

THE FIRST BOOK OF MOSES CALLED.

GENESIS.

GENESIS 2: 21 – 3:13

²¹ And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

²² And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

²³ And Adam 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.

²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Verse 21...”deep sleep.” The **“Deep Sleep”** was not simply an anesthetized state to prevent pain, since there yet was no pain in the world. It is most likely ordained as a historical picture of the future death of the second Adam, (**Jesus Christ**) whose sacrificial death would result in the formation of His bride. (**Ephesians 5:30-32, 2 Corinthians 11:2**)

Verse 21...”ribs.” The **“rib”** was actually the **“side”** of Adam. (*the Hebrew “tsela” occurs 35 times in the Old Testament, and is nowhere else translated “rib”*) The side contained both **“bone”** and **“flesh,”** (2:23) however, it may be that both are implied in the blood that would have flowed from the opened side. The **“life of the flesh is in the blood”** (**Genesis 9:4, Leviticus 17:11**) and a historical blood **“transfusion”** would more perfectly fit the event as a type of the opened side of Christ on the cross. (**John 19:34-36**)

Verse 22...”made he a woman.” This remarkable record of the formation of the first woman could hardly have been invented by human imagination. Neither can it be interpreted in the context of theistic evolution, even if one could interpret the

formation of Adam's body from the dust in evolutionary terms. It's historicity is confirmed in the New Testament. (*1 Timothy 2:13, 1 Corinthians 11:8*) All other men have been born of woman but, the woman was made from man.

Verse 23..."Woman" and "Man." "Woman" in Hebrew is "*Ishshal*" and "Man" is "*Ish.*"

Verse 24..."one flesh." The literal history of this even and its primary importance in human life are confirmed by both the Apostle Paul (*Ephesians 5:30-31*) and the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Matthew 19:3-9, Mark 10:2-12*) Although men and women through the ages have corrupted this divine institution in many ways, (*adultery, polygamy, divorce, homosexuality, etc.*) "*from the beginning it was not so.*" (*Matthew 19:8*) The institution of the home is the first and most basic human institution, and is intended to be monogamous and permanent until death. (*Romans 7:2-3*) It is significant that cultures of all times and sorts have acknowledged the superiority of monogamy, even though they have not always practiced it. Such an awareness could not be a product of evolution, since it does not characterize most animals, and thus can only be explained in terms of this historical creation and revelation. Furthermore, the fact that it took place at the very "*beginning of the creation,*" rather than billions of years after the beginning, was confirmed by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. (*Mark 10:6*)

Verse 25..."not ashamed." The lack of shame at nakedness was not because of a hardened conscience, as is true today. But, because of the physiological differences of Adam and Eve had been divinely created in accord with God's purposes, and they had been brought together by God with the express commandment to "*be fruitful and multiply.*" (*Genesis 1:28*) At this time they were still without sin and thus without consciousness of moral guilt. Later, however, their sin brought an awareness that the springs of human life had been poisoned, both in themselves and in their offspring. This discovery made them painfully aware of their reproductive organs and they were then "*ashamed.*"

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GENESIS.

GENESIS 3: 1-13

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

***¹³ And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done?
And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.***

Verse 1...”serpent.” The “*serpent*” was not merely a talking snake but, was Satan himself (*Revelation 12:9, 20:2*) possessing and using the serpent’s body to deceive Eve. Satan had been originally “*created*” (*Ezekiel 28:14-15*) as the highest of all angels, the anointed cherub covering the very throne of God in heaven. He, along with all the angels, had been created to be “*ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation.*” (*Hebrews 1:14*) Not content with a role inferior in two important respects to man, (*angels were not created in God’s image, nor could they reproduce after their kind*) Satan led a third of the angels (*Revelation 12:4,9*) to rebel against God, seeking to become God himself. Evidently, he did not really believe that God was the omnipotent Creator but, rather that all had evolved from the historical chaos. (*probably the explanation for the widespread ancient pagan belief that the world in a state of chaos*) God, therefore “*cast him to the ground,*” (*Ezekiel 28:17*) thus allowing Satan to tempt the very ones he had been created to serve.

Verse 1...”subtil.” The physical serpent was clever, and possibly originally able to stand upright, eye-to-eye with man. (*the Hebrew word is “nachash,” meaning originally a shinning, upright creature*)

Verse 1...”he said.” There is a great possibility that some of the animals may have originally been able to communicate on an elementary level with their human masters, an ability later removed by the curse. This seems possible because Eve did not seem alarmed that the serpent would talk to her.

