

Eve

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Genesis 1

a. 1:27 Created in God's image (likeness)

"So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female." (Genesis 1:27)

What is that "image?" Physical? No, because the Bible teaches that

- (a) God is Spirit,
- (b) God is omnipresent (every place at the same time), not limited to the space of a body, and
- (c) we must not visually represent God in the form of a creature.

In a natural sense, the "image" of God may mean that

- (a) people have an eternal soul,
- (b) people have a moral conscience -- sensing what right and what is wrong,
- (c) God has given people responsible to manage His creation (Gen. 1:28)

However, we may better understand that the image of God is that God is good, holy, without sin. When God made our first parents, He made them also to be good, holy, and without sin. They knew God's will and they obeyed Him perfectly. But when they sinned, they (and we) lost that image of God. The Bible teaches that God will perfectly restore His image in us when we live forever with Him in heaven. Until that day, God sends us His Holy Spirit to live His holy character through us daily, even the character of Jesus Himself.

b. 1:28 God's first commandment to Adam & Eve! Have sex!

God blessed them and said, "Have many children and grow in number. Fill the earth." (Genesis 1:28)

God invented sex, and in His creation of the first family, we begin to see God's plan for sex. But sadly, the world tries to "improve" God's design, which leads to destruction.

Genesis 2

c. 2:18, 20 Adam needs a friend.

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is right for him." ...God formed every wild animal and every bird in the sky, and he brought them to the man... But Adam did not find a helper that was right for him. (Genesis 2:18, 20)

Adam saw the animals first; that made him better to understand how right his wife was for him when he finally met her.

d. **2:21-23 Adam's rib**

So the LORD God caused the man to sleep very deeply, and while he was asleep, God removed one of the man's ribs. Then God closed up the man's skin at the place where he took the rib. The LORD God used the rib from the man to make a woman, and then he brought the woman to the man. And the man said, "Now, this is someone whose bones came from my bones, whose body came from my body. I will call her 'woman,' because she was taken out of man." (Genesis 21-23)

They are true partners because they are from the same physical body.

e. **2:24 God's design for marriage**

"So a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and the two will become one body." (Genesis 2:24)

This means much more than just a husband and wife uniting their bodies in sex. God's design is for husbands and wives to be united in spirit... with Him.

Genesis 3

f. **3:1-6 The temptation & fall.**

Who is the snake? See Revelation 12:7-12...

"Then there was a war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But the dragon was not strong enough, and he and his angels lost their place in heaven. The giant dragon was thrown down out of heaven. (He is that old snake called the devil or Satan, who tricks the whole world.) The dragon with his angels was thrown down to the earth." (Revelation 12:7-12)

g. **Satan's plan:**

h. **- Plant seeds of doubt about God's goodness.**

"Did God really say that you must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden?" (Genesis 3:3)

Still today the Devil tempts us to believe that God only wants to spoil our fun. Notice how Satan stretches the truth "...any tree...?" making the prohibition appear much worse than it really was. Also, the opening question detracts from God's blessings -- not on the many wonderful varieties of fruit available to them to eat, but just one that is off limits, which becomes the focus of Eve's desire, like a "wet paint" sign.

i. **- Appeal to Eve's strength as a woman.**

In your experience, who tends to be more sensitive to spiritual things: men or women?
When you count heads on church on Sunday, who shows up more: men or women?

Using spiritual bate, the serpent says: "You will learn about good and evil and you will be like God!" What's wrong with that? The temptation was for Eve to (1) decide for herself what is good and evil (instead of trusting God's teaching about what is good and what is evil), and (2) act as god independent of God's authority.

j. - **Bate with the same motivation that caused Satan to fall.**

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, ...I will be like the Most High.' Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. (Isaiah 14:11-15 NKJV; also see Ezekiel 28:14-18)

k. **Where was Adam?**

Here we encounter a problem in many modern English translations of the Bible. KJV, NKJV, NASB, EV, NIV, CEV, and NLT have it right.

"When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it." (Genesis 3:6 NIV)

Other translations, such as RSV, NCV, GWN, NIrV, and TEV omit that important phrase "who was with her."

