

Session 11 Eve: Relating to God in Intimacy Without Shame (Gen. 2)

I. REVIEW

A. One of God’s ultimate purposes for creation is to provide a Bride for His Son as His eternal companion to reign with Him forever (Rev. 5:10; 19:7). God’s plan began with Adam and Eve—a bridegroom and bride—exercising dominion over everything in paradise (Gen. 1-2; Rev. 21-22).

⁷For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. (Rev. 19:7)

B. Adam and Eve are types or pictures that help us understand God’s purposes. Adam is a type of Christ (Rom. 5:14; 1 Cor. 15:45-49), and Eve is a type of the Church (Eph. 5:31-32).

C. Genesis 1-2 gives us two accounts of creation (1:1-31; 2:1-25). Each emphasizes particular truths. The biblical account of creation highlights Adam and Eve and their relationship to God and each other rather than scientific data. God wants His people moved by knowing who they are to Him.

1. In Genesis 1, God created Adam in His likeness; *thus, He designed the human spirit with capacity for intimate partnership with God*. He desires deep relationship with His people.

²⁶God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.” (Gen. 1:26)

2. In Genesis 2, God designed Eve to be joined to Adam. Eve is a picture of the Bride who is joined to Jesus as His suitable companion and relates to Him in intimacy without shame.

3. Genesis 1 reveals the *fact* that we were created with a unique capacity to relate to God.

4. Genesis 2 reveals *how* we relate to God in deep partnership that cleaves to Him with wholehearted love that is free from shame and confident in His desire to relate to us.

II. THE GREAT MYSTERY (GEN. 2:24; EPH. 5:32)

A. God revealed to Moses some of the details related to Adam and Eve’s beginnings. Jesus quoted Genesis 2:24, implying that the Father was the One speaking of His grand purpose (Mt. 19:4-5).

²⁴A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined [cleave, NAS] to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Gen. 2:24)

B. In Ephesians 5:31-32, Paul interpreted Genesis 2:24. Paul tells us that God was thinking of Jesus and the Church when He orchestrated the events around piercing Adam’s side to bring forth Eve. Paul calls this revelation a “great” mystery because it has profound significance to the redeemed.

³¹A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. ³²This is a great mystery...I speak concerning Christ and the church. (Eph. 5:31-32)

III. INITIALLY ADAM EXERCISED DOMINION WITHOUT A COMPANION

A. Initially, Adam was alone when he exercised dominion over all the animals and cultivated the garden (Gen. 2:8-22). God assembled the animals before Adam to cause him to see his deep need for a companion. The fullness of God's plan for Jesus as a Man includes His eternal companion.

¹⁵...God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it...¹⁸God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable [suitable] to him." ¹⁹... God formed every beast...and every bird...and brought them to Adam ...²⁰So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. (Gen. 2:15-20)

B. ***It is not good:*** Even after God declared that His creation was "very good" (Gen. 1:31), He observed that something was not good—it was not good for Adam to be alone.

³¹ God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. (Gen. 1:31)

1. The *fullness* of God's purpose for creation was not expressed *until* Adam was joined to Eve.
2. It is in God's nature to observe and plan for all that causes His people to walk in fullness.

C. ***I will make him a helper:*** God acted decisively to make Adam a partner that was suitable for him. The Church is Jesus' suitable companion. To be suitable for God is an indescribable privilege. It includes receiving and returning love, working and reigning together, and much more.

IV. ADAM'S DEEP SLEEP IS A PICTURE OF JESUS' DEATH

A. God caused deep sleep to fall on Adam, then pierced his side, and took a rib from him. Adam is a picture of Jesus (Rom. 5:14), who was put to sleep that His Bride could come forth from His side.

²¹The LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. ²²Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. ²³And 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." (Gen. 2:21-23)

B. ***Deep sleep:*** The Father caused Jesus to embrace the deep sleep of death by delivering Him up for us. The Father did not spare Jesus, but delivered Him up to death (Rom. 8:32).

³²He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Rom. 8:32)

1. Genesis 2:18-25 is the first picture in Scripture of the gospel and of Jesus' death on the cross.
2. God's plan for Jesus to die for our sins was established before the foundation of the earth.

