

Quotable Quotes

“The female is more imperfect than the male. The first reason is that she is colder. If, among animals, the warmer ones are more active, it follows that the colder ones are imperfect.

Galen, a Medical “Expert” of the 3rd century.

What is the difference whether it is in a wife or a mother; it is still Eve the temptress that we must be aware of in any woman ... I fail to see what use women can be to man, if one excludes the function of bearing children.

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430 A.D.)

Woman in her greatest perfection was made to serve and obey man.

John Knox (1505-1572)

... Woman is defective and misbegotten, for the active power in the male seed tends to the production of a perfect likeness in the masculine sex, while production of the woman comes from defect in the active force.

Thomas Aquinas 13th Century

It is an ascertained physiological fact that the actual capacity of the average male brain is considerably greater than that of the female.

M. Burrows, in an 1869 Article that argued against allowing women to attend college in England.

The creational pattern of male headship requires that women not hold the formal position of the authoritative public teaching office in the church, that is, the office of pastor.

1985 Statement of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Do you not know that you are [each] an Eve? The sentence of God on this sex of yours lives in this age; the guilt must of necessity live too. You are the Devil’s gateway; You are the unsealer of the [forbidden] tree: you are the first deserter of the divine law: you are she who persuaded him whom the devil was not valiant enough to attack. On account of your desert – that is, death – even the Son of God had to die.

Tertullian (155-220 A.D.)

Woman was evil from the beginnings, a gate of death, a disciple of the servant, the devil’s accomplice, a fount of deception, a dogstart to godly labours, rust corrupting the saints; whose perilous face hath overgrown such as had already become almost angels. Lo, woman is the head of sin, a weapon of the devil, expulsion from Paradise, mother of guilt, corruption of the ancient law.

From the collection of views on women compiled by Salimbene, a 13th Century Franciscan monk (1221-1288)

[A woman] is more carnal than a man, as is clear from her many carnal abominations. And it should be noted that there was a defect in the formation of the first woman, since she was formed from a bent rib, that is, a rib of the breast, which is bent as it were in contrary direction of a man. And since through this defect she is an imperfect animal, she always deceives ... Since [women] are feebler both in mind and body, it is not surprising that they should come under the spell of witchcraft.

Dominican inquisitors Heinrich Kramer and James Sprenger in a 1486 tract in which they argued that women are the source of all witchcraft.

The woman taught once, and ruined all. On this account ... let her not teach ... The whole female race transgressed ... Let her not, however, grieve. God hath given her no small consolation, that of childbearing.

Early church father John Chrysostom (C. 400 A.D.)

From: Ten Lies The Church Tells Women, By J. Lee Grady, Creation House Press, 2000, Lake Mary, Florida, ISBN 0-88419-737-9

Adam and Eve: What's In A Name?

Note: For each scripture reference, I've provided four Biblical translations so that you can see the variations in the texts: King James Version, New International Version, New Living Translation, and the New Revised Standard Version (what NBRC uses...) **McG**

For each name, ask yourself these questions:

1. Who gives this name?
2. What is the meaning of the name?
3. Specifically whom is it directed to?
4. What is the time frame of the story?
5. What responsibilities does this name carry?
6. Is this before or after The Fall?

Name #1: "Man" **Genesis 1:26-30**

KJV

²⁶And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

²⁸And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

²⁹And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

NIV

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, ^[a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the

earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life

NLT

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make people^[a] in our image, to be like ourselves. They will be masters over all life--the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the livestock, wild animals,^[b] and small animals."

²⁷So God created people in his own image; God patterned them after himself; male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them and told them, "Multiply and fill the earth and subdue it. Be masters over the fish and birds and all the animals." ²⁹And God said, "Look! I have given you the seed-bearing plants throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. ³⁰And I have given all the grasses and other green plants to the animals and birds for their food." And so it was.

NRS

26 Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

²⁹God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so.



Name #2: "Adam" **Genesis 2:18-20 and Genesis 5:2**

Genesis 2:18-20

KJV

¹⁸And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

¹⁹And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

²⁰And Adam 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 an help meet for him.

NLT

¹⁸And the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion who will help him." ¹⁹So the LORD God formed from the soil every kind of animal and bird. He brought them to Adam^[a] to see what he would call them, and Adam chose a name for each one. ²⁰He gave names to all the livestock, birds, and wild animals. But still there was no companion suitable for him.

NIV

¹⁸ The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam ^[a] no suitable helper was found.

NRS

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' ¹⁹ So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

Genesis 5:2

KJV

² Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

NIV

² He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them "man."

NLT

² He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

NRS

² Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them 'Humankind' when they were created.