If Adam was standing right there while Eve was having her conversation with the snake, why didn't he stop it?! Why didn't he protect her? He knew this was wrong! And Eve also should have just stepped aside and told the snake, "Here, talk to my husband."

l. **3:7-11 Broken fellowship with God.**

Then, it was as if their eyes were opened. They realized they were naked, so they sewed fig leaves together and made something to cover themselves.

Then they heard the LORD God walking in the garden during the cool part of the day, and the man and his wife hid from the LORD God among the trees in the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said, "Where are you?"

The man answered, "I heard you walking in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

God asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat fruit from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?" (Genesis 3:7-11)

m. 3:12-13 The Blame Game

Adam blames Eve, and he blames God.

The man said, “You gave this woman to me and she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it.” (Genesis 3:12)

Eve blames the snake.

She answered, “The snake tricked me, so I ate the fruit.” (Genesis 3:13)

n. 3:14 Judgment for Satan

Note that here God is not judging snakes, but He using the picture of the life of a snake to judge The Snake, Satan.

*“Because you did this a curse will be put on you.
You will be cursed as no other animal, tame or wild, will ever be.
You will crawl on your stomach, and you will eat dust all the days of your life.”
(Genesis 3:14)*

To see how this applies to Satan, read again Revelation 12:9 --

“The giant dragon was thrown down out of heaven. (He is that old snake called the devil or Satan, who tricks the whole world.) The dragon with his angels was thrown down to the earth.” (Revelation 12:9)

o. 3:15 God's first promise of the Savior

*“I will make you and the woman enemies to each other.
Your descendants and her descendants will be enemies.
One of her descendants [HE] will crush your head,
and you will bite his heel.” (Genesis 3:15)*

Who is that Descendent of the woman who will crush the head of the Great Snake, Satan? Jesus! And how will Satan "bite His heel?" That's the cross.

p. 3:16 Sin's consequences for women & their families

Have you noticed that when men meet for the first time and introduce themselves, what do they talk about? Their work. And what do women talk about? Their families. Notice how sin ruins work for men and family relationships for women.

Sin injures a woman's relationship with her children:

*Then God said to the woman,
“I will cause you to have much trouble when you are pregnant,
and when you give birth to children, you will have great pain.” (Genesis 3:16a)*

This isn't only about labor pains, but it also is the pain of raising children. Proverbs 10:1 says, *“A wise child brings joy to a father; a foolish child brings grief to a mother.”*

Sin injures her relationship with here husband:

***"You will greatly desire your husband,
but he will rule over you." (Genesis 3:16b)***

Too many modern translations mess up this part of the verse. Instead of "desire," they translate the word as "have affection for." Wrong! The Hebrew word for "desire" used here is in the Bible in only three places. Here in Genesis 3:16 is the first one. The second one is in the next chapter, in the Cain an Abel story. There God warns Cain:

"Sin is ready to attack you. Sin wants [greatly desires] you, but you must rule over it." (Genesis 4:6)

Here clearly "desire" does not mean "affection." It is the desire of a predator for it's prey, like a lion desires to kill a deer for lunch.

Compare those two verses, that use the same words in similar phrases:

<i>[Eve,] You will greatly desire your husband, but he will rule over you</i>	<i>[Cain,] Sin wants [greatly desires] you, but you must rule over it.</i>
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The word *desire* here describes a power struggle, the desire to control, to overpower. God's message to the woman is simply, "You will desire to control your husband, but you will fail. He will control you." This is not the blessing of loving affection that God designed for marriage, but the consequences of sin in our hearts.

q. 3:17-19 Sin's consequences for men & their work

***Then God said to the man... "I will put a curse on the ground,
and you will have to work very hard for your food.
In pain you will eat its food all the days of your life.
The ground will produce thorns and weeds for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.
You will sweat and work hard for your food. (Genesis 3:17-19a)***

Before sin came, God already commanded man to work (Genesis 2:15); that work was good, creative, enjoyable, work done "in the image of God." But after sin came, work became a burden. The goal of work changed from creatively managing God's creation under God's authority, to doing a job just to survive.

And the final consequence of sin is death:

***Later you will return to the ground, because you were taken from it.
You are dust, and when you die, you will return to the dust." (Genesis 3:19b)***

For a deeper study of this text, see www.christdeaf.org/bible and click on the link to [Genesis 3](#).