Titus Tuesday
November 2 & 3
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Eve: Mother of All the Living

Eve's **Creation**:

Genesis 2:18-25; See also Matthew 19:4-6.

The Hebrew expression that describes how God "fashioned [the rib] into a woman" suggests careful construction and design. Literally it means that God *built* a woman. He carefully assembled a whole new creature with just the right set of attributes to make her the ideal mate for Adam!

"The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected and near his heart to be beloved." Matthew Henry

The true origin of the blueprint for marriage is found in Eve's creation account, and it demonstrates not only the basis for marriage but just how significant and meaningful the marriage relationship is designed to be.

Equal, but different: Eve was spiritually and intellectually Adam's peer. They were equal in their standing before God and in their rank above the other creatures in the garden. However, there was a clear distinction in their earthly roles – distinction ordained and ordered by the Creator.

- Adam was created first. Eve was made to fill a void in his existence.
- Adam was the head; Eve was his helper.
- Adam was designed to be a provider, protector, father and leader. Eve was designed to be a mother, comforter, nurturer and helper.

Eve's **Temptation**:

Satan came to Eve in disguise. He didn't clearly identify himself. He rarely does. He appeared when she was alone, away from the protection of her husband. Satan is smart and cunning. He knew Eve was the weaker vessel.

What is Satan's MO?

- He questions the Word of God and implies uncertainty about the meaning of God's statements.
- He raises doubt about the truthfulness of what God has said.
- He casts suspicion on God's motives.
- He questions the wisdom of God's plan.

The enemy will try to confuse us into making God a deity of our own creation. He will prey on the selfish and prideful parts of our hearts to convince us that if God is really good, He wouldn't have meant all the things He said about our roles, our wickedness, and our obedience. See Genesis 6:5; 1 Peter 5:8

Sin always over-promises and under-delivers.

Eve's **Curse**:

Genesis 3:16: To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, in pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

John MacArthur points out that when the curse was imparted to Eve, it dealt with the two most important earthly relationships in which women will naturally seek their highest joy: their husband and their children.

In perfect Eden, even childbirth would have been pain free. Husbands and wives would dwell together in perfect unity. But because of sin, childbirth would now be painful and full of sorrow, and Eve, once a perfect model of submission and meekness, would now resist her husband's headship and desire to gain dominance over him. Tensions over gender roles go all the way back to our first parents!

Eve's **Hope**:

Genesis 3:14-15: The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, and dust you will eat all the days of your life; ***And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel***."

The promise that Eve would still bear children mitigated every other aspect of the curse. As MacArthur says, "that one simple expectation contained a ray of hope for the whole human race" because "her Seed would crush the serpent's head. Her offspring would destroy the destroyer."

- Romans 16:20: "the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet."
- Hebrews 2:14: Christ took on human form so that "through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil."
- 1 John 3:8: "The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil."

God's Faithfulness from the very beginning! The account of Eve, the first woman, is ultimately a testimony about the character and nature of God. The God who saw His creation reject Him, yet in His unending grace, promised to redeem the darkness with the light of His Son.

Discussion Questions:

- In what ways was Eve similar to Adam? In what ways were they different? What does this say about the roles of women today? How does "equal in value, different in role" play out in your life?
- In what areas are you tempted to listen to the lies of the enemy about what God has said?
- How can our personal Bible study help us guard against temptation?
- The curse pronounced upon Eve targeted her most significant human relationships. Why do you think that is? Have you seen that manifested in your own life?
- Despite the curse, Eve had hope for the future of her offspring, and she didn't know what we know now. How can studying Eve's life encourage us to press on in hope? How can God's faithfulness to Eve and to all of us impact the way we live?