Name #3: "Woman"

Genesis 2:23

KJV

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.

NIV

²¹ 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 ^[a] and closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib ^[b] he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³ The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' ^[c] for she was taken out of man."

²⁴ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

NLT

²¹ So the LORD God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. He took one of Adam's ribs ^[a] and closed up the place from which he had taken it. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib and brought her to Adam.

²³ "At last!" Adam exclaimed. "She is part of my own flesh and bone! She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken out of a man." ²⁴ This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

NRS

²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.' ²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.



Name #4: "Eve" **Genesis 3:20**

KJV

²⁰ And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

NIV

²⁰ Adam ^[a] named his wife Eve, ^[b] because she would become the mother of all the living.

NLT

²⁰ Then Adam named his wife Eve, ^[a] because she would be the mother of all people everywhere.

NRS

²⁰ The man named his wife Eve,^{*} because she was the mother of all who live.

Adam

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

I Corinthians 15:22

Society, friendship and love; Gifts divinely bestowed upon man. (2)

His name	His name means "Of the Ground"(1) or "Taken Out of the Red Earth"(2) or "Human Being"(3)
Key Scriptures	Genesis 2-3, I Chronicles 1:1, Luke 3:38, Romans 5:12-17, I Corinthians 15:21-23, 45, I Timothy 2:13-14
Promises In Scripture	Lamentations 3:22-23, I Corinthians 15:22, I Corinthians 15:55-57
Other Interesting Bits	"Adam" was • the name of earth's first man and • the joint name of both Adam and Eve (Genesis 5:2), • and also the name of a town on the east of Jordan (Joshua 3:16). (2) The word "Adam" is used over 500 times in the Old Testament in the sense of "human being" or "humanity." Only in early Genesis and 1 Chronicles 1:1 is "adam" the proper name of Adam, the first man. (3)

His Work, Background, Life and Times	
Work:	Until his sin, Adam was naked and was the happy caretaker of the Garden of Eden. After succumbing to temptation, he tailored his own clothes and became a farmer. (1)
Necessary Complement:	Adam was a necessary complement to the divine plan. "There was not a man to till the ground." (Genesis 2:5). The accomplishment of God's plan required human instrumentality. God made the earth for man, and then the man for the earth. (2)
Given Dominion:	Three Hebrew words convey the idea of rule or dominion. <i>Masal</i> , found over 80 times in the Old Testament, is a general word denoting authority. <i>Sapat</i> and <i>mispat</i> are translated either "rule" or "judge," and are linked with various functions of human government. But the Hebrew word in Genesis 1 is <i>radah</i> . Its twenty-five uses in the Old Testament refer to human's governance of nature, and particularly animal creation, as God's surrogate. In stating his intention to give man dominion over animal creation, God charged human beings to <i>care for</i> what He has made. The gift of God's likeness-image carries with it the responsibility to guard God's handiwork rather than to exploit it. (3)
Eden:	A number of suggestions have been offered as to the location of Eden, including Babylonia (in Mesopotamia) or Armenia (north of Mesopotamia). Eden probably included the area of Mesopotamia (including Babylonia) and its immediate surroundings. The statement in Genesis 2:10 that four "riverheads" divided from the river that flowed out of the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:10-14) supports this location. (4)

His Character
Perfect & Harmonious: The first man, Adam, was initially God's perfect human creation. Adam was in harmony with nature and with his wife, who was formed from one of his ribs. (1)
First Son: Adam is the first human son of God (Luke 3:38) and God's masterpiece and crowning work of creation. (2)
Discontent: If ever there was such a person, Adam was surely the man who had everything. But, incredibly, he wanted more. He refused to be satisfied with what God had provided for his pleasure. His heart was piqued with a hint of discontent. He wanted to go his own way, to do what he wanted to do, to be his own man. (1)
Creature of God: Adam was fashioned a creature of God, bearing the image of God and possessing God-like faculties. (Gen 1:27, Ps. 8:6, Ecc. 7:29). (2)
Tripartite: Adam was created a tripartite being, having a spirit, soul, and body. (Genesis 2:7; I Thess. 5:23). (2)
Alone: Adam was alone and needed companionship to satisfy his created instincts (Gen. 2:18), thus Eve was formed. (2)
Sinner: After the satanic tempter there came the human tempter, and the act of taking the forbidden fruit offered by Eve ruined Adam and made him our federal head in sin and death. "In Adam we die." (2)
God's Likeness: Human beings, and human beings alone, have been given the "likeness-image" of God. The <i>Expository Dictionary of Bible Words</i> (1985) notes: The creation story makes it clear that the likeness-image is not of physical form: material for man's creation was taken from the earth. It is the inner nature of human beings that reflects something vital in the nature of God. Thus theologians generally agree that the likeness is rooted in all that is required to make a human being a person: in our intellectual, emotional, and moral resemblance to God, who has revealed Himself to us a personal being. It is this likeness-image that sets human beings apart from the rest of the animal creation, and it is transmitted through the process of reproduction to succeeding generations (Genesis 5:1-3). It is this likeness-image of God that makes each human life so precious that nothing of however great value can possibly be offered in compensation for the taking of another's life (Genesis 9:5-6). (3)
In Eden, Adam discovered: • Beauty (Genesis 2:9), Eccl. 3:11) • Satisfaction of meaningful work (Genesis 2:15) • The joy of discovery (Genesis 2:19) • The peace that comes from doing what is right (Genesis 2:17) • The need for companionship (Genesis 2:18) • Eve as a helper truly comparable to him (Genesis 2:21-24) (3)

