

Th131 God's Plan

Lesson Th131-21 Adam and Eve

In our last lesson we learned that God created the earth in that part of the universe which was under Satan's authority. After creating the sun, the moon, and the visible stars He created all of the plants and animals. These quickly multiplied and filled the earth. He then planted a special garden in the east called the Garden of Eden. In this garden He planted beautiful trees with fruit that was good to eat. He also planted two unique trees. One was the Tree of Life and the other tree, planted in the middle of the garden, was the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Anyone who ate the fruit of the Tree of Life would never grow old and die. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil had its own type of fruit.

Now Satan and his angels watched all of this intently. God was doing something special and unique on this planet and if it was important to God, then it would be important to Satan. Perhaps there would be an opportunity for Satan to get revenge against God.

It was time. Finally all of creation was ready for God to accomplish His purpose for the universe. It was time for Him to create His children. All of the angels in His throne room and in the universe watched in excitement as God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, and in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all of the creatures that move along the ground" (Gen 1:26). The intense anticipation in the spirit world reached a peak. God was going to create in the physical universe living beings that resembled him! This was something entirely new. There were living beings in the spirit world. There were angels and cherubim. But these beings had been created as adults, complete in their knowledge and purpose. Although they could visit the physical universe with special permission from God, they lived in the spirit world. Thus, God creating beings in His own image and likeness in the physical universe was something new and wonderful.

And so God took soil from the earth and began to mold and shape it into a man. God was very patient and meticulous. The sculpted image had to be perfect. All of the angels waited in hushed silence as God completed His sculpture and then examined it to make sure it was perfect. And it was, a perfect image that reflected its creator. But it was just a sculpture made from the earth. It was not alive. So God breathed into the nostrils of the man. Suddenly, the man came to life! He opened his eyes and stood to his feet filled with wonder and awe. The man immediately felt God's presence and love. All of the angels in heaven marveled at God's final act of creation. "We shall call him man, and his name shall be Adam!" God proclaimed. And on this last day of creation, God's plan to have children whom He could love had arrived.

Now Adam lived in the Garden of Eden and God would walk with him and they would have fellowship. "Adam, all of the plants and trees in the garden are there for you to eat. There is only one tree that you are not allowed to eat from. You are not allowed to eat from the tree in the middle of the garden. You may not eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil." God said. Then God brought the animals to Adam one by one, "What will you call this animal?" God would ask and Adam would ponder and think and then give the animal a name. So Adam named

all of the animals God brought to him. Now the animals in the garden all had a mate, but Adam was alone.

"It is not good that man should be alone. I will make for Adam a mate—someone that is perfectly suited for him," God said to the angels. He then caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam. God removed one of Adam's ribs from his side and with the rib He created for Adam a wife. When Adam awoke God presented to him his mate. Adam was very pleased; we hear his voice for the first time, "This is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called woman, for she was taken out of man" (Gen 2:23). (In the Hebrew language that the Old Testament was written in, man is "ish" and woman is "isha.")

One day while walking with Adam and Eve, God blessed them and gave them authority over all of the earth. Adam and Eve: "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves upon the ground. 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" (Gen 1:28-29).

And so Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden and life was very good. But all of these events had not gone unnoticed by Satan. He had watched with intense interest. This man and woman that God had created in His own image and likeness were the objects of His love. Perhaps there was a way to take his revenge on God. And so Satan began to make his plans.

This lesson is **important** because it reveals that God prepared a perfect place for Adam and Eve to live and to have perfect fellowship with God. Together they were to be fruitful, to fill the earth and subdue it, and to rule over the fish, birds, and every living creature on earth.

The **main truth** of this lesson is that God created both the man and woman in His own image and likeness because they were the objects of His love. Together they were given the task to subdue and rule the earth.

Let's **review** what you learned in this lesson.

1. Why did God create Adam? [Pause]
A. If you said that Adam was created to be God's child, you are correct.
2. What authority did God give to Adam and Eve? [Pause]
A. If you said God gave them authority to rule over all of the fish and birds and living creatures on the earth, then you answered correctly.
3. Why did God create Eve? [Pause]
A. If you said that Eve was created to be Adam's mate, you are right.

Your **assignment** for this lesson is to review this lesson until you are able to repeat the story to someone else. Then, tell someone this story about the creation of God's children, Adam and Eve.