

Adam And Eve Were Real People

'Then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath or spirit of life, and the man became a living soul' (Genesis 2:7).

'The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and while he slept, He took one of Adam's ribs and closed up the flesh. The rib which the Lord God had taken from Adam, He built into a woman and brought her to the man. Adam said, "This is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called Woman because she was taken out of a man"' (Genesis 2:21 to 23).

It is humbling to read exactly how God created Adam and Eve and where they lived, and He made sure we have been told about it so we have no questions, confusion or doubts about where mankind originally came from or how we came to be on earth. The Bible is a living story about the worship of one God, and it is backed up by archaeology. Our aim is to make the Bible alive in the minds of people. The Bible should not be just a book that gathers dust while sitting on a shelf; the Bible is real. The stories of Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and others are not just stories written on a few pages. They are real events that happened to real people, and the sites where the events took place are still there for people to visit. We can touch the ground where God created Adam; where Abraham walked; the mountain where Noah landed and we can still see the caves where a few of the Israelites were buried. The Bible characters were once as alive as we are today. They worked, walked, ate, talked, slept, awoke, had children and grandchildren, just as we do today.

The events written in the Bible did not happen before time and place. 'The earth was without form and was an empty waste. Darkness covered the very great deep water and the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) was hovering over the waters' (Genesis 1:2). 'The heavens were created long ago by the Word of God and the earth was formed out of water and amid water' (2 Peter 3:5). The imagery of creation as the earth emerged from a watery chaos, and even some of the ancient words themselves come from Mesopotamia; like the word 'water' in English, is identical in sound to the ancient word for water. This connects the Bible to the world around the scripture writers and introduces God to the earth. The Bible tells us God created the world and everything on it by speaking it into existence (Genesis 1:3 to 24) but He moulded Adam's shape out of dust. What is interesting about the Garden of Eden, was that it was surrounded by water with four rivers emerging from it. The Bible puts the Garden in a particular time and place. According to the Jewish calendar, at the time of writing this Bible study in 2012, we are in the 5,772nd year since the creation of Adam. That was the time of his creation. If we study the genealogies written in the Bible we will be able to see that the Jews have got the timing right.

The place where creation happened is subtly shown in the scriptures. We can see where the Garden of Eden once was (the word Eden means 'delight'). The first words spoken in the Bible happened in what is now South-Eastern Turkey, near the start of the rivers Euphrates and Tigris. The other two rivers mentioned are the Pishon and Gihon (Genesis 2:10 to 14). The four rivers started as one major river that watered the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:10) then divided from there into the four rivers that flowed down the mountains. The Garden of Eden was not created on plains. We know that because the Bible clearly says the four rivers flowed out of the Garden, not into it. For the rivers to flow out of the Garden of Eden, the Garden had to be higher than where the rivers were flowing, or the rivers would have been flowing into, not out of, the Garden. The Bible says the Garden was created where the Euphrates flowed from, so we can pinpoint where the Garden of Eden was originally created – in the mountains of what is now Turkey. The climate would have been very different from today's climate. It was perfect back then. There was no rain or snow in those ancient days, but the ground was watered by a mist every night (Genesis 2:6), so the mountains would have been beautiful and perfect, not freezing in winter as alps are today. We only have to look at an atlas to see that the source of the rivers Tigris and Euphrates is in the mountains of Turkey. The rivers begin their flow from the top of the mountains in Eastern Turkey, and if we think logically; since the rivers begin there on the mountains, and we know the rivers flowed out from the Garden of Eden, we can deduct that the mountain was where the first Garden was planted by God (Genesis 2:8). That is putting modern day mapping in an atlas, hand in hand with the ancient record of the Bible, the book of truth.