His Sorrow
Expelled: More tragic than any story in the Bible, Adam disobeyed God, was expelled from the Garden of Eden, and spent the rest of his life in hard labor. (1)
Lost Everything: Willing to sacrifice his abundance on the altar of his temptation, Adam, the man who had absolutely everything, lost absolutely everything. (1)

Paradise Lost: Paradise was lost through listening to the voice of the tempter. Relieved of his occupation as a gardener, Adam was condemned to make his livelihood by tilling the stubborn ground, and to eat his bread in the sweat of his face. (2)

Likeness Image of God Distorted: Human beings have not been stripped of the likeness-image, but the likeness-image has been distorted, and every human capacity is now bent toward sin. (3)

Death: Death is found in three sense in Scripture:

1. Death is the cessation of biological life. In this sense, the day Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit they *began to die*. Those processes that lead to biological death were set in operation, and the grave prepared to welcome the first pair and all their offspring. (3)
2. Death is a theological concept depicting the spiritual state of those who are separated from God by sin. In this sense, Adam and Eve did die “in the day” that they ate. This death is powerfully depicted in *The Expository Dictionary of Bible Words* (1985): Death, then is a biological concept that is applied theologically to graphically convey the true state of humankind. The death that grips mankind is moral and spiritual. Death warps and twists man out of the patten of original creation. Every human potential is distorted, every capacity – for joy, for relationships, for harmony with God, for true goodness – is tragically misshapen. And because each ugly twist and turn gives expression to sin, man – intended to reflect God’s image and likeness – falls instead under God’s condemnation. The striking and terrible image of death is designed to communicate how desperately we need God and how hopeless we are without him. (3)
3. Death is also the eternal state of those who fail to be reconciled to God during their days on earth. The eternal punishment to which they condemn themselves by unbelief is called the “second death” (Rev. 20:14) (3)

His Joy and His Triumph

Firstborn: Adam was the firstborn of all creation. (1)

The First: Head of the human family, the first being to trod the earth. What a beautiful world Adam found himself in with everything to make him happy, a world without sin and with out sorrow! God first made, as it were, the great house of the world, then brought His tenant to occupy it. And it was not an empty house, but furnished with everything needed to make life content. There as not a single need God had not satisfied. The Bible does not tell us how long Adam’s state of blessedness and innocence lasted. (2)

Intimate and Personal: Adam’s creation was intimate and personal (Genesis 2:7). In Scriptures close up of Adam’s creation, we note a striking departure. In describing the creation of the universe and the shaping of earth, Genesis 1 repeatedly records, “Then God said...and it was so.” In describing Adam’s creation, Genesis 2:7 says, “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 being.” What a difference! “Then God said... and it was so” suggests emotional distance. The picture of God stooping to form Adam’s body from the dust of the earth and then breathing life into his still form is warm and personal. God was emotionally involved. He stepped into His creation; He fashioned Adam’s body and held

it in His arms; He gently breathed His own breath into Adam's nostrils that Adam might become a living soul. God watched as Adam stirred. When Adam sat up, we can imagine God stepping back, deeply satisfied with this being who is the crown of His creation. (3)

His Legacy: Promises and Lessons

The Sin of Discontent: The man who has it all risks it all on something shameful and inconsequential. But doesn't this sound strangely familiar? Every once in a while the beautiful people in the Life section in the newspaper find their way to the News section – indicted for shoplifting, embezzlement, fraud, assault, and even murder. But before we jump to judgment against Adam and these fallen contemporary heroes, we have our own hearts to deal with, don't we? Our longing for more when we have enough. Our sin of discontent in the midst of plenty. (1)

