

## **Part 4 Eve: Relating to God in Intimacy without Shame (Gen. 2)**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. Four women in the Old Testament are pictures of the Bride of Christ. Each woman gives us insight into different ways in which we relate to Jesus as our Bridegroom God.
1. **Eve:** as a suitable companion relating to God in intimacy without shame (Gen. 2)
  2. **Rebekah:** the extravagant obedience of the Bride (Gen. 24)
  3. **Ruth:** as a Gentile bride who was exalted and delivered from hopelessness (Ruth 1-4)
  4. **Esther:** as a bride reigning with authority and triumphing over the enemy (Esth. 1-10)
- 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 and 2 give two accounts of creation from two different points of view. **Genesis 1** reveals the **fact** that we were created with a unique capacity to relate to God. **Genesis 2** reveals **how** we relate to God, including leaving, cleaving in wholehearted love from a heart that is fully opened and free from shame, being one flesh with Jesus as the Body of Christ, and having confidence that we are desired by God. That is the message from the picture of Eve. Our spiritual identity and value is based on Jesus' desire for us as His eternal companion.

### **II. THE GREAT MYSTERY**

- A. God revealed the events of creation to Moses in about 1500 BC (2,500 years after it occurred).  
*<sup>21</sup>The LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam...He took one of his ribs...<sup>24</sup>A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined [cleave, NAS] to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>They were both naked...and were not ashamed. (Gen. 2:21-25)*
- 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.  
*<sup>31</sup>A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. <sup>32</sup>This is a great mystery...I speak concerning Christ and the church. (Eph. 5:31-32)*
- C. Three purposes for giving us the record of His creation of Eve (Gen. 2:18-24)
1. To provide a historical record of creation so that we know what happened in sequence
  2. To provide understanding of God's order for marriage
  3. To provide insight into God's eternal plan to give Jesus a Bride as His eternal companion
- D. Jesus quoted Genesis 2:24, implying that the Father was the One speaking of His grand purpose.  
*<sup>4</sup>And He [Jesus]...said to them, "Have you not read that He [the Father] who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' <sup>5</sup>and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?" (Mt. 19:4-5)*

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

- A. God caused deep sleep to fall on Adam, to pierce his side and take a rib. This is the first picture in Scripture of Jesus' work on the cross. God brought Eve to Adam as a picture of bringing the Church to Jesus. God closed up Adam's flesh, or healed him—this points to Jesus' resurrection.  
*<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>Then the rib...He made into a woman... (Gen. 2:21-22)*
- B. The Father caused Jesus to embrace the deep sleep of death by delivering Him up for us all.  
*<sup>32</sup>He 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)*
- C. God created Eve from Adam's side before they fell into sin (Gen. 3:7). In other words, God's plan for Jesus to die for our sins was established before the foundation of the earth.  
*<sup>8</sup>The Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Rev. 13:8)*

### IV. ADAM RULING WITHOUT A COMPANION

*<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. <sup>18</sup>And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable [suitable; NAS, NIV] to him." <sup>19</sup>...God formed every beast...and every bird...and brought them to Adam... <sup>20</sup>Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds...and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable [suitable] to him. (Gen. 2:15-20)*

- A. **Gave names:** Adam was ruling in paradise without Eve (Gen. 2:8-22). God assembled the animals to awaken in Adam the understanding of the glory of a companion. God reveals some of the fullness of His plan for Jesus as a man, in giving Eve to Adam as a companion.
- B. **It is not good:** It was God's observation that it was not good for Adam to be alone. God saw something that was not good in the midst of everything that was very good (Gen. 1:31). It is in God's nature to plan for the happiness and fulfillment of His people.  
*<sup>31</sup>God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. (Gen. 1:31)*
- C. **I will make him:** God promised to act to make Adam a partner that was suitable for him. The Church is Jesus' suitable companion. This is the first hint of the gospel in the Scripture.
- D. **This is now:** 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.  
*<sup>21</sup>The LORD God...took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. <sup>22</sup>Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>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." (Gen. 2:21-23)*

- E. We are designed according to God's image and likeness (Gen. 1:26-28). We are designed according to what Jesus desires. We are what God likes and are enjoyable to Him by our design. Our physical features and abilities are attractive and beautiful to God. To be suitable for God is an indescribable privilege. It includes receiving and returning love and sharing our thoughts, and working and reigning together.
- F. Adam's desire for a companion gives us insight to Jesus' desire for a companion.  
*<sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory...for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. (Jn. 17:24)*
- G. Jesus is filled with joy over His Bride.  
*<sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. (Isa. 62:5)*  
*<sup>9</sup>As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you...<sup>10</sup>Abide in [stay connected to] My love, just as I...have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.<sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. (Jn. 15:9-11)*  
*<sup>2</sup>Jesus...who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross... (Heb. 12:2)*
- H. ***Flesh of my flesh:*** Eve was brought forth from Adam's rib, from his body, instead of coming from dirt like Adam and the rest of creation (Gen. 2:7, 9). Jesus' Bride comes from His body.

## V. WHY WE ARE BEAUTIFUL TO GOD

*<sup>17</sup>Let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us... (Ps. 90:17)*

- A. ***Personality of God:*** We are beautiful to God in redemption by virtue of who God is and what He is like. God is so loving and has great capacity to enjoy His people. Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder. God's personality and perspective is filled with love and generosity.
- B. ***Design of the human spirit:*** We were created in God's image, in a way that He likes. God designed us to be delightful or suitable to Jesus. We are what He likes or desires.
- C. ***Gift of righteousness:*** We are clothed with Jesus' righteousness (2 Cor. 5:17-21; Isa. 61:10). The very quality of God's righteousness has been given to us as a gift.
- D. ***Our willing spirit:*** At our new birth, we had a willing spirit or sincere intentions for obedience (Mt. 26:41, 1 Jn. 3:9; Ps. 51:10, 17; 34:18; Isa. 57:15; 66:2)
- E. ***Our eternal destiny:*** We are the Father's chosen inheritance for Jesus. He sees us according to where we are going in our destiny in redemption. The fact that our eternal destiny is to be Jesus' Bride means that for 99.9999999999% of our life, we will walk in the full beauty of holiness.

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

- A. God's purpose is fulfilled as Adam is joined to Eve in full partnership, together without shame.  
*<sup>24</sup>A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined [cleave] to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>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 (Phil. 2:6-8); He calls us to do the same.
- C. **Cleaving:** Mutual embrace involving love for each other with all our heart, mind, and strength.
- D. **Naked:** This speaks of living with an open heart. Jesus opens the deep things of His heart to us, and we do the same to him. God gives His secrets to those who hunger for them (Ps. 25:14).
- E. **Not ashamed:** We are to live now and forever with confidence in love, without shame or guilt.
- F. **One flesh:** The Bride is a part of Jesus' body.  
*<sup>30</sup>We are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. (Eph. 5:30)*  
*<sup>27</sup>You are the body of Christ, and members individually. (1 Cor. 12:27)*  
*<sup>21</sup>...will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body (Phil. 3:21)*

## VII. 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.  
*<sup>17</sup>But 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. Eve was deceived by Satan. We are not to be ignorant of Satan's devices or tactics (2 Cor. 2:11).  
*<sup>1</sup>The 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'?"... <sup>4</sup>The serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup>For 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's half-truth: "Has God said?"  
2) Satan's lie: "You shall surely not die."  
3) Satan's accusation of God: "You will be like God."
- C. Paul used Eve's deception to show us how Satan leads people astray from pure devotion to Jesus.  
*<sup>2</sup>For I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. <sup>3</sup>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. (2 Cor. 11:2-3; NAS)*