The Pishon or Pison River flowed around the whole land of Havilah which is possibly modern day Georgia, Armenia and the Northern Iran area. Some people think Havilah is Arabia, but that is too far away to be the logical site because the river flowed from Eden. If we look again at the atlas, we can see where the four rivers mentioned in the Bible, begin. The rivers still flow from that one mountain range; Euphrates and Tigris flow south, one river flows northwest and the other flows east. The Gihon River flowed around the whole land

of Cush. It is possible that the land of Cush is now Western Turkey and the Gihon River flowed out into the waters now called the Black Sea. Hundreds of years later, the tribe of Cush spread south to Ethiopia and that is also called the land of Cush. The Tigris River is the one flowing east of Assyria (modern day Syria). If we follow the Tigris, we can see that it flows from Eastern Turkey, down through Eastern Iraq, then down to the Persian Gulf. This whole area is east of Syria, just as the Bible says. The fourth river is the Euphrates. The Euphrates flows from Eastern Turkey, west to Syria then meanders back east to Iraq, then meets up with the Tigris in southern Iraq, near where Babylon once was, then it flows out to the Gulf. We can look up these facts about the rivers in any modern atlas. Both the Tigris and Euphrates rivers are mentioned in the ancient book of Genesis. As they have done for thousands of years, the rivers still flow down the mountains and through the Mesopotamian Plain, both carry silt down from the mountains making the whole area fertile and excellent for growing crops, and both rivers help irrigate the land, just as they have done since the Garden was created.

Whatever the name is now, this whole area was once called Mesopotamia. Archaeology has shown that people started to cultivate the land in that area first, because that is where human life began. The name of Adam, the first man, or Adamah in Hebrew, means earth because we come from the earth; Adam was formed out of the dust of the ground. That dust would have been taken from Mesopotamia – a real place. And because Adam is the father of all humanity, we ‘carry’ the dust from the Garden of Eden around with us as we populate the earth. The same essential chemical elements that are in the earth are also in humanity and we need to ingest most of these elements daily if we are to remain healthy. This scientific fact was not known until recently, but thousands of years ago, the fact we are made up of the soil of the ground, was recorded for us to learn and believe. That is proof that what is written in the scriptures is true. Some of the chemical elements in our bodies are iron, calcium, copper, zinc, magnesium, manganese, oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulphur, sodium, selenium, fluorine, chlorine, iodine, cobalt, lithium, aluminium, silicon, lead, bromine and all of these are in the soil. See how the Bible is real and is alive? These elements really are in our bodies – we really are made up of dust.

Before the fall of Adam, there was no rain as we read before. After Adam sinned, he was told he had to sweat and toil in order to grow food, so it was not until after the fall of man that farming began, and archaeology says it began in Mesopotamia, right where Adam was expelled from the Garden (Genesis 3:23 & 24). It was not until after Adam sinned that he began to eat plants of the field, that is cultivated vegetables (Genesis 3:18 & 19). Before they sinned, Adam and Eve ate mostly fruit and greens found in the garden (Genesis 1:30; 2:9). We can only imagine how Adam and Eve felt as they were being banished from their perfect home after they disobeyed God. They had spent years in close fellowship with God, then because they disobeyed and took a bite of a piece of forbidden fruit, suddenly God turned on them, gave them fear and pain, something they had never known before, God cursed the ground and forced them out of the Garden. One can only imagine the deep shock and devastation Adam and Eve must have felt. It is not recorded in scripture that God warned them that would happen. Some people may feel they ‘deserved’ to be sent from the garden, but before we judge them, if we examine our own lives, we should be able to see that we have disobeyed God many more times than Adam and Eve did. They disobeyed God only once. How many times have we disobeyed Him? It is only by the grace and mercy of God that we are not all banished from the presence of God forever. We can liken their loss of fellowship with God, to a person who accepts the Lord as their Saviour, then after a few years turns away and slides back into sin. That would result in a loss of peace, hope, joy and blessing. Eventually, they feel the loss and that can bring feelings of shame, guilt, hopelessness and depression, but there is hope for the backslider. God said, “Return to Me you backsliding children. I will heal your backsliding” (Jeremiah 3:22).

Back to Adam and Eve; no person or animal ate meat until after Noah’s flood (Genesis 9:3). Even before Egypt, the ancient areas of Sumeria and Babylon were the first two recorded cities to have writing. The first written accounts of creation did not happen just anywhere, they happened in the place that God chose, in the ancient land of Mesopotamia. God chose the time to create, He chose the method and He chose the land where it all took place. It really happened. Adam and Eve were real people, they really lived, they really did have many sons and daughters (Genesis 5:4), although only the first three sons were named in the Bible; Abel, Cain and Seth. Cain and Abel were mentioned because they were involved in the first recorded murder (Genesis 4:1 to 10). Seth was named because it is from Seth’s bloodline we have the Jewish people and our Messiah. Jesus is the Son of God and Adam was the son of God (Luke 3:22 & 38). Knowing this makes us realise how real the Bible is. Our salvation today, began with Seth and therefore with Adam and Eve. Their history is our history.