Created By God: Both male and female were created by God who brought the universe into being. (3)

God's Likeness-image: Male and Female were given God's likeness-image, and in this gift was set apart from the animals. (3)

Glimpse of the Good Life: Adam's story offers a glimpse of the good life God intended for us. He was the first to commune with God, the first to look at everything beautiful, the first to enjoy an intimate relationship with his wife, the first to be given satisfying work at which he could certainly succeed. Utter peace, perfect health, supreme confidence – all these were his. Unfortunately, Adam, alone with Eve, was also the first to lead the way into sin – into that dark tunnel full of misery and death. Still, Adam retained his status as a creature made in God's image, even though that image became suddenly distorted. Fortunately, God has initiated a plan to restore his image in the children of Adam *That's us) by making us the children of the new Adam (hat's Christ). (1)

Promise of the Savior: Adam received the promise of the savior. The first promise and prophecy of One, able to deal with Satan and sin was given, not to Adam, but to the one responsible for Adam's transgression (Gen. 3:15), and in the coats of skins God provided to cover the discovered nakedness of Adam and Eve we have a type of the sacrifice of the Cross. IN Adam we die, but in Christ we can be made alive. The first man Adam was of the earth earthy, but the Second Man, the last Adam, was from heaven and kept His first estate of sinless perfection.

Given Dominion: Male and Female were granted dominion over God's creation. We are God's caretakers. (3)

Living Soul: Male and Female are a living soul, possessing biological life but also destined for eternity. (3)

Our Relationship with the Lord: The men and women we meet in Scripture have been called to live their earthly lives in relationship with the God who created them. No human being's achievements or character can be rightly evaluated without considering how well his life reveals a whole and healthy relationship with the Lord. (3)

Real "Adams" (Both the Male and Female versions!):

- Look for and appreciate the beautiful
- Find satisfaction in accomplishing meaningful work.
- Develop their capacity to think and explore the nature of the universe.
- Make moral commitments and find deep satisfaction in choosing to do what is right.
- Build relationships with others, valuing interdependence more than independence.

- Invest in their relationship with their spouse, finding joy in sharing all of life on earth with them. (3)

Because of the Fall:

- We are often driven by corrupt impulses and desires. WE will find in ourselves the weaknesses we see in the people of the Bible. By studying their lives, we can be warned away from similar tendencies in ourselves. (3)
- Spiritual death has gained its grip on our personalities. Only through faith in God's promises and in commitment to His Word can we find our way successfully through life.
- The people of Scripture can give us guidance and encouragement. (3)
- We are especially vulnerable to giving first place to our work rather than to God. When we do give first place to God, work, spouse, children, and all those other aspects of our lives can exist in harmony. When we give first place to work, every other relationship will suffer. (3)

Through Adam, We can learn:

- All Human beings are special, created in God's own likeness-image. Every person is to be valued and treated with respect as one who is precious to God. (3)
- All human beings have God-given capacities rooted in our relationship to God as persons. We need to nurture these capacities, whether that is the ability to appreciate beauty, the ability to do meaningful work and find satisfaction in it, the ability to build significant relationships with others, and so forth. Let's not be satisfied to be one-dimensional individuals, but let us develop and find joy in all the gifts God has given us. (3)
- All human beings are terribly flawed by sin, and the likeness-image gifts of God are twisted. Let's remain aware of our fallibility, and humbly respond to the guidance God gives us in His word. (3)
- Human Beings are vulnerable to the temptation to focus on work and on achievement at the expense of commitment to God and the nurturing of other relationships. We need to live a balanced life in which we place God first and let the other aspects of our lives fall into place as He directs us. (3)

	His Legacy of Prayer
	<i>Men of the Bible</i>
Reflect On	Genesis 2:8-25
Praise God	For creating you in his own image.
Offer Thanks	For the work God has given you, whether it's easy or hard – or, more likely, a mixture of both.
Confess	Any discontent, disobedience, or mistrust that prevents you from enjoying the good things God intends for your life.
Ask God	To help you understand the link between obedience and blessing.

A Final Prayer	Father, you know how hard it is for me to rely on anyone but myself. I don't like the idea of depending on someone else. Help me, God, to learn how to trust and obey you no matter how "unnatural" it may feel. Help me to remember the example of my brother, Jesus, who depended on you for everything and who never once went his own way.
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	Final Thoughts
	<i>Men of the Bible</i>
Lift Your Heart	Every day offers us another chance. Either we can become more like Adam, the natural man who follows his own independent course, or we can become more like Christ, the supernatural man who depends on God for everything in his life. Take a few minutes today to slow down and ask yourself where God is requiring your obedience. Maybe he wants you to look for a new job, to keep putting up with your old job, to spend more time with your children, or to get help with a persistent sin. Whatever it is, don't hide from the truth, but face it, trusting that if God is showing it to you, he will help you make the change and bless you in the process.

