

LESSONS FROM THE FIRST FAMILY

Introduction

- 1) The divine record of the first family is found in **Genesis 1-5: Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Seth**
- 2) Written as a literal historical account – real people and real events in real time (Gen. 5:1-5)
- 3) The New Testament is our inspired commentary to teach lessons to learn from the first family

I) **ADAM**

A) *Beginning of Humanity*

- 1) The “first man” – made of dust [“earthy”] (1 Cor. 15:45-49; Gen. 2:7)
 - a) Belief in this truth is the basis for our belief in a future, glorious, resurrected body
- 2) Created at “the beginning of the creation” (Mk. 10:6)
 - a) Adam and Eve created on the sixth day of creation (Gen. 1:27) – literal days (Ex. 20:11)
 - b) Contradicts human theories about a pre-Adamic race or long geological ages before man

B) *Beginning of Roles*

- 1) Creation order of man and woman reveals God-ordained headship and submission roles
- 2) Man created first; woman created from and for man (1 Cor. 11:3, 7-9; 1 Tim. 2:11-13; Gen. 2:21-23); Roles to be applied in the church and home (1 Cor. 14:34; Eph. 5:22-23)

C) *Beginning of Marriage*

- 1) Joined to wife to become “one flesh” (Mk. 10:7-8; Gen. 2:24)
 - a) Union of man and woman for life (Mk. 10:9)
 - b) Unlawful divorce and remarriage results in adultery (Mk. 10:10-12)

D) *Beginning of Sin and Death*

- 1) Death spread to all after Adam introduced sin (Rom. 5:12-14; Gen. 2:17)
 - a) Remedy for spiritual death provided through Jesus (Rom. 5:15-19; 6:3-4)
- 2) Physical death came by Adam; resurrection will come through Jesus (1 Cor. 15:20-23)

II) **EVE**

A) *Deceived*

- 1) Eve was deceived by the craftiness of the serpent (2 Cor. 11:3; Gen. 3:1-6, 13)
 - a) We must be careful to not fall prey to the deception of evil (2 Cor. 11:4)
- 2) Part of the reason for the submissive role of the woman (1 Tim. 2:14)

B) *Childbearing*

- 1) Mother of all living [“Eve” – life, living] (Gen. 3:20)
- 2) Unique and glorious role of the woman when combined with godliness (1 Tim. 2:15)
 - a) Abortion is a horrible perversion of God’s design resulting from ungodliness

III) **CAIN**

A) *Example of evil*

- 1) Murdered his brother because “his works were evil” (1 Jn. 3:11-12; Gen. 4:1-8)
- 2) If we hate our brother, we are a murderer like Cain (1 Jn. 3:15; Jude 11)

IV) **ABEL**

A) *Example of faith* – “by faith” he offered a “more excellent sacrifice” (Heb. 11:4; Gen. 4:4)

- 1) Cannot please God without faith (Heb. 11:6); comes by hearing word of God (Rom. 10:17)

V) **SETH**

A) *Lineage of the Savior* – son through whom Jesus came in the flesh (Lk. 3:38; Gen. 5:3)

- 1) We see God’s eternal plan working from the beginning (Eph. 3:11; 1 Pet. 1:20)

Conclusion

The New Testament helps us understand the significance of the first family of man. We still learn and follow the truths established and exemplified in them. Are you a part of God’s spiritual family now?