We were not made as simple beings; we were made a living soul. The breath of life was breathed into Adam at his creation. God changed the lifeless shape of man made of dust, into a living soul. Never before or since has God done that act. It was the only time ever in the history of eternity, as recorded in the Bible, has God moulded dirt into shape then breathed life into that moulded piece of dirt. With that breath, the dirt came alive and became a breathing, flesh and blood masterpiece with all the mental, spiritual and physical faculties. Humans are absolutely unique in that aspect. That was achieved by the single breath of God. It was not a tiny sigh, it was a deep full exhale, such as we would do if we were trying to breathe life into a near-drowned man. We would not give that person little puffs of air. We would take the deepest breath we could hold and blow life into that victim. That is the type of breath God breathed into Adam. 'It is the Spirit of God that made me, and the breath of the Almighty that gives me life ... I am also formed out of the clay' (Job 33:4 & 6). There were two processes to our creation: the shaping of the dust then the almighty breath of life.

No other creation was formed by hand out of dust then had life breathed into them, turning them into living, breathing, flesh and blood creatures, who are intelligent enough to worship their Creator. Animals and birds were also made out of the ground (Genesis 2:19) but they never received the breath of life from God. Mankind was made to be a partner with God (Genesis 2:18 to 20). Everything up to that point of creation was good, but that was the first time God saw something that was not good ... it was not good for man to be alone, so God made Eve to complement him (Genesis 2:21 to 23). Notice that God did not create Eve until after Adam had served and obeyed God by naming all the animals first, and only then did God give Adam his wife. Up until they sinned, Eve was equal to Adam and only after they sinned, did Adam rule over Eve (Genesis 3:16).

There are some marked differences between Adam and Eve's creation and that of the animals; (1) No other creature was made in God's image and likeness. (2) No other creature became a living soul like Adam did. (3) No other creature was told to have dominion, yet Adam was given dominion over all of God's creation. Adam was asked by God to name all the animals as God brought them to him. (4) No other creature was spoken to or was given the gift of language and speech, but God spoke to Adam immediately after he was created and Adam was able to respond with intelligent speech. (5) None of the animals were placed anywhere special on the earth, but Adam was given the Garden of Eden. (6) No other creature walked with God, but Adam walked with God every evening. (7) No other creature on the earth was created with a hunger for God, or an awareness of Him. (8) No other creature has the knowledge of good and evil. (9) No other creature was commanded to do anything except multiply, but Adam was commanded to obey. (10) No other creature was given to ability to commune with God and to pray and worship. (11) Animals were not given choices, Adam was. (12) Human beings are God's greatest creation and our Lord Jesus is the face of Almighty God.

The Lord visited Adam and Eve every day (Genesis 3:8). Imagine having God the Creator walking through your garden every evening! What a privilege! The scripture says God called to Adam (Genesis 3:9). God has not changed and He still calls out to us to fellowship with Him. Even though man disobeyed and broke fellowship with God, God never gave up on mankind and He sent Jesus to save us and to restore fellowship with the Father. Our salvation was in God's plan before we were created because in His foreknowledge, He knew that Adam would bring sin into the world and we would need rescuing. The plan to save us was worked out before creation began and was kept a secret for thousands of years, until Jesus revealed it. 'The prophets who prophesied of the grace of God which was intended for us, searched diligently about this salvation. They sought to find out to whom or when this was to come ... into these things the angels longed to look' (1 Peter 1:10 to 12). From creation to salvation, from Genesis to Revelation the whole Bible is directed towards Adam and Eve and their descendants. After Adam and Eve sinned, God said, 'I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her Offspring; He will bruise your head underfoot and you will lie in wait and bruise His heel' (Genesis 3:15). 'When the perfect time had come, God sent His Son, born to a woman, born under the Law' (Galatians 4:4). 'And the dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth so that he might devour her Child as soon as He was born, and she brought forth a male Child, One Who is destined to rule all the nations with a sceptre and her Child was caught up with God and to His throne' (Revelation 12:4 & 5).