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Please note that NO information contained in this study is original work of Susan McGeown, unless otherwise noted.

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Eve: The First Woman

In the beginning God created the woman ... and behold she was very good and beautiful. She was the last crowing act of His whole stupendous creation. She was heaven's best, last gift. (3)

But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

II Corinthians 11:3

For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being quite deceived, fell into transgression. But women shall be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

I Timothy 2:13-15

Read Her Story:	Genesis 1:26-31, Genesis 2-4
Questions to ask yourself as you do this study:	1.
Her name	Her name Eve means “Life-Giving” or “Mother of All Who Have Life” (1) “woman” means “man-ess” (Genesis 2:23) (2) “Adam” “male and female created he them...and called their name Adam” (Genesis 5:2) “This inclusive name implies that the divine ideal for man and woman is not merely that of association but an indissoluble unity. God made them “one flesh” and gave them one name. (2) “Eve” was given her after the transgression (3:16,20) and means “life” or “life-giving” or “mother of all who have life” and it is Adam who gives her a name which is expressive of the prophetic life bound up in her. In Bible days, great significance was attached to a change of name. In view of the awful judgment pronounced upon them, the man might have been pardoned if he had reproached her as ‘death’, yet he chose to give her a name which is expressive of the prophetic life bound up in her. For through the seed of the woman, sin would one day be vanquished, and death would be swallowed up in victory. (2)
Her Time in History	unknown
Her Promises In Scripture	John 1:16 Romans 5:20-21

Her Profession	Mother of all people except Adam
Her Home	
Did You Know	•

Her Background, Life and Times

Childbirth: Eve was the first woman to conceive a child, the first to harbor a fertilized egg in her womb. Women throughout the centuries have borne the results of Eve's sin. Their pain in childbearing unites them in a common bond of an experience shared. The experience is an unusual combination of the earthy and at the same time the unearthly. The pains, the panting, the mess and disorder connected with the birth of a child are of the earth, of Eve herself. But what is brought forth, and the bond between the mother and the child of this experience, is unearthly, something only the Creator of life could forge. (1)

The term "man": The term man is for the whole human race : Gen. 1:26. The Hebrew word translated man is adam. This familiar word is also the name of the first man, Adam. In most cases we should understand adam as "mankind," "human beings," or "humankind." Both male and female are included in man. When the biblical text wishes to make a gender distinction, the word ish is usually used of male human beings, and the word issah is used of female humans beings. Other Hebrew words are used to make a strong sexual distinction. Zakar is used to assert maleness eighty-three times in the Old Testament, and neqebah is used twenty-two times to designate the female. When God said, "Let us make man," He was not speaking of male human beings, but of both men and women. Male and female are equally, and like, man. Genesis 1:27: God created man (adam) in His own image, male and female, He created them. Not only does the text use a word that encompasses all human beings (adam), but to avoid any possible misunderstanding it adds "male and female," and uses the plural "them." God wants us to understand that men and women share the same essential identity. While there are differences between men and women, these are not differences of essence. The essence of humanity, the thing that sets humankind apart from all other living creatures, is that only human beings have been created in God's image and likeness!(32)

Eve's Name: Gen 2:19-23. A fascinating feature in the story of woman's creation is the way God prepared Adam for his mate. The text tells us that God brought Adam every beast and bird to name. In the Old Testament names were more than labels. Names were understood to capture and express something of the essence of the things named. The implication is that Adam carefully observed each creature over a significant period of time so he might understand something of its peculiar nature. Then Adam assigned that creature a name that accurately reflected that nature. In the process of carefully studying birds and animals, Adam made a significant discovery. As wonderful as living creatures were, none among them corresponded to him. There was no creature suited by its nature for him to relate to it. It was only after Adam had made this discovery, and had begun to feel the emptiness of his isolated life, that God caused him to fall into a deep sleep and set about preparing Eve.

