

=EVENTS FROM GENESIS=

Lesson 1

Eve, the Mother of All Living

AIM: to teach my pupils the facts concerning Eve.

POINT OF CONTACT: In the first of our studies of Genesis, we are impressed with the fact that Genesis is a miraculous book. For example, in the Hebrew, there are just seven words in the opening verse of Genesis 1. This is especially interesting since seven is God's perfect number. These seven words of Genesis 1:1 are composed of twenty-eight letters—just seven times four. Since seven is the number of perfection and four is the number of earth or the creation of earth, we learn that God's creation was perfect. The word "good" appears seven times in Genesis 1. The word "made" is found seven times. Seven times the word "Heaven" is mentioned in this chapter. God Himself is mentioned thirty-five times—just seven times five; seven being God's perfect number; five being the number of grace. Ten times we read, "...and God said..." Ten times we read, "...let there be..." Hence we find the ten commandments of creation.

For another point of contact, you might discuss the subject of the first operation ever performed, or "God was the World's First Surgeon" when He took Adam's rib from him to make Eve.

- I. EVE AND THE TREE. Eve, as you know, was the one who was the first to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Trees are interesting in the Bible. In Genesis 40, we have recorded the dreams of the two men who were in prison with Joseph. When interpreting the baker's dream, Joseph said, "Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head from off thee, and shall hang thee on a tree," Genesis 40:19a. In Joshua 8:29, we are told, "And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree..." In Esther 2:23, we read about two men who plotted to assassinate the king; "...therefore they were both hanged on a tree..." Read along with this Galatians 3:13b, "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." In Genesis 18:1-4, we find the story of Abraham inviting the three guests to rest under a tree. In Exodus 15:23-25, the Israelites could not drink of the waters of Marah because they were bitter. Moses cried unto the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree. When he had cast the tree into the waters, they were made sweet. This pictures Jesus on the cross (tree). When He went down into the place of death, He sweetened the bitter waters for us.

Now let us compare the tree in the Garden of Eden with Calvary's tree:

1. The first tree was planted by God. Read Genesis 2:8, 9. The second tree was planted by man. Read also Matthew 27:35a.
2. The first tree was "pleasant to the eyes." (Genesis 3:6) The second tree was an awful spectacle.
3. God forbade man to eat of the first tree. Notice Genesis 2:17. God invites man to eat of the second tree.
4. Satan enticed man to eat of the first tree. Satan uses all his powers to prevent men from eating of the second tree.
5. The first tree brought sin and death. The second tree brought life and salvation.
6. Eating of the first tree turned Adam and Eve out of Paradise. Eating of the second tree brought the repentant thief into Paradise.

(Teacher, bring to class with you two small plants to represent the two trees.)

- II. EVE AND SATAN. See Genesis 3:2-7.

1. Satan started tempting Eve by throwing doubt on the Word of God.
2. Then he substituted his own word for God's Word.
3. Then he tempted her, appealing to the bodily senses. Genesis 3:6a, "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food."
4. He then tempted her, appealing to the emotions and the eyes. Genesis 3:6b, "and that it was pleasant to the eyes."
5. He then tempted her by appealing to the intelligence. Genesis 3:6c, "a tree to be desired to make one wise." Jesus faced these same temptations in the wilderness.

(For the class members, name a few temptations under each of the above categories. For example, under the first temptation would be drinking, adultery, gluttony, etc.)

III. EVE AND SALVATION.

1. When Eve sinned, she was separated from God.
2. Eve tried to make her own covering. Genesis 3:7, "...and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons." The fig tree was the only thing which our Lord cursed while He was on earth. When a person tries to cover his own sins, there is no fruit, and he is doomed to wither away.
3. Eve tried to shift the responsibility to others. "And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat," Genesis 3:13c.
4. Eve was saved. Genesis 3:21, "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them." An animal had to die. It was a sacrifice provided by God. All Eve did was take it, and it was a coat to cover her nakedness. This is a perfect picture of Jesus Christ!