

CROWN OF CREATION

A BIBLE STUDY SERIES

WOMEN OF THE GENESIS

CINDY COLLEY



Books with Class

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This book is lovingly dedicated to my mother, Mrs. Johnnia Duncan Holder,
whose ideals and influence permeate its pages and become more evident
in my life with the passing of each day.

With special thanks to my husband, Glenn, who inspires, encourages,
and enriches me each day toward greater service in the kingdom.

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INTRODUCTION

The importance of the role of women in God's Word cannot be overestimated. Similarly, the influence of the twenty-first century woman is felt in the pulse of nations as she, through the home and the children she nurtures, weaves the moral fiber of generations to come. A study of the books of Kings and Chronicles bears out the impact of motherhood on the fate of nations. Often the Old Testament reveals the character of a king just before or just after stating the identity of his mother. Familiar examples include Joash in 2 Chronicles 24:1–2; Josiah in 2 Kings 22:1–2; and Hezekiah in 2 Chronicles 29:1–2. From this we see the power of the lives of the women of the Bible.

God, in His infinite wisdom, has pictured for us every type of woman in any society. We see all classes, from the poverty-stricken widow with only two mites, to the lavishly wealthy queen of Sheba. We see women of all ages, various lifestyles, and with every problem common to us today. We watch them conquering against immeasurable odds, and we see them tragically crushed by the tempter. They show us the beauty of holiness and the loathsome nature of sin. *Women of the Genesis* is all about the universal truths of life, as relevant today as in the Garden of Eden or on the Plains of Mamre.

As contemporary women, it behooves us to give prayerful and careful study to the lives of these women of yesterday—their victories and defeats, their virtues and vices—that from them we might gain wisdom in the directing of our own lives. “Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come” (1 Corinthians 10:11).

All scripture quotations are from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.

CHAPTER 1

PARADISE LOST

EVE



EVE

Eve, the mother of all living, was the only woman ever to live in a world unmarred by the presence of sin. Every true joy imaginable to woman was a reality for Eve in the Garden of Eden. Likewise, every sorrow woman knows had its ruinous beginning in the same garden as Eve tasted the poison of sin and death.

EVE'S CREATION (GENESIS 2:20–22; 3:20)

When Adam carried out his God-given task of naming all the animals of God's creation, it became evident that there was a loneliness within man that could not be pacified by any of the creatures created thus far. Genesis 2:20 actually means that there was no helper "worthy of a man."



*God
proclaimed
her
creation
as
"very
good."*

The crown of God's creation at this time was man, created in the image of God Himself. It is gratifying to realize that even this man, to whom was given dominion over all the earth, was incomplete without woman. God must have intended for woman to wield a powerful influence over His creation, for it was only after her creation that He could proclaim His finished product "very good" (Genesis 1:31).

A woman is that special and final creation of God, designed to fill a void in humanity that nothing else could fill. She is the glory of the man (1 Corinthians 11:7). The fact that she was formed from the very bone of the man shows that she is not of inferior substance. It also shows the truest of kinship between man and woman. She is bone of his bones and flesh of his flesh. It is interesting to notice that woman was not formed from the foot of man as to be beneath him. Nor was she formed from his head to be superior. Some have considered the rib symbolic of the equality of worth in man and woman. Even though God established different roles for the two sexes, He in no way assigned more worth to either.

It is interesting to note at this point that those who espouse the theory of organic evolution are at a complete loss when attempting to explain

the origin of females. Only creationists can account for the existence of the second sex.

Discuss how a woman is a helper “worthy” or “suitable” for a man?

physically _____

emotionally _____

spiritually _____

Find a New Testament passage indicating that husbands should honor their wives.

Have a class member go to apologeticspress.org and research the origin of the female sex. Have the researcher bring quotes and other materials from evolutionists to be used for class discussion.

THE FIRST MARRIAGE (GENESIS 2:24–25)

With the creation of Eve complete, God gave her to the man, instituting and approving the state of marriage. Thus, as God gives the first bride in marriage, we read Adam’s first recorded words: “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man” (Genesis 2:23).

Adam recognized the woman as a priceless, God-given gift. She was perfectly designed to meet his every need. Her character was to fill his emotional void of loneliness and her body was specifically built to satisfy his physical needs. How perfect was God’s plan for woman! “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh” (Genesis 2:24).