Gen 2:23 records Adam's words when God brought Eve to him. We can sense his wonder and excitement. "This, at last, is flesh of my flesh!" What Adam is saying, of course, is, "Now, at last, here is one who shares my identity – one to whom I can relate because she is everything I am, and I am everything she is. Here at last is another person!" Again, we have the strongest kind of biblical affirmation of the essential identity of men and women. In terms of essential identity, men and women alike bear the image-likeness of God, and because of it, men and women can relate to each other on every level of the human personality. The creation story in all its details strongly affirms woman as the full equip of man. Woman's "otherness" or her inferiority and subordination to man simply is not supported by the story of creation. (32)

Her Character

She Knew Perfection: She came into the world perfectly at peace with her God and with her husband, the only other person on the planet. She lived in Paradise, possessing every pleasure imaginable. She never knew the meaning of embarrassment, misunderstanding, hurt, estrangement, envy, bitterness, grief, or guilt until she listened to her enemy and began to doubt God. (1)

Eve was the first woman to be called a wife. She became man's counterpart and companion. It was good for Adam spiritually, intellectually and socially to have a wife. It is only where the Bible exists and Christianity is practiced that woman attains to such a position as the helper, or equal of man. (2)

Eve was the most beautiful woman the world has known. Created by a perfect God, Eve reflected the divine perfection. Face, features and form were the loveliest woman have ever had. (2)

The Only One: She was the only woman to be perfectly and personally fashioned a woman by the Creator, and the only woman whose home was Paradise. (3)

Unique: She was unique in that God made her with His own hands and in that she came, a perfect woman, into a perfect world which was ready in every way to receive her. Fashioned for and after man, woman reflects, in her human nature, the glory of man. The man is the head of the woman, but the woman is a crown to her husband (I Cor. 11:7-12; Prov. 12:4) (3)

Physically Flawless: It has been suggested by many that Eve was probably the most beautiful woman who every lived. As she was literally fashioned by the hand and mind of God, it seems only logical. How could sinful people in a corrupted universe have offspring more beautiful than what God Himself had formed? (32)

Eve was the first and only woman born without sin. Eve had no inherited sin: Fashioned with "innocence and sinless perfection and endowed to all fullness with gifts of body and mind, and rich in external blessing without spot or alloy she yet transgressed in the sin with which she caused Adam to sin (2)

Eve was the world's first dressmaker (2)

Dominion Over All: God made Eve *also* a partaker of the Divine image and of dominion over all. God blessed both Adam and Eve, and told them to occupy the earth with their children, to have dominion in the earth and to use the vast resources which it contained. The first pair was vested with authority over all the works of God's hands. (3)

Partner and Companion: Eve was all that Adam needed for his complement – physically, intellectually and socially. She became his partner and companion. (3)

Helpmeet: The helpmeet God made was a woman. She was the last of God's creative acts. Adam was formed from the dust but she was formed out of higher, more precious material: she was bone of his bone, flesh of his flesh. (3)

A Helper Comparable: Gen. 2:18, One of the fictions on which the view of women held by some Christians rests is that women were created subordinate beings. The NIV translates this phrase as a "helper suitable for him," offering further support to those who argue that as "helpers" women were created to be subservient to men and to meet men's needs. The implication is that it is men who count, and women's concerns are to be subordinate to men's. But the Hebrew phrase here is *ezer knegdu*, which is best understood as a "helper corresponding to him." Commenting on this phrase, the *Expository Dictionary of Bible Words* (1985) notes: In Eve, God provided a "suitable helper" (Gen. 2:20). Eve was suitable because she shared with Adam the image and likeness of God – the image that permits human beings to relate on every dimension of personality (emotional, intellectual, spiritual, physical, etc.). Only another being who, like Adam, was shaped in the image of God would be suitable. The word for "helper" here is *ezer*. It means "a help," "a support," "an assistant." Before we understand this concept to imply inferiority or subordination, we should note that the root is used in the Old Testament to speak of God as a helper of His nation and of individuals. God is man's helper in all kind of distress (Ex. 18:4; Deut. 33:7, 26, 29; Ps. 20:2;

33:20; 70:5, 89:19, 115:9-11; 121:1-2, 124:8, 146:5, Hos. 13:9). We do not conclude from this that God is inferior to the person He helps. (32)

Made in God's Image: In God's revelation of Creation to Moses, the Lord made it clear that Eve had been created in God's image, just as Adam had. Genesis 1:27 states, "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." While Adam had been formed from dust and God had "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life" (Gen 2:7), we are told that Eve was formed from man (Gen. 2:22). From the living tissue of Adam, God formed, Eve. He wanted Adam to see that Eve was of the same essence as he. (32)

Walked With God: We know that "God walked in the garden in the cool of the day" (Gen 3:8). We can only begin to imagine what communing with God was like as the three shared an afternoon stroll through paradise. But Eve and Adam *knew*. (32)

Traits of Personhood that the First couple shared with the Creator: God gave Eve and Adam traits of personhood that the animals did not share. With the critical gifts of judgment and of free choice came an awesome responsibility. Eve's free choices affected not only her relationship with God but every human relationship that followed.

