

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE



EVE - PART ONE



LEADER'S GUIDE

LESSON 1

BY BETTY ANN SCOTT

BACKGROUND

1. Names given to the the first woman

- A. Woman — the first name given by Adam when he saw his counterpart for the first time. It is the feminine form of the word for man and depicts Eve’s relationship to the man [Gen. 2:23]. Woman literally means “man-ess”—the feminine side of man. She was created to be Adam’s helpmeet and companion for life.
- B. Eve —the name Adam gave to his wife after the fall [Gen. 3:20]. Eve means “life or life-giving”. Another translation is “mother of all who have life”— for all our roots go back to Eve. This name describes her function and destiny in spiritual history of which she was the beginning. Although Adam and Eve had a part in bringing sin and death to the world, Adam and Eve believed God’s promise of a future offspring who would come through her seed to take away their sin. The name of Eve – “the mother of all living” indicates Adam’s belief in God’s promise of a coming Redeemer [Gen. 3:15].
- C. Adam — means man and is a collective name that God gave to both Adam and Eve [Gen. 5:2]. The name is not one of merely of association but also represents an unbroken unity in marriage for the man and wife become one flesh; therefore, they are called one name by God [Eph. 5:31].

2. Eve’s Creation

- A. Created in the image of God just like Adam [Gen. 1:26-27]. Both the man and the woman were created by a perfect and holy God.
 - 1) Natural likeness — emotion, intellect & will. They were created morally responsible beings with emotion to love him, intellect to learn about Him and a free will to serve Him. Although all men are created in God’s image, not everyone will accept Him.
 - 2) Moral likeness — true knowledge, righteousness & holiness. God always leads his children in the right paths [Ps. 23:3]. Moral likeness comes as we draw close to God [2 Peter 1:3].
- B. Fashioned and designed by God Himself [Gen. 2:21-22]
 - 1) The woman was the final, crowning act of creation before God rested on the 7th day. Many have said that Eve was Heaven’s best and last gift. She was

made perfect by her Creator —undefiled by evil, unblemished by disease or defect, radiant in beauty, and perfect in intelligence. The masterpiece of all women — designed without any sin or imperfection. She was created by God in a mature state just like Adam [no belly button].

- 2) The woman was deliberately designed by God out of Adam's rib whereas Adam who was formed from the dust of the ground. The woman was formed out of a higher and more precious material — from Adam's bone and flesh.
- 3) The creation of woman was not an afterthought of God but very much apart of God's original plan for man [Gen. 2:18]. It was fitting and good for man to have a helpmeet. Even in the animal kingdom, God made them male and female. God created the woman to be Adam's helper. Adam never asked for a mate but as he named the animals—male and female — he may have wondered why there was no mate for him. It was God's idea. God knew what Adam needed before he could ask so God put Adam to sleep and performed the first operation by taking a rib from Adam's side. God did everything while Adam slept. Adam was delighted to have a partner. [Woa man!!]

C. The First Marriage [Gen. 2:22-25]

- 1) God's first institution was that of marriage [Gen. 2:23-24].. It was between a man and a woman. It was designed to be a monogamous, heterosexual union. Marriage is good and right in the sight of God [Heb. 13:4].
- 2) Adam was to leave his father and mother, cleave to his wife and be one flesh [2:24]. The woman was to give Adam companionship and be a helpmeet [literally a helper like man] to come along side of him — meeting his needs physically, spiritually, emotionally and intellectually. They were to mutually meet each other's needs [1 Cor. 7:3-4; Eph. 5:33].
- 3) Adam and Eve were naked but were not ashamed. Why? They were clothed with the righteousness of God; they were sinless [Gen. 2:25; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rev. 19:8]. They had the perfect marriage —perfect in love, joy, beauty and harmony because there was no sin.

- 4) They were commanded by the Creator to be fruitful, multiply, and replenish the earth — to have children and populate the earth [Gen. 1:28]. Their union was blessed by God.
- 5) Adam and Eve together were to have joint dominion over God's creation. Eve was equal to man in every way; she only differed in sex.
- 6) They were to eat herbs and fruits – both man and beast were to be vegetarian [1:29-30]. There was no killing of animals for food [or for skins] until sin entered the world

1. Eve's temptation

Most Bible scholars believe that somewhere after Genesis chapter 1 and before Genesis chapter 3, the fall of Lucifer took place [Isaiah 14:12-15]. Although no one really knows how long it was from the creation of Adam and Eve until sin entered the world, we do know from Scripture that it was before the first couple had children. Some believe that Satan wasted no time in trying to tempt the first couple. There is also the gap theory where some scholars believe Satan fell between Genesis 1:1 – 1:2. The problem is in Gen. 1:31.

A. The tempter— Satan disguised himself by indwelling the serpent

- 1) Satan's strategy to tempt Eve is the same strategy he uses today.
 - a) Satan came as a beautiful creature [Ezek. 28:13; Rev. 12:9] — he disguises Himself as an angel of light [2 Cor. 11-14]. Beauty attracts people; therefore, Satan had to disguise himself. No one would follow someone with horns and a pitchfork.
 - b) Satan came as a clever creature — the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field. He is the master of deceit and lies [John 8:44].
 - i. He knows how to twist God's word and cause doubt — a half truth is still a lie [Gen. 3: 1, 4-5; 2 Cor. 11:3].
 - ii. He wants to be like God — he wants to overthrow God [Isaiah 14:13-14]
 - c) Satan approached Eve at a favorable time —when she was alone and without Adam and when she was in close proximity to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

d) Satan uses three distinct areas to tempt us to sin [1 John 2:16-17]. Sometimes he uses one, sometimes he uses two and sometimes he uses all three areas like he did with Eve [Gen. 3:6].

- i. Lust of the flesh — good for food
- ii. Lust of the eyes — pleasant to the eyes
- iii. Pride of life — to make one wise; to be like God

B. Eve's weaknesses

1. Failure to know God's Word accurately, causing her to add and/or omit from what God said. God did not forbid her to look at the tree nor to touch it.
2. Failure to flee temptation. The longer Eve engaged herself in conversation with the clever serpent, the more she became entangled in Satan's web of lies and deceit [1 Tim. 6:11-12].
3. Deceived by Satan's lie, Eve ate of the forbidden fruit. She became a temptress herself [like Satan, the one who tempted her] when she offered the forbidden fruit to Adam [Gen. 3:6]. Although Eve was deceived, Adam ate knowingly [1 Tim. 2:14].
 - a. The eating of the fruit by Eve did not cause the human race to fall. However, Eve was still guilty because she disobeyed God's Word.
 - b. It was through Adam [the legal head of the human race] that caused the fall of mankind. It was through him that sin and death came into the world [Rom. 5:12a, 19a]. When God gave the command about the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, it appears that God gave it to Adam before Eve was created [Gen. 2:15-17]. Therefore, God held Adam responsible [Eph. 5:23].
4. Eve cast blame
 - a. When God confronted Eve with her disobedience, she blamed the serpent just as Adam blamed her [Gen. 3: 9-13]. God already knew they sinned but gave them a chance to confess and repent of their sin.
 - b. Neither Adam nor Eve acknowledged their sin immediately. Instead of owning their sin and confessing it to God, they played the blame game just as human nature does today [Matt. 7:5]. No one makes us sin; we choose to sin [Rom. 6:18, 22]