

## **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).

'And 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; and the rib which the Lord God had taken from Adam, He built into a woman and brought her to the man. Then 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 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 we (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 Bible didn't happen before time and place. The imagery of creation as the earth emerged from a watery chaos (Genesis 1:2), 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. In Genesis chapter 1, the Bible tells us God created the world and everything on it by speaking it into existence. 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, we are in the 5,770th year since creation. That was the time of creation. Read the sermon on this website titled, "How long has mankind really been on earth?" You 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 which flowed down the mountains and around the nearby cities. 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. Genesis says the Garden was created where the Euphrates flowed from, so we can pin-point 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 first river named in Genesis 2:11 was Pishon or Pison. It 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 which flow south, one river flows north west and the other flows east.

Gihon flowed around the whole land of Cush (Genesis 2:13). It is possible that the land of Cush was once 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) (Genesis 2:14). 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 Genesis, which was written about 4,000 years ago. 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 wasn't 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 wasn't until after Adam sinned that he began to eat plants of the field, that is cultivated vegetables (Genesis 3:18). Before they sinned, Adam and Eve ate mostly fruit and greens found in the garden (Genesis 1:30; 2:9). No person or animal ate meat until after Noah's flood (Genesis 9:3 & 4). 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 didn't 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.

We were not made as simple beings; we were made a living soul. The breath of life breathed into Adam at his creation, 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 wasn't 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, who was perhaps, twice our size and weight. We wouldn't 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' (Job 33:4 & 6). There were two processes to our creation: the moulding or shaping of the dust, and 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 1:24 and 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 compliment him (Genesis 2:21 to 23). Until they sinned, Eve was equal to Adam, and only after they sinned, did Adam rule over Eve (Genesis 3:16).

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! It is hard to image why Adam and Eve were disobedient, knowing their disobedience would destroy that wonderful close fellowship. Anyhow, in Genesis 3:9, we see that God called to Adam. How like our God that is! God also calls out to us to fellowship with Him. Even though man disobeyed and broke fellowship with God, God never gave up on us and He sent Jesus to save us and to restore fellowship with God (James 4:5). 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, and it was revealed by Jesus. 'The prophets who prophesied of the grace of God, which was intended for us, searched and inquired 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 1:12).

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, but God spoke to Adam immediately after he was created. (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.

As for Eve; it wasn't 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 (Genesis 3:6). 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 from.

Amen and God bless you.

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