These words show the intention of God that people, throughout the ages, be united in marriage. Here we find the first emphasis on leaving father and mother. God still requires this exclusive commitment in marriage (Matthew 19:5).

Why do you think God emphasized leaving before cleaving?

Discuss the newness of some of Eve's circumstances. (Example: She delivered a child having never seen a human birth.) Do you think God helped prepare her for these life surprises? Could her inexperience have contributed to her vulnerability to Satan? Discuss.

SEVEN FALLS OF EVE (GENESIS 3:1–7)

The first sin, as most sin is today, was a progressive response to a calculated temptation of Satan. Notice from Genesis 3 and from the additional passages below the mistakes Eve made in this historic fall. Are we much as Eve was in our progressive entanglement in sin?

1. She listened (John 8:44).
2. She looked (1 Thessalonians 5:22).
3. She desired (Romans 12:9).
4. She took (1 John 3:4).
5. She tempted someone else (Romans 14:13).
6. She hid (Psalm 69:5).
7. She blamed someone else (Romans 14:10–12).

Which of Eve's seven falls do you think was most damaging? Why?

THE WAY OF ESCAPE

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it (1 Corinthians 10:13).

God has not promised it will be easy. He has not put lots of concessions and rest stops on the escape route. There are hills to climb and obstacles to hurdle if we are to outwit and outrun the devil. The path of

escape has but one entrance ramp and infinite exits. No one travels the path of escape by accident. For these reasons it is not a crowded path (Matthew 7:14). In fact, it can be lonely at times. But there is always at least one other who is faithful to show you the way.

EVE'S PUNISHMENT PRONOUNCED (GENESIS 3:15–16)

The most dismal part of the story of Eve comes as God pronounces His punishment on her. The purity and innocence of Eden is now history, and guilt has replaced the happiness of communion with God.

Thus, God pronounces for Eve sorrow in childbearing; for Adam, sweat and toil in providing food; and for both, death. They are then driven from Eden in the shadows of sin.

List and discuss three punishments of Eve.

Give reasons that reproductive issues such as premenstrual syndrome and post partum syndrome could be aspects of Eve's punishment?

God did not leave man without hope. In Genesis 3:15, a redeemer is promised—a remedy for sin. “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel” (Genesis 3:15).

The seed of woman is Christ (Galatians 3:16; 4:4). His heel would be bruised at Calvary. But Satan's head would be crushed as Christ overcame death. Thus, Christ would receive an injury, but would overcome in the resurrection. Satan would receive a fatal blow.

From this brief mention of the gospel, the scheme of redemption begins to unfold.

This shadow signals the beginning of the battle for the souls of humanity. The conflict rages through the Old Testament, climaxes at Calvary, ends at the empty tomb, and finds its eternal terms of peace in Acts 2.

How was Christ’s heel bruised?

How was Satan’s head crushed?

EVE’S FAMILY

It is at the birth of Eve’s first son, Cain, that we may assume that God once again rules Eve’s life. Her comment is: “I have acquired a man from the Lord” (Genesis 4:1).

She later bore Abel (Genesis 4:2), Seth (Genesis 4:25), and other sons and daughters (Genesis 5:4).

How does Psalm 127:3–5 relate to Eve’s comment in Genesis 4:1? In what sense are parents stewards of souls?

In 1 John 2:15–17 we read that all that is in the world—all sin—can be categorized in at least one of three ways. Make a list of sins and place each one in one of the categories below.

Lust of the flesh	Lust of the eyes	pride

~ Cindy's Reflections ~

There Is a Way

He is there before you know it:
Lurking, waiting for a chance
To besiege you with his sparkle
In your unsuspecting glance.

He is solid. With his muscle
He can strike a deadly blow
To your strongest aspirations;
To the faith from which they grow.

You could never recognize him;
He is poised and quite well dressed.
In his confidence and kindness
He is reaching for your best.

He will back you in a corner
With his calm, seductive air.
Then you'll finally recognize him
As you cry out in despair.

Your cry, though penetrating,
May never reach a mortal ear;
But transcends up to the mind of God,
For He will always hear.

And He'll provide an answer,
Though it may be quite obscure
He has promised a deliverance
That His people may be pure.

God has promised in your darkness
He will guide you to the day.
So grasp the everlasting arm—Escape!
There is a way.



CHAPTER 2

THE BEAST
WITHIN
THE BEAUTY
THE DAUGHTERS OF MEN