- **Capacity to think:** As the serpent tempted Eve, she reasoned that if the fruit of the forbidden tree made one wise, it must be good.
- **Capacity to Remember and Reflect:** We see Eve remembering Abel in Genesis 4:25. Even more importantly we see Eve remembering and reflecting on God. She is banished from the garden, but she has not forgotten the love, compassion, or garden walks with her creator.
- **Capacity to Distinguish Right From Wrong:** She told the serpent, "God has said, You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die" (Gen. 3:3). But the capacity to tell the difference was not enough to protect her.
- **Capacity to Make Decisions and Act on Them:** Eve was aware that she was fully responsible for what she chose to do. "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (Gen. 3:13) (32)

Never Lost Hope: When she bore her first son Eve said, "I have acquired man from the Lord" (Gen 4:1), a verse many say should be rendered, "I have acquired *the* man from the Lord." Her heart and mind were not far from God's at that moment, as she looked at her newborn son and imagined that he would be the promised Redeemer. (32)

Her Sorrow

Murder: first son was a murderer and her second son his victim.(1)

Eve was the first mother to have a son who was a murder Behind Cain's slaughter of his brother was the serpent who had made their mother the world's first sinner. Jesus said that he was a murder from the beginning (John 8:44) Eve names her third son Seth, "For God hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, for Cain slew him." In naming her third son thus she voiced her faith in God's love, mercy and provision. (2)

Cain and Abel: We can imagine her grief. It takes little imagination to sense the anguish and despair of a mother who not only loses her son, but loses him at the hand of his own brother. Remembering all the time that she was the one who had taken the bait and urged her husband to eat. One wonders if the burden was ever lifted from her heart. (32)

Banished from paradise and God's presence: That she and her husband were banished from Paradise and the presence of God. (1)

Eve was the first on earth to be assailed by Satan There was no great daring to sin for the first time on Eve's part. As sin was unknown to both Adam and Eve when created by God, Eve saw no wrong in the masterpiece of satanic subtle suggestions. Satan did not tell her to sin, but insinuated in the cleverest way that there was nothing to worry about in eating forbidden fruit. "The temptation

was not in itself the wish to transgress, but the will to possess; the transgression is merely a means...Temptation since the days of Eden has never ceased to clothe itself in a seemingly garment.”(2)

Eve's Losses:

- Her perfect relationship with God (3:8)
- The bliss of a sinless marriage (3:12)
- Her ideal home in the Garden of Eden (3:23)
- Her lack of acquaintance with evil (3:22)
- Her son Abel, murdered by his brother
- Her son Cain, whom God sent away (7)

The Fall: With infinite sadness the Lord questioned them, heard their excuses, and explained the consequences of their choice to eat the forbidden fruit. God addressed the three central parties separately.

• **To the serpent and the fallen angel** who had spoken through him, God said: cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel. Gen. 3:14-15. Only God's words to the serpent who hosted Satan are identified as a curse. IN biblical language a curse (*arar*) is a binding act and a punishment. In this case the physical consequences of the curse were visited on the serpent. It must forever crawl on the earth's surface on its belly.

• Then God spoke **to the woman**, and said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." Gen. 3:16 When we look at God's words to Eve, we note first of all that she is not curse. Rather, God spells out for Eve the implications of her choice, for herself and also for all her daughters. Rabbi Nathan M. Sarna in his commentary on Genesis (1989) writes: "It is quite clear from Gen. 2:18, 23 that the ideal society, which hitherto existed, affirmed the absolute equality of the sexes. The new state of male domination is regarded as a deterioration of the human condition that resulted from defiance of the divine will." But the critical question is, does "he shall rule over you" express *God's will* for male-female relationships, or does it simply describe the *distortion of God's will* which sin introduced into our race? If the latter, the many expressions of male domination in our own and other societies are clearly *wrongs* perpetrated against women by men. (32)

• Then God spoke **to the man**, and said: "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." Gen. 3:17b-19. Here again, Adam is not curse. Rather God explains the consequences of Adam's disobedience. When we look closely at these pronouncements, we note a striking parallelism. Each explanation of the consequence of the Fall has physical, psychological, societal, and spiritual aspects. (32)

Relationship with Adam: Before the Fall, what must it have been like for Adam and Eve? I suspect that the relationship was so blissful it would have been boring if it hadn't been perfect. There was no competition between the sexes, no sense of need to establish superiority no conflict over whose needs should have been given priority... After the Fall, the knew shame (3:7), blame (3:11-12), and a lifetime ahead of consequences for poor choices. 3:16-17). (32)

