

First Family— by God



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The first family began when Genesis 1:26 “*And 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. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*”

Adam was created first and then Eve—both were part of God’s perfect plan for a perfect family—including happiness, peace, and contentment through their *trust* on Him for all needs—food *from Him* to sustain *physical* life and *trust in Him* to maintain *spiritual* life. God gave specific instructions to Adam and Eve—they are recorded to inform us of God’s *will* and *plan* for *our* lives today. Genesis 3:20 “*Adam called his wife’s name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.*”

God has a plan for every life on earth. The twelve apostles were ordinary men, but God trained them to proclaim His Truth to an unbelieving world. God selected them because they were *humble* and *teachable*—both are *requirements* of God—which is another example for us.

1 Corinthians 1:26-27 “*Not many who are wise with merely human wisdom, not many of position and influence, not many of noble birth have been called. But God has chosen the things which the world regards as foolish, in order to put its wise men to shame; and God has chosen the things which the world regards as destitute of influence, in order to put its powerful things to shame.*”

There are women in the Bible who had a God-appointed position in life. There is the unnamed Samaritan woman John 4; Anna who appears in one short scene Luke 2; Rahab, the notorious sinner who Hebrews 11:31 “*Did not perish along with the disobedient,*” because she chose to trust Israel’s God and help His people. There is Mary who was the mother of Jesus. Their temptations, trials, and troubles are similar to what we face today.

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is the same God of Sarah, Rebekah, and Rachel, because He is the *one true God* of every true *believer* of any generation—those willing to trust Him in faith for all issues in life. Everyone has *sinned*, but anyone can be part of God’s family by choosing to *repent*, *confess*, and *forsake* those sins 1 John 1:9.

Eve was created by God to be the ideal companion for Adam. Even though she *yielded* to temptation, God was willing to *forgive* her—as He will forgive *anyone* who makes mistakes—if they will *admit* them, *repent* of them, *forsake* them, and *get back* into God’s will. The Bible does not *ignore* the role of women, but explains their God-given *place* in the world.

Genesis 1:28 “*And God blessed [Adam and Eve], 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. 29 And 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 [food].”

Adam was made from the dust of the earth and Eve from a rib of Adam. Eve was the life companion who complemented Adam’s existence. In her original state and untainted by sin, Eve was the perfect woman designed by God. After the Fall by disobeying God’s Word, everyone comes into the world with a *rebellious* and *sinful* heart.

There is no description of Eve but she was no doubt beautiful and perfect in every way. The focus is on Eve’s *duty* to God and her *role* as a helpmate to Adam—nothing about appearance, although the world is preoccupied with image and appearance. God’s ideal for women is 1 Peter 3:4 “*The ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.*”

As the “*mother of all living*,” Eve plays a major role in how humanity fell into sin. Eve is mentioned by name only *four* times—twice in the Old Testament, Genesis 3:20; 4:1, and twice in the New Testament, 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:13. The Bible does not say how many children Eve had, how longed she lived, or the place of her death. Genesis 5:4-5, “*After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. Altogether, Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.*”

Scripture *does* give a detailed account of Eve’s *temptation*, her *disobedience*, the *curse* that resulted, and the *hope* God gives in spite of her rebellion. Genesis 2:20 “*And 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. 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.*”

God provided a worthy companion for Adam. Eve was taken *from* man, but they shared the *same* nature. She is a *co-equal* partner and a *perfect* companion. Eve is part of God's plan for marriage—established on the principle of one man with one woman for life.

On divorce, Jesus said: Matthew 19:4 *“Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”*

The marriage bond is designed by God to be more than a physical union—it is a union of *heart* and *soul* that wants to *love* and *trust* God for every aspect of life. Eve was designed to be her husband's *helper*, *companion*, and *friend*. A husband is to *love* his wife Ephesians 5:25 *“As Christ also loved the Church,”* and the wife is to *submit* to and *support* her husband. They are to *assist* each other—not *resist* one another.

Eve was Adam's *spiritual equal*, but there is a difference in their God-appointed responsibility *within* the family. Each one has their own duties and position. 1 Corinthians 11:8 *“For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10 For this cause ought the woman to have power [symbol of authority; covering] on her head because of the angels.”*

Adam was created first as head of the family then Eve as his helper. Adam was to be a provider and leader—Eve was to be the companion and assistant. God explains that there are basic differences between the genders—designed by Him for different roles in life.

The wife is to be *subject* to the *authority* of her husband. Ephesians 5:22 *“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.*

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.”

The apostle also mentions the God-appointed positions of leadership in the church. He says 1 Timothy 2:12 *“I suffer [permit] not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”*

If anyone would take their God-given positions in the home today, there would be many more happy families and far less divorce cases. Adam represents the head for the human race, and even though Eve was given a subordinate role, she remained Adam's *spiritual equal*. She was his *helper*—not his supervisor *nor* his slave. Eve was created to be his life *companion* and *friend*. Eve is *not inferior* to her husband—just *submissive* to his leadership.

The divine Trinity illustrates how authority and submission can function with a relationship of equals. Jesus is *equal* to the Father—Colossians 2:9 *“For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.”* Philippians 2:6 *“[Jesus], being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.”* He said John 10:30 *“I and my Father are one.”*

These three—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—form the one true God of the Bible. All three are fully God and totally equal, yet the Son said John 5:30 *“I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.”* John 8:29 And *“I do always those things that please him.”*

There is a parallel between the Son's willing *submission* to His Father, and a wife's willing *submission* to her husband. 1 Corinthians 11:3 *“I would have you know, that the head of every man is*

Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.”

The Trinity clearly explains how two equals can have a relationship where one is head and the other submits to His authority. Men and women are *equal* in nature but are designed for *different* roles and responsibilities. God's Word says that women are to be *subordinate* to the authority of men—in the church and the family.

Eve's position after creation and prior to the Fall was under her husband's leadership—he loved *her*, and she supported *him*. They were partners, companions, and fellow-laborers in the Garden. Adam was accountable to God as head of the human race, and Eve was accountable to her husband as his helper.

Happiness and *contentment* resulted when Adam and Eve obeyed God and took their *rightful positions* within the family—which is *in* the will of God—but *unhappiness* and *discontentment* was the result when they *disobeyed* God and took their own *wrongful places* in the home—which was *outside* the will of God.

Genesis 2:18 *“And the LORD God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.’”* Scripture later says Ephesians 5:23 *“For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.”*

When we listen, follow God's plan, and surrender our will to be *His* will in everything, the Garden of Eden can be restored in our life.



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