the account of the heavens

and earth

Genesis 2:4 -4:26

Introduction

* perspective **s**  from God as sole actor to man as reactor
* 1:1 vs. 2:4b
* from “very good”……to **d**  and a cursed earth

Themes & Structure

* Escalation
	+ Temptation
		- the **s**  tempts Adam & Eve to sin
		- Cain sins after **G**  encourages him to do what is right
	+ Sin
		- eats **f**  fruit
		- murder
	+ Marriage
		- one man for one woman
		- **p**
* Depravity
	+ Adam before the Fall **p**  unfaithful in Paradise
	+ inability of man to **k**  covenant with God
	+ humanity at its best **r**  in a perfect environment
	+ Adam serves as humanity’s representative **h**  cf. Rom. 5:12-21
* Sin
	+ breach of **t**
	+ an illicit reach of **u**
	+ **a**  of autonomy
	+ transgressing **d**  boundaries
* Effects of Sin
	+ alienation from **G**
	+ alienation from **o**
	+ **h**
	+ **e**  barriers
	+ blame-shifting
	+ deteriorating ecology
	+ physical and **s**  death
* The first two acts are closely related by a chiasm
	+ Creation of man: his happy relationship with the earth and his home in the garden, where he has freely growing food and access to the tree of life (2:4-17)
		- Creation of woman: her happy relationship with man (2:18-35)
			* Conversation of serpent with woman: his tempting of her (3:1-5)
				+ ***The sin and God’s uncovering of it (3:6-13)***
			* Punishment of serpent: its spoiled relationship with man (3:14-15)
		- Punishment of woman: her spoiled relationship with man (3:16)
	+ Punishment of man: his spoiled relationship with the earth and expulsion from his home in the garden; he now has to toil to secure food and will no longer have access to the tree of life (3:17-24)

The Toledot of the Heavens and the Earth (2:4a)

* Act 1: Scene 1
	+ 2:4b-7
		- the narrator introduces an additional **n**  for God – *yhwh* (LORD)
			* covenant name for God
			* LORD God shows that the Creator of the cosmos rules history through **c**  humanity
		- *adam vs. adama* – Adam is fashioned a body from the **e**  in order to live an earthly existence
	+ 2:8-14
		- The garden was an enclosed , protected **a**
		- it served as the first **t**
		- **E**  was the larger area in which the garden was located
	+ 2:15-17
		- work is a **g**  from God..sin has made it **t**
		- describes activity of **p**  elsewhere
		- Adam served as priest and guardian of the **g**
* Act 1: Scene 2 & Epilogue (2:18-25)
	+ “not good” is **e**
		- relationship is **m**  after God
		- the woman is a helper who is **e**  and adequate for the Man
		- In naming the animals Adam found no one **l**  him
		- God waits until Adam is prepared to **a**  the gift of woman
	+ the **v**  of a woman
		- devotes **s**  verses to her creation
		- from the **r**  denotes intimacy and harmony
		- brought to the man by God who gives the **b**  away
		- the man **n**  himself in relationship to the woman – *ish / ishsha*
* Act 2: Scene 1 (3:1-7)
	+ Satan’s craftiness **c**  to the couples vulnerability
	+ The first example of the detrimental use of **l**
	+ Truth is **d** ….for the purpose of distortion and domination
	+ “you will be like divine beings knowing….(2:5)
		- WAS THIS THE TRUTH?
		- BUT….AT WHAT PRICE?
	+ The Shape of Sin
		- priority is given to:
			* **p**  values
			* aesthetic **a**
			* sensual desires…rather….
		- than **o**  to God’s Word
	+ knowledge of good and evil is not a **n**  state
	+ Man needs **d**  from autonomy
* Act 2: Scene 2 (3:8-19)
	+ See Notes Above
	+ 3:15 – protoevangelium (first good news or first gospel)
* Act 2: Epilogue (3:20-24)
	+ naming of **E**  beginning of hope
	+ through **s**  they are restored to fellowship with God and one another
	+ “us” a reference to other heavenly **b**
	+ death becomes both a judgment and a **r**
* Act 3: Scene 1 (4:1-16)
	+ Eve’s synergism (4:1)
	+ A contrast of **w**  (4:3-5) – What is wrong with Cain’s offering?
	+ Man’s relationship with **s**  – 4:6-7
* Act 3: Scene 2 (4:17-24)
	+ development of human **c**  and civilization
	+ **g**  civilizations but no God
* Act 3: Epilogue (4:25-26)
	+ Not in chronological order
	+ Eve gives God all the **c**  for the birth of Seth
	+ Names of children
		- Cain – “acquire, get, possess”
		- Abel – “**v** , breath”
		- Seth – “**g** ”