⁸*The Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Rev. 13:8)*

- C. **He took one of his ribs:** Eve was brought forth from Adam's body, instead of coming from dirt like Adam and the rest of creation (Gen. 2:7, 9). Jesus' Bride comes from His broken body.
- D. **Closed up:** God closed up Adam's flesh or healed him—this points to Jesus' resurrection.
- E. **He made the rib into a woman:** Eve is a picture of the Bride of Christ who came from the pierced side of her Beloved.
- F. **He brought her to the man:** God brought Eve to Adam as a picture of bringing the Church to Jesus.
- G. **Bone of my bones:** Adam had great delight as he discovered his new companion who was bone of his bones and flesh of his flesh. She was like him in spirit, soul, body, mind, emotions, and will.
1. We are designed according to God's likeness (Gen. 1:26-28) and according to what Jesus desires. We are what God likes and are enjoyable to Him by our design.
 2. Our human frame, design, and abilities are beautiful to God.
- H. **Shall be called Woman:** Adam saw the wisdom and glory in the Lord's plan in creating Eve.
- I. Jesus greatly desires that His Bride to be with Him.

²⁴*Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory... (Jn. 17:24)*

- J. Jesus is filled with joy over His Bride.

⁵*As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. (Isa. 62:5)*

²*Jesus...who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross... (Heb. 12:2)*

V. **ADAM IS JOINED TO EVE: INTIMACY WITHOUT SHAME (GEN. 2:24-25)**

- A. God's plan was that Adam be joined to or cleave to Eve in full partnership without any shame.

²⁴*...a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined [cleave] to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. ²⁵*And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. (Gen. 2:24-25)**

- B. **Leaving:** Jesus left all when He became a man and died to pay the price for our sin (Phil. 2:6-8). He calls His Bride to be willing to leave all to follow Him in loyal love. (Lk. 14:26; cf. Ps. 45:10-11).

²⁶*"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple." (Lk. 14:26)*

¹⁰Listen, O daughter...forget [leave] your own people also, and your father's house; ¹¹so the King will greatly desire your beauty. Because He is your Lord, worship Him. (Ps. 45:10-11)

- C. **Joined:** This includes loving partnership in every area of life—body, mind, heart, finances, etc.
- D. **Naked:** This speaks spiritually of living with an open heart. Jesus opens the deep things of His heart to His people, and they are to do the same with Him. He gives His secrets to His people (Ps. 25:14).
- E. **Not ashamed:** We are to live both now and forever with confidence in love, without shame or guilt.
- F. **One flesh:** The Bride is a part of the body of Christ.

²⁷You are the body of Christ, and members individually. (1 Cor. 12:27)

³⁰We are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. (Eph. 5:30)

²...will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body (Phil. 3:21)

- G. The Bride will enjoy a supernatural unity and relationship with Jesus and with one another.

²¹“...that they may be one in Us...²²The glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one” (Jn. 17:21-22)

- H. The Bride holds a unique position of partnership with Jesus in God's eternal government.

²¹“To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne.” (Rev. 3:21)

¹⁰“...have made us kings and priests to our God, and we shall reign on the earth.” (Rev. 5:10)

VI. THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS VOLUNTARY LOVE (GEN. 2:17)

- A. God gives us the opportunity to obey or disobey Him as one way to show our love for Him. The only thing that God does not have is something He will not take by force—our voluntary love.

¹⁷But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. (Gen. 2:17)

- B. Satan deceived Eve in three ways in the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:1-5).

¹The serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field...he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”... ⁴The serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” (Gen. 3:1-5)

1. Satan uses *half-truths*—“Has God indeed said...?” (3:1c).
2. Satan uses *lies*—“You shall surely not die” (3:4).
3. Satan uses *accusations* against God—“God knows that you will be like God” (3:5).

- C. The response that Jesus wants most from His Bride is that they love Him with simple and pure devotion. Paul used Eve's deception to show us how Satan leads people astray from the simplicity of pure devotion to Jesus by using half-truths, lies, and accusations against God.

²For I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. ³But 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. (2 Cor. 11:2-3; NAS)