Verse 1...”hath God said.” The root of all sin is doubting God’s Word. Satan used this approach successfully even with one who had never sinned before and who had no sin nature inclining her to sin. Satan merely implanted a slight doubt concerning God’s truth and His sovereign goodness. The approach, so successful in this case, has provided the pattern for his temptations ever since.

Verse 3...”touch it.” Eve, in her developing resentment against God, fell into Satan’s trap, both taking away from God’s Word and adding to it. God had said that they could “*freely eat of every tree*” but, Eve quoted Him merely as saying they could eat of the trees. God had said that they should not eat of the fruit of one tree

but, Eve added the statement that they should not even touch it. These are the very sins God warned about after His written Word was finally completed. (**Revelation 22:18-19**) Doubting God's Word, augmenting, then diluting, and finally rejecting God's Word. This was Satan's temptation and Eve's sin, and this is the common sequence of apostasy even today.

Verse 4... "the serpent" It is interesting that the two clay seals found in the archeological digs at Nineveh may reflect the story of the fall of Adam and Eve. One seems to show the man and the woman being tempted by the serpent, the other the expulsion from the garden.

Verse 5... "be as gods." Satan's sin led him to desire to be as God, and this was the desire he placed in Eve's mind. (**Isaiah 14:13-14**) In fact, when one questions or changes the Word of God, he is, for all practical purposes, making himself to be "god."

Verse 5... "knowing good and evil." Satan's deceptions are always most effective when they have some truth in them. Through eating the forbidden fruit, Adam and Eve would indeed come to "**know good and evil**" but, not "**as gods!**"

Verse 6... "make one wise." The threefold temptation, appealing to the body, ("**good for food**") soul ("**pleasant to the eyes**") and spirit, ("**make one wise**") was the same by which Satan appealed to Christ in the wilderness. (**Luke 4: 1-12**) And against which Christians are warned in **1 John 2:16**. ("**the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**")

Verse 6... "he did eat." It was at this point that "**by one man sin entered the world, and death by sin.**" (**Romans 5:12**) There could have been no death in the world before man brought sin into the world. Thus, the fossils in the earth's crust cannot be a record of the evolution of life leading up to man but, must be a record of death after the man. In the evolutionary scenario, struggle and death in the animal kingdom eventually, after a billion years, brought man into the world. The truth is, however, that man brought death into his whole dominion by sin.

Verse 7... "naked" The sudden recognition of their nakedness indicates the realization of Adam and Eve that their descendants, as well as themselves, would suffer the effects of this original sin. The ability and instruction to be fruitful, given by God as unique blessing, now would also convey the curse of sin and death.

Adam was the federal head of the human race, and it was ***“through the offence of one many be dead.” (Romans 5:15)***

3:7...fig leaves.” The hasty fabrication of fig leaf aprons might conceal their procreative organs from each other but, could hardly hide their sin from God. Neither will the ***“filthy rags”*** of self-made ***“righteousness” (Isaiah 64:6)*** cover sinful hearts today. The ***“garments of salvation”*** and the ***“robe of righteousness” (Isaiah 61:10)*** can be provided only by God, just as God provided coats of skins for Adam and Eve. (***Genesis 3:21***)

Verse 8...“walking in the garden.” This is not a crude figure of speech but, an actual appearance of God. The ***“Word of God,”*** Christ in His preincarnate state, regularly appeared in the garden for fellowship and communication with His people. How long this period of fellowship had endured is not stated but, it was long enough for the satanic rebellion in heaven and expulsion to earth. Since it was not long enough for Eve to conceive children, however, and since she and Adam had been instructed by God to do so, it was probably not more than a few days or weeks.

Verse 9...“Where art thou?” The question begs an answer. How could an omniscient God, who knows everything, not know where Adam was. Or was this really a call to Adam to repent of his sin? Was God really giving Adam a chance to own his sin?

Verse 10...“hid myself.” The shame associated with nudity is no artificial inhibition of civilization but, has its source in this historical awareness of sin. It is only lost when consciences are so hardened as to lose sensitivity to sin. Clothing is even worn in heaven. (***Revelation 1:13, 19:14***)

Verse 11...“Hast thou eaten.” God’s questions were not to obtain information but, to encourage Adam and Eve to confess their sin. Instead of repentance, however, they responded by feeble attempts at self-justification, each blaming someone else. In this, they behaved like most of their descendants.

Verses 12 & 13...“thou gavest to be with me.” Man has been blaming others, including God ever since this moment for their own sin and suffering.