



Progressive Revelation: Life and Death

Introduction: The study we have enjoyed over the past several months is now taking a new direction. So far we have traveled across the opening scene of creation, looked intently into the Garden of Eden, pondered from the text how life must have been in the Garden of Eden, witnessed the sinister serpent deceive the woman into an act of rebellion against God and the Man fall headlong into rebellious sin in his eating of the forbidden fruit. What's more? The Lord God entered the Garden of Eden only to find out that He was blamed by Adam for transgressing the Law of God. After hearing the testimonies of the Man and Woman, the Lord God handed down the judgment to the serpent, the woman, and the man. In the midst of God's judgment, the first glimpse of the gospel is seen through the promised seed of the woman.

Now our attention shifts to examine what happened after the judgment of God was handed down and how life for the Man and Woman changed in the world around them.

Instructions: Read Genesis 3:20-24 and answer the following questions:

Activity: Why did the man wait to name his wife "Eve" until the fall occurred? To answer this question, a bit more investigation needs to be performed. Looking back over the first 2 chapters of Genesis will assist in our endeavors to understand Genesis 3:20.

1. How did Adam name the animals in Genesis 2:19-20? Does the text give any kind of concrete methodology for naming of the animals? Before answering the question, take another look at Genesis 1:20-25 and pay attention to specific phrases that may separate the various creatures God made. Write down what you have found.

2. Now read Genesis 1:26-31. After what "kind" was man and woman created

3. Who named the man or from where or whom did the idea of "man" come

(Note: Look at Genesis 2:21-22. It is apparent from the text that the Man named his wife "Woman." But why did the man give a specific name to the woman in Genesis 3:20?)

Interesting facts: In the Hebrew language, the generic word for man = אָדָם (pronounced: *adam*). Adam simply means "man." The word אֲדָמָה (pronounced: *adama*) simply means "ground." The man was taken from the ground and formed into a living being by God. The

name “man” is derived from the word “ground” and refers to all the males of the human race.

On the other hand, the word “woman” in the Hebrew language = אִשָּׁה (pronounced: *ishshah*) simply means “woman.” The generic name “woman” is not derived from another name. The generic word “woman” is a word made by the man to name the female gender of the human race (2:23).

Beginning in verse 3:17 the use of the generic term “man” was changed for the first time in the English text to “Adam” as a proper name for the man.

So what? The significance of the information is understood when one realizes that Adam never received a formal or specific name while the woman did.

The name Eve in the Hebrew language is חַוְוָה (pronounced: *Chavvah*) which means “life.” The name “Eve” is very close in its construction to the Hebrew word יְהוָה (pronounced: Yahweh = Lord).

1. What inspired Adam to name his wife Eve?

2. Did Adam believe the gospel God revealed in Genesis 3:15? Was Adam’s act of naming his wife “life” one of faith

3. Was the woman honored by her husband when he named her “life?”

Activity: Turn to 1 Timothy 1:9-15 and read the passage.

1. In verse 15 what did Paul emphasize as the primary ministry role of women?

2. In modern society, what is constantly being attacked in regards to women in how Paul said they are to minister?

Final thoughts: Are modern women characterized as those who are responsible to bring life into the world through child bearing, nurturing and seeing to the development of their children; packaged in a life of modesty, sanctity, and self-restraint? Talk it over in the group and think about the elevated role God gave to women as mothers, homemakers, and life-preservers.