



## *The Sun Series*

### Part 2 -- Woman In The Garden

In the geneology of Christ as given in Luke 3 there is a consistent following of the seed line from Christ back to Adam, and in verse 38 we read, "...which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God." Can there be any denying that Adam therefore was not a son of God when it is so clearly stated? Of course not! But this brings up another matter, and that is concerning Eve. If she was the feminine part taken out of Adam from which she was built up into a woman, and if he was a son of God, then it stands to reason that she could be none other than a daughter of God.

Of course, the teaching through the centuries has been that Eve was something subservient to Adam, something of less value than he, something made as only an helpmeet, or as some claim, an helpmate for Adam. The Hebrew is not HELPMEET at all but simply HELP. This infers that Adam was in need of help for God to make a HELP for him. There was a definite need in Adam, and God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone." Gen. 2:18. The Hebrew word for ALONE is rather a strange word, for it not only means alone as we know it in English, but it comes from a root which means also BRANCH or STAVES. Thus it could well be said that it was not good for Adam to be a lonely branch, and what tree is comprised of one branch? It takes many branches to make a tree. Furthermore, for something to be carried properly and evenly it takes two staves to do so, not just one. And, can one branch be anymore important than another? Or, can one stave be considered more necessary than another? What think you?

Now returning to the thought of Eve being a HELP to Adam, let us consider this word in the Hebrew and see its real meaning. The Hebrew word is EZER which means to SURROUND, PROTECT, AID. This particular word is used and translated 21 times as HELP, and let me quote a few of these instances: "...for the God of my father... was mine HELP." Ex. 8:4. "Be Thou an HELP to him from his enemies." Deut. 33:7. "The Lord.....send thee HELP from the sanctuary." Ps. 20:1-2. "He is our HELP and shield." Ps. 33:20, etc. Of the 21 references to HELP

translated from EZER, 16 of them definitely refer to the Lord as our HELP. Be reminded that this same word is used of Eve as being a HELP to Adam. This shows without a doubt that she was not something inferior to him by any means, but instead a co-equal with him--perhaps even more than that.

I am going to make a rather strong statement, but please take time to ponder it and see if it be not so. If Eve was given as an HELP to Adam in the same sense that God is our help, then one of two things must be done:----- Either women, particularly the daughters of God, must be elevated to her God-given place as a help in the sense that God is a help, or else God must be lowered to the low estate of the woman as a so called HELPMEET!!! When I began to see the real meaning in the word HELP, my heart was humbled to think that God would refer to woman as an HELP in the same sense that He is called an HELP.

Of course, it is going to be immediately retorted that the woman was first in the transgression and led man into it, but there are some other aspects of this subject, too, that must be considered. In Gen. 2:15 it is written, "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to KEEP it (literally--- GUARD IT)." Now, from what was he to guard it? We are informed that the serpent was the most subtle BEAST OF THE FIELD, an inhabitant of the field, not of the garden. Thus Adam disobeyed in letting this creature into the garden to start with. We blame it all on Eve, but who allowed that creature in? Who was it that was supposed to GUARD and to protect the garden? If there was nothing outside the garden, then from what was he to guard it? This serpent was not a writhing snake, but it was a living creature that was able to talk and reason, a being that was very much like the Adamics insomuch that it could deceive Eve. Remember, she was deceived, but Adam was disobedient! Which is worse? Though we cannot go into detail on this matter at present, let us say that this serpent or literally creature of the field was one of another race used of satan to try and defile the womanhood that God had made. Nevertheless, God has given the promise that "the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head."

If you will carefully read Gen. 3:22-24, you will see that God sent the man out of the Garden of Eden to till the ground. In verse 24 it states, "So He drove out the MAN, and He placed at the east of the Garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to

keep the way of the tree of life." Nothing is said whatsoever about the woman being driven out of the garden. Read it carefully for yourself and you will see it is all talking about Adam, not Eve. Let me remind you again that Eve was beguiled and deceived, but Adam was disobedient in that God had told him before Eve was ever taken out of him to not eat of the forbidden tree. In the light of this, then how has woman become such an inferior being and with such a lowered estate?

Gen. 3:16 makes a remarkable statement that needs some serious thought. "...and thy DESIRE shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." Too many have taken this for granted as meaning that this was part of the curse, but let us look at it more closely. In view of the fact that the man was driven out of the garden to till the ground and eat his bread in the sweat of his brow, and not the woman, what then caused her to be ruled over by man? The answer is in the words, "...and thy DESIRE shall be to thy husband..." with emphasis on DESIRE. It is from the Hebrew word TESHUQA which is used only three times in the whole of the O.T. The references are the one quoted above, plus Gen. 4:7 and S.S. 7:10. In none of these is there the thought of sensuality involved, so what is that meaning of TESHUQA? It does not mean desire as we now use that word, but rather it means A TURNING. This is verified by some of the most ancient manuscripts which truly give us a different slant on the subject than has been ordinarily taught. What did Eve do? God warns her that in her TURNING to her husband and away from her God-given and precious place she will fall under his headship or rulership, which man has been taught is his God-given right. O, what could be further from the truth! It is true Eve did not heed God's warning in this matter and subjected herself to man's dominion, but because she did does not mean that every woman must fall into this category. Rather, as we come to the light of the knowledge of God's great redemption, man is less apt to demand headship and woman is less apt to accept the lowered position of the centuries. This does not mean that either takes advantage of the other one, but instead the husband and wife learn that they are co-heirs together in the Lord.

While still dealing with the matter of woman in the Garden and her place as a co-equal with Adam, it would be well to consider another scripture connected with it. It is found in Gen. 2:24, "Therefore shall a MAN (not

woman) leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." It has become the custom through the centuries to do just the opposite of this scripture. In other words, the woman is too often called upon to leave her father and her mother and cleave unto her husband. There must be a reason why the man is admonished to leave his folks but the woman is not so admonished. In our country of great liberty we do not see the disadvantage of the woman who is taken away from her family, but in other countries womanhood is too little thought of, and being separated from her parents is often a cause for the husband to lord it over her. But if she is left near to her parents, they can be her loving protectors from treatment that is not right nor proper. Of course, I realize that I am writing here in generalities and not in details, for that subject would take more than a paragraph of elaboration, but I merely want to point out the fact that it is the man who is admonished to leave his parents and cleave unto his wife proving that God is interested in the welfare and well being of the woman.

To sum up the matter here entailed with regards to the Garden of Eden and its persuant events, be reminded that (1) Adam being a son of God necessitates the fact that Eve is a daughter of God; (2) Eve was given as a HELP and not a helpmeet, in the sense of meaning that God is our HELP; (3) Adam did not GUARD the garden but allowed the most subtle beast of the field in who DECEIVED Eve whereas Adam was knowingly DISOBEDIENT; (4) the man was driven out of the garden, not the woman, but because she TURNED after him, she left herself open to his dominion; and (5) the man, not the woman, is to leave his parents and cleave unto her allowing her the parental protection of loving parents. All of this points to the fact that woman was not an inferior being in God's plan, and in the righting of all things she shall recognize her own true place as a daughter of God and co-equal with man.... How great is our heavenly Father in His concern for His daughters as well as His sons!

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NOTICE-----Brother Adler (641 E. Magnolia, Burbank, Ca. 91501) is printing another article written by your editor and entitled "The Seventh From Adam". Write to him if you are interested. Thanks, Bro. Adler, for doing this!!!