If we paraphrase these verses, it helps us understand what the Lord is saying to us: 'God will put hostility between the devil and women, and between Jesus and the children of disobedience (Ephesians 2:2). Jesus will defeat the devil. The devil will think he has won when Jesus is crucified. When God's perfect time for mankind had come, He sent His Son Jesus to earth, born to Mary under the Law of Moses – the Old Covenant. The devil waited and tried to destroy Jesus, Who is destined to rule the earth from the right hand of God the Father in heaven'. The devil tried to destroy Jesus several times to stop Him from defeating the devil through the cross, which was the beginning of the New Covenant made with His blood (Luke 22:20).

These verses show us God had the plan of salvation worked out before Adam sinned, because in His foreknowledge God knew Adam would disobey Him. These verses also show us the extreme lengths God went through to reconcile mankind with Himself. God took full responsibility for the fall of mankind and sent Jesus to rectify the situation. The enmity between women and the devil (Genesis 3:15) is explained in the scriptures. 'When the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child' (Revelation 12:13). We only have to look at how some women are cruelly and violently oppressed in some cultures, countries and in some religions to see that verse fulfilled.

For those who query these things; for those who ask why God would create Adam when He knew Adam would sin, the scriptures that back that up can be found filtered throughout the Bible. There are too many passages of scripture to add in this Bible study so here are just a few verses. Before anything was created, all there was, was the foundation of creation. Just as the foundations of a house are laid before a house is made, so the foundations for creation were laid before anything was made. We want to utterly reject the theory of predestination. It is a wrong doctrine and the Bible discounts it completely. 'The Holy Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" To him who is listening say, "Come!" Let everyone who is (spiritually) thirsty and whosoever desires to do it, let him come, take and drink of the Water of Life without cost' (Revelation 22:17). That verse makes it very clear, our salvation is our choice. We have to choose to accept the sacrifice Jesus made for us. We must stress that Jesus, and only Jesus was predestined to be born to die for us. His whole life from beginning to end was predestined and prophesied about. Our spiritual destiny is determined by the choice we make. We can accept that God knew Adam would sin, because we know God is all-knowing; He knows and declares the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10), plus Jesus was predestined to come to earth as our Saviour since before the foundation of the earth and all mankind were predestined to be moulded into His holy image because God foreknew our fallen state. 'Those whom He foreknew, He has also destined to be moulded into the image of His Son' (Romans 8:29); 'He chose us in Jesus before the foundation of the world ... He foreordained us to be adopted as His own children through Jesus in accordance with the purpose of His will ... making known to us the mystery of His will' (Ephesians 1:4 to 9). These were the secret things that even the angels did not know about and longed to know. Since the foundation of the world, before anything was created, God's Book of Life recorded names of everyone who was going to be born (Revelation 17:8), but those people who choose to reject Jesus have their names blotted out of the Book (Psalm 69:28). Remember that Jesus said 'Whosoever desires, let him come'. As we read in Ephesians, God had already worked out the plan of salvation since before the foundation of the world; before anything was created. The first man was Adam; the last Adam was Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:45). The whole scenario of Adam, the fall of mankind, the redemption of mankind through the blood of Jesus and our personal salvation is all part of God's divine master plan.

If we go back to the beginning of the scriptures and read the first two chapters of Genesis, we can see that we are all descended from Adam and Eve. The description of the beginning of man explains mankind to mankind – it explains us to ourselves. We see what we are ... we are the living image and likeness of God so that explains what God is like. Jesus is the human face of the Spirit of God. Jesus said, 'He who has seen Me has seen the Father' (John 14:9). We can see the differences in our personalities. We see why we behave as we do. We see why we feel as we do. God feels love so we feel love; He has compassion so we feel compassion and so on in every detail. The scriptures give us an exact and detailed description of the human race, both the good and the bad aspects of our nature.

