

Eve

We know very little about Eve, the first woman in the human world, yet she is the mother of us all.

Eve was the final piece in the amazing creation of humanity by God.

Adam in Eve had another human with whom he could develop a friendship.

Eve was another being who was created in God's "image" with the potential to become a being with the "likeness" of God. [Genesis 1:26-27]

[For a fuller understanding of this original creation of human beings, please download and study our article 'Why Were You Born?' listed under main heading 'Life']

Genesis 2:18 [NIV] *"The LORD God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'"*

The Hebrew translated "helper" is "êzer" meaning to aid or help which comes from the root word "âzar" meaning to surround, protect, succour.

Genesis 2:19-20 [NIV] *"Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds 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. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found."*

The fact that God gave Adam the job of giving names to the animals He created shows the close relationship that God wanted with the humans He was creating. None of these fitted the companion that Adam needed, nor God desired Adam to have.

Genesis 2:21-23 [NIV] *"So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman', for she was taken out of man.'"*

God's creative work was **not** complete until He had created Eve. [Genesis 1:27]

God could have created Eve as He did Adam, out of the dust of the earth.

God chose, however, to make Eve from Adam's flesh and bone, indicating the very close and intimate relationship God desired a man and a woman should have.

Note the part of Adam's body that God chose, a rib that was situated under the protecting arm of Adam, **not** part of his foot to be trodden under by Adam.

God formed Adam and Eve equipped for various tasks, but all of these tasks lead to the same goal, honouring the Creator God.

A man gives creative life to the woman and the woman gives human life to the world. Each role carries exclusive privileges, there is **no** room for thinking that one sex is superior to the other.

Genesis 2:24-25 [NIV] *"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."*

God gave marriage as a precious gift to Adam and Eve. They were created to perfectly complement one another, mentally as well as physically.

Marriage was **not** just a convenience for the multiplication of human beings, nor was it brought about by any human culture.

Marriage was instituted by God and has certain basic aspects.

The man leaves his parents and in a public act, promises himself to his wife.

The man and woman are united by taking responsibility for each other's welfare and by loving the partner above all others.

The man and woman have the ultimate intimate experience and commitment of sexual union that is reserved for marriage.

Marriage, with such intimate relationships, is the ideal situation for the development of Christian character that is based on sacrificial love.

Marriage is also the ideal relationship within which to prepare for the ultimate Christian goal, the marriage of the Church with Jesus Christ. [**Revelation 19:7-9**]

There is **no** shame in this intimate relationship that God wanted Adam and Eve to have because it was totally in harmony with God's will.

Strong marriages must be based on all of the above.

This goal that Adam and Eve were given started fine but as soon as a being outside of that union began to influence that shameless union, problems began to happen in the relationship.

Genesis 3:1-3 [NIV] *"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.''"*

Satan, knowing the differences between Adam and Eve attacked and deceived the weaker partner. [**1 Peter 3:7; 2 Corinthians 11:3**]

Eve must have been told by Adam about not touching this one tree in the garden to have given this reply to Satan.

Genesis 3:4 [NIV] *"'You will not surely die,' the serpent said to the woman."*

This was a direct lie the second that Satan had given it to Eve.

Why was Eve deceived?

The Hebrew word translated "*serpent*" is "*nâchâsh*" meaning a whisper, or enchantment.

Satan whispered all this into Eve's ear making her feel special, a secret **not** offered to Adam!

Genesis 3:5 [NIV] *"For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

This enchanter then appeals to Eve's pride, "*be like God.*"

Wasn't this something Adam had been told by God, the reason for our existence, have the same "likeness" of God?

This enchanting being is telling me how we can bring this about!

Poor Eve, she had been totally taken in by Satan and was about to rebel against her Creator.

Satan had started his lying deception of the world and has continued to do the same thing on an even greater scale. [**John 8:44; Revelation 12:9**]

Genesis 3:6-7 [NIV] *"When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves."*

Eve considered this "fruit" found on this tree satisfied all her desires and wanted Adam to have the same experience.

This disobedience, rebellion against their Creator God, changed the way they viewed their relationship, shame entered into their intimate sexual marriage relationship.

This was something Eve had never experienced before.

This was something that they wanted to hide from each other and their Creator.

Notice what Eve did. She looked, then took and ate, then she shared.

Temptation often begins with something you see and want, it then tends to spread to those who are near to us, just as Eve's sin did to Adam.

We do this to help us deal with any feelings of guilt that our conscience may give us.

Genesis 3:8-13 [NIV] *"Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, 'Where are you?' He answered, 'I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.' And he said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman you put here with me, she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.' Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent deceived me, and I ate.'"*

The thought of Adam and Eve trying to hide from God with fig leaves and trees is laughable.

God is all-seeing and all-knowing. [**Psalms 139:1-12**]

Yet how often do we react in the same way that Eve did.

Adam and Eve failed to heed God's warning. [**Genesis 2:16-17**]

They did **not** understand the reasons for the command so they chose to act in a way that looked better to them.

These verses show that God wants to have fellowship with us.

They also show that too often we are afraid to fellowship with Him, because of our sins.

Eve, like most of humans, failed to realise that all that our Creator God commands of us is for our good even when our limited understanding cannot understand how.

Eve and Adam in their personal guilt tried to shift the blame on each other.

Too often we all play this "*blame game*."

As we see the basic human tendency to sin, prompted by Satan, goes right back to Eve and her being deceived by Satan.

The only way we can break free from this downward spiral is to admit our sins are not the fault of others, we personally chose to sin in the same way Eve did.

We then can approach our Saviour for forgiveness.

Asking for some of His righteousness be credited to us so that the Holy Spirit may empower us to repent and see the goal God has for every human being to be created into His "*likeness*", that is, have the same selfless love He has for all humanity.