Her Joy

Experienced Paradise: That she had once tasted Paradise. (1)

Eve was the first to receive the divine prophecy of the cross Genesis 3:15 (2)

An Eternal Promise: God had promised her offspring would eventually destroy her enemy. (1)

First Marriage: was more than a social or civil contract. It was not a union of convenience or of necessity. It was a perfect union consummated in perfect love. (3)

Adam's Name For Her: Just as darkness seemed to be settling in on her wonderful and perfect life, she heard Adam declare, "Your name shall be called 'Eve...the mother of all living.'" With those words, Eve glimpsed a fresh ray of light – and hope. Eve – the mother of all life! (7)

Her Promises, Her Lessons, Her Legacy

God's Promise to Eve: Embedded in the very curse put on Eve for her sin is a wonderful promise. God promises her, and succeeding generations: You "will give birth to children" Genesis 3:16. God's grace and mercy are marvelously evident, even when he's pronouncing his judgment. He promises that the human race will continue even as he announces that death will now be inevitable. *When you're at your lowest, on your knees before God's judgment, never forget that his grace is still at work And that's truly amazing.* (1)

We See Ourselves: When we look into Eve's eyes, we see our own. We can all attest to times when we were walking in the Spirit one minute and walking in the flesh the next. That's how quickly temptation can trip us up. That's how easily we can all be deceived. (4)

Temptation: Every temptation begins with questioning the authority of the Bible and casting doubt about the relevance of God's Word. How tragic to view God's children caught in this vicious trap, eagerly seeking something better than God's best. Adam and Eve were living in paradise – no difficulties, no trials, no sorrows. They had perfect fellowship, perfect intimacy, perfect harmony. Yet Satan convinced them that he could offer something better. (4)

Spiritual Consequences of Eves' Fall: Women, in shifting their urges from a desire to please God to a desire to please males, lose sight of who they have been created to be. Similarly, in exercising a distorted dominion over women, men not only usurp the role of God but also hold women down and defraud society of the gifts that individual women might bring to enrich all. (32)

Relationship: Between men and women have been terribly distorted as a consequence of the Fall. The distortion cannot be dismissed as reflecting God's desire for us today. The story of the Fall reminds us that marriages need to be worked on in a climate of commitment which ends only at death. (32)

Hope Filled Realities:

- **God's faithfulness:** Jere. 29:11
- **God's Promises:** Phil. 4:13
- **God's Goodness:** Psalm 30:5 (7)

Facing Consequences: Like Eve, we are likely to sin, and will have to face consequences of our choices. Yet we can look to Eve's example of continuing to cling to God and going on with life. (32)

Accepting Responsibility: Like Eve, when we sin we will need ultimately to accept responsibility for our actions. Yes, Eve complained that the serpent deceived her. But in the end she also admitted, "and I ate." (32)

Forgiving: Those of us who are parents have been given an example of forgiving. After all, God forgave Adam and Even after their fall, and continued to be with them. We need to forgive when our children sin, and continue to be there for them. (32)

Forgiving Yourself: I believe that Eve must have forgiven herself in time. Without forgiveness, how could she have found the strength to continue on with the many burdens she had to bear? If Eve could forgive herself, then ay of us can and should forgive ourselves for what we have done. (32)

The Promised Savior: Let's remember that God promised Adam and Eve a Savior. Even though Eve mistook His time, it was faith in God's promise that brought the first pair the forgiveness promised to us in Christ. The Savior Eve yearned for has come, and no matter what we have done, faith in the Son of God will save us as well. (32)

	Her Legacy of Prayer
	<i>Women of the Bible</i>
Reflect On	Genesis 2:15-25, 3
Praise God	Because he created you in his own image, making you a woman capable of reflecting his love, truth, strength, goodness, wisdom, and beauty.
Offer Thanks	That imbedded in God's Judgment of Adam and Eve is the promise of a Redeemer who will crush the head of our enemy, the devil.
Confess	Your own tendency to mar God's image in you by preferring your will to his.
Ask God	To help you surrender your life, so that he can fulfill his purpose for creating you.
A Final Prayer	Father, give me a greater understanding of your original plan for our world. Help me to envision its beauty so I might live with a constant awareness that you intend to restore paradise to all who belong to you. May I surrender every sin and every sorrow to you, trusting that you will fulfill your purpose for my life.

	Final Thoughts
	<i>Women of the Bible</i>
Lift Your Heart	Consider this: You were made for paradise. The joys you taste now are infinitesimal compared to those that await you in heaven, for "no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" (I Corinthians 2:9)

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