The Bible says: 'The serpent was more subtle and cunning than any creature of the field that the Lord God had made. The serpent said to the woman, "Has God really said you shall not eat from every tree of the garden?" Eve said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit from the trees of the garden except the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. God has said, "You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." The serpent said to Eve, "You will not surely die, for God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing the difference between good and evil." Then when Eve saw that the tree was good for food and that it was delightful to look at, and a tree to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate and she gave some to Adam and he ate, then the eyes of both of them were opened' (Genesis 3:1 to 7). There are many obscure things hidden in these verses. How did Eve know not to touch the tree? Because God spoke the words to Adam then Adam told her. Eve quoted what she had been told. Eve was initially obedient, but after her encounter with the devil she was keen to 'know'. She wanted to know what God knew. She wanted to be 'wise'. If we study verses 1, 2 & 3, we see the serpent that spoke to Eve was a created beast not a spirit. What is surprising here, is that Eve was not in the least surprised it could speak. The beast possibly looked like a lizard, because snakes did not crawl around on their bellies and eat 'dust' or things that are unclean, until after Adam and Eve were caught and God cursed everything (Genesis 3:14). The serpent would have been an incarnation of the devil but that did not bother Eve and she showed no fear.

Fear is part of the curse and only came as a result of sin. Adam said, "I heard the sound of You (God) walking in the garden and I was afraid because I was naked" (Genesis 3:10). 'To the woman God said, "I will greatly multiply your grief and suffering in pregnancy and the pains of childbirth; in pain you will bring forth children"' (Genesis 3:16). We can see that pain, fear, shame and embarrassment all originated with Adam and Eve's disobedience.

The devil in the guise of a serpent had one objective; to make Adam and Eve doubt the truth of God's spoken word, which would result in disobedience, thus removing them from the blessing of God; replacing the blessing with a curse. Once he succeeded in doing that, all mankind was lost. The serpent questioned God's spoken Word. God told Adam not to touch the tree, Adam told Eve, Eve told the serpent and the serpent questioned God's Word. Eve then entertained the serpent's initial questioning of God's word, then she was open to believing the lie. The serpent was very subtly inferring that God was not quite telling the whole truth. The serpent blatantly lied when it said they would not die. No, their bodies did not immediately die, but they immediately died spiritually, and their bodies died a few hundred years later, but they certainly did die just as God warned them they would. The serpent told the truth – their eyes would be opened and they would know the difference between good and evil (Genesis 3:5). The devil does not always lie to get its own way. The devil told Jesus truth and lies when it tried to tempt Him (Matthew 4:1 to 10). Straight after that we see that Eve wanted the fruit, she liked the look of the tree, she wanted to be 'wise', she disobeyed God's Word and encouraged Adam to disobey God. Once their eyes were opened, they knew the difference between good and evil, and when they disobeyed and were cursed, so all mankind were cursed because there were no children born until after Adam and Eve had been put under the curse. Eve first doubted God and did not trust in His spoken Word. She believed the serpent that contradicted God. The devil still uses the same strategy today that results in devastating consequences. As for Eve, it was not so much the forbidden fruit that lured Eve, but the look of the tree. 'When Eve saw that the tree was good for food and that it was delightful to look at, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit' (Genesis 3:6). It was the delightful sight of the tree that lured Eve. Then Adam foolishly listened to Eve and ate of the fruit. What happened next, as it is said, is history. It is not only the history of Adam and Eve – it is also the history of all mankind, written down for us to learn.

'For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life – these do not come from the Father, but are in the world' (1 John 2:16). Eve craved for the sensual gratification of the taste of the fruit – lust of the flesh. Eve saw that the tree was good for food. Eve also saw the tree was delightful to look at – the lust of the eyes, which is only greedy longings of the carnal mind. How many people today go to the shops and buy things they do not need and cannot afford, just because the items look good? That is what Eve did. She did not need that particular fruit off that tree. She had a whole garden full of fruit trees, plus all the green vegetables she could want, but she wanted that fruit off that tree. Eve's pride (the pride of life) overcame her common sense. Her lack of trust in God's Word resulted in her feeling too proud to humble herself and listen to God. God made sure Eve knew what the outcome of touching that tree would be, but she chose not to believe Him. She had the self-assurance of her own stability and that of earthly things. Many young people are like that today. They know full well what can happen if they take illegal party drugs, but their pride and foolishness overcome their common sense and some die as a result. What came with Adam and Eve's disobedience was the sin of independence. Adam and Eve were created perfect beings, but they had the ability to sin. Until they sinned, they did not know the difference between good and evil. They were utterly innocent and naïve. Sadly, they were deceived, beguiled, cheated, outwitted and they fell for it.

