called a living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> And the human called names to all the cattle and to the fowl of the heavens and to all the beasts of the field, but for the human no sustainer beside him was found. <sup>21</sup> And the Lord God cast a deep slumber on the human, and he slept, and He took one of his ribs and closed over the flesh where it had been, <sup>22</sup> and the Lord God built the rib He had taken from the human into a woman and He brought her to the human. <sup>23</sup> And the human said:

"This one at last, bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh,  
This one shall be called Woman,  
for from man was this one taken."

<sup>24</sup> Therefore does a man leave his father and his mother and cling to his wife and they become one flesh.

## **Genesis, Chapter 2:4-24**

**Richard Elliott Friedman**

<sup>4</sup>These are the records of the skies and the earth when they were created: In the day that YHWH God made earth and skies

—<sup>5</sup>when all produce of the field had not yet been in the earth, and all vegetation of the field had not yet grown, for YHWH God had not rained on the earth, and there had been no human to work the ground, <sup>6</sup>and a river had come up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground—

<sup>7</sup>YHWH God fashioned a human, dust from the ground, and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the human became a living being.

<sup>8</sup>And YHWH God planted a garden in Eden at the east, and He set the human whom He had fashioned there. <sup>9</sup>And YHWH God caused every tree that was pleasant to the sight and good for eating to grow from the ground, and the tree of life within the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and bad.

<sup>10</sup>And a river was going out from Eden to water the garden, and it was dispersed from there and became four heads. <sup>11</sup>The name of one was Pishon; that is the one that circles all the land of Havilah where there is gold. <sup>12</sup>And that land's gold is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. <sup>13</sup>And the name of the second river is Gihon; that is the one that circles all the land of Cush. <sup>14</sup>And the name of the third river is Tigris; that is the one that goes east of Assyria. And the fourth river: that is Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>And YHWH God took the human and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and to watch over it. <sup>16</sup>And YHWH God commanded the human, saying, "You may eat from every tree of the garden. <sup>17</sup>But from the tree of knowledge of good and bad: you shall not eat from it, because in the day you eat from it: you'll die!"

<sup>18</sup>And YHWH God said, "It's not good for the human to be by himself. I'll make for him a strength corresponding to him." <sup>19</sup>And YHWH God fashioned from the ground every animal of the field and every bird of the skies and brought it to the human to see what he would call it. And whatever the human would call it, each living being, that would be its name. <sup>20</sup>And the human gave names to every domestic animal and bird of the skies and every animal of the field. But He did not find for the human a strength corresponding to him.

<sup>21</sup>And YHWH God caused a slumber to descend on the human, and he slept. And He took one of his ribs and closed flesh in its place. <sup>22</sup>And YHWH God built the rib that He had taken from the human into a woman and brought her to the human. <sup>23</sup>And the human said, "This time is it: bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh. This will be called 'woman,' for this one was taken from 'man.'"

<sup>24</sup>On account of this a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his woman, and they become one flesh.

## **Genesis, Chapter 2:4-24**

**Chaim Stern ח"ר**

**In "The Torah: A Modern Commentary," edited by W. Gunther Plaut**

**4]** This is the chronicle. of heaven and earth when they were created, on the day God Eternal made earth and heaven. **5]** No shrub of the field was yet on the earth, no plant of the field had yet sprung up—for God Eternal had not poured rain down upon the earth, and there was not a soul to till the soil— **6]** though a flow would emerge from the earth and water the surface of the soil. **7]** Then God Eternal fashioned the man—dust from the soil—and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, so that the man became a living being.

**8]** To the east, God Eternal planted a garden in Eden, setting the man there whom [God] had formed. **9]** Then, out of the soil, God Eternal grew trees alluring to the eye and good for fruit; and in the middle of the garden, the Tree of Life and the Tree of All Knowledge. **10]** A river went forth from Eden to water the garden; from there it divided and became four branches. **11]** The first was named Pishon—that one flows around the land of Havilah, where there is gold. **12]** The gold of that land is fine; bdellium is there, and onyx stone. **13]** The second was named Gihon—that one flows around the land of Cush. **14]** The third was named Tigris—that one flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

**15]** So God Eternal took the man, placing him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it. **16]** God Eternal then commanded the man, saying, "You may eat all you like of every tree in the garden—**17]** but of the Tree of All Knowledge you may not eat, for the moment you eat of it you shall be doomed to die."

**18]** Then God Eternal considered, "It is not good that the man be alone—I will make him a help-mate." **19]** So God Eternal formed the wild animals and the birds of the sky out of the soil, and brought the man to see what he would call each one; and whatever the man called it, that became the creature's name. **20]** The man gave names to every domestic animal and to the birds of the sky, and to all the wild animals, but for [himself] Adam found no helpmate. **21]** Then, throwing the man into a profound slumber, so that he slept, God Eternal took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in that place. **22]** Now God Eternal built up the rib taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man, **23]** and the man said, "This time—/bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!/Let this one be called woman,/for this one is taken from man." **24]** So it is that a man will leave his father and mother and cling to his wife, and they become one flesh.