Eve was deceived, but Adam disobeyed. 'It was not Adam who was deceived, but Eve who was deceived and they fell into disobedience' (1 Timothy 2:14). If Eve had obeyed God and not touched the tree, the fall would not have happened. If Eve had taken of the fruit, and if Adam had obeyed God, not touched it and rebuked Eve for it, then the fall would not have happened. If God had never mentioned the tree to Adam as being special but left it as just one of the trees in the garden, then the fall would not have happened because there would not have been any disobedience. The tree was not an obscure, gnarled, ugly old tree tucked away in a corner somewhere. The tree was a beautiful tree – delightful to look at, placed right in the middle of the garden, right in front of Adam and Eve for them to admire, all day every day. If we were tempted like that every day, we would probably give in to temptation too. It is not recorded God ever told Adam and Eve the full story, the full and total consequences of giving in to their temptation. They were only told they would die, but never having seen nor experienced death in any form, because nothing died until after Adam and Eve's sin was discovered, it is no wonder they could not understand what death was, nor could they comprehend the destructive consequences of disobedience. They would not have had any notion that their actions would result in millions of their descendants ending up in the lake of fire for all eternity. The first thing that ever died since the beginning of creation was the animal God killed and skinned to make clothes to

cover Adam and Eve's nakedness (Genesis 3:21). That animal would have been the very first death of anything Adam and Eve saw. God gave them only half the story when He said they would die. It is not recorded that He told Adam and Eve, millions upon millions of their descendants would also die as a direct result of their disobedience. God is God. He is sovereign. He does not have to give us the details of the consequences of disobedience. The Lord may not have explained the dire consequences to Adam and Eve, but He did to the children of Israel, yet they still went ahead and disobeyed Him anyway. We need to obey every word God says, not because we are frightened of what will happen if we disobey, we need to obey just because God said. If He says, "Do not," then we do not. If He says, "Go," we go. If He says, "Stay," we stay until He says, "Move." If God says, "Do not touch the forbidden thing," whatever the forbidden 'thing' is, then we should not touch it. We cannot afford to wait to see what will happen if we do. Adam and Eve were unaware of the extreme consequences of their actions, that is why the Lord took full responsibility for the fall of mankind and gave us a solution in the form of our Saviour.

What is ironic, a coincidence or careful planning is unclear, but we notice that the first area of temptation and disobedience was with food. If we turn to the Gospels, we can read the first area where Jesus was tempted and overcame, was with food! Jesus was hungry after fasting for nearly six weeks and the serpent (tempter) said, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to be made into bread" (Matthew 4:3; Luke 4:3). We see here, the devil almost mocked Jesus. 'If You are the Son of God'. We know full well, the devil knew exactly Who Jesus was. 'And behold, the demons shrieked (in terror), "What have You to do with us Jesus, Son of God?"' (Matthew 8:29). What is the difference here? Adam and Eve did not trust God's direct spoken Word but Jesus trusted God emphatically, and by their actions, Adam and Eve were making God out to be a liar. That attitude brought about the fall of God's greatest creation. No other creation was made in the image of God, no other creation had the privilege of having the Son of God live amongst them when Jesus came, and no other creation were given a Saviour. Those three facts alone should make us trust in the Word of the One Who created us.

To reverse the tendency that started with Adam and Eve, we need to look to Jesus. We need to do the same as Jesus did and trust in the Word of God more than we trust in our senses. Eve trusted in her senses – the tree and the fruit looked good, but she did not trust the spoken Word of God. The Lord does not always speak to us audibly like He spoke to Adam and Eve, but He has given us His written Word. The Lord has laid out for us a guidebook; a manual; the Bible. When God warns us about the consequences of our actions like He did with Adam and Eve we need to stop in our tracks and pay attention to the warning. That is vital to our wellbeing. Life would have been very different had Adam and Eve fallen on their knees in humility before the Lord and immediately repented. God is a merciful God, and when people repent He will relent. We can see that in the Book of Jonah. When Nineveh repented, God relented. He is merciful, and if Adam and Eve had behaved differently and repented, the outcome would surely have been different. When Jesus came, He willingly took all the sins that Adam had unwittingly brought on mankind, and He restored the fellowship that was broken. All we need to do is accept His sacrifice and be born-again.

Amen and God bless you.

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