

## Was Adam, or Eve, Responsible for Sin?

by Steve Barwick

An argument erupted recently on a Facebook Bible study group over who was responsible for the sin in the Garden of Eden, as well as for mankind's ongoing sinfulness. Was it Adam, or Eve?

Some blamed Eve, claiming it's the inherent susceptibility of the female gender to deception, seduction and resulting sin that's the cause of all of the world's problems today, and throughout all of history.

That, of course, caused quite a stir, as you might imagine. One of the female Bible students then jumped into the fray and pointed out St. Paul's words in the great book of Romans, chapter 5, implicating Adam as the culprit:

**Rom 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

**Rom 5:13** (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

**Rom 5:14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Here's how I responded:

Let me first point out St. Paul's words to Timothy, in which Paul clearly stated that Adam was NOT deceived by Satan, but Eve was:

**1Ti 2:14** And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

So if Adam was not deceived, but Eve clearly was, then what exactly was Adam's sin? After all, as one of the good ladies have already pointed out, it's very clear from Romans 5:12-14 that Adam did indeed sin.

So what exactly did Adam do wrong?

It's my contention that he *allowed* the deception and resulting seduction in the garden to take place, when it was well within his right, his power, his authority and his personal responsibility as Eve's husband (and as God's earthly representative) to make sure it didn't.

Since Adam wasn't deceived (I Tim. 2:14), it only follows that he clearly knew what Eve and the serpent were up to was wrong. But he permitted the deception and the resulting seduction to take place anyway. And afterwards he even partook of it himself. As it is written in Genesis 3:6:

**Gen 3:6** And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

So we see that the man (Adam) was involved in what our heavenly Father possibly viewed as an even greater transgression than the woman's.

At least Eve could honestly say she was "beguiled" (seduced through wiles), whereas Adam could not.

Adam was not deceived (I Tim 2:14), and therefore he KNEW the serpent (Satan) was lying as he spoke to Eve. Yet Adam did nothing to assert his right as Eve's husband, nor as God's personal representative on earth. He didn't step in and put a resounding stop to the ongoing act of deception and seduction.

Indeed, as we've seen from Genesis 3:6, after Eve was seduced, Adam even jumped in and participated in the act. I'm trying to be very careful about what's said here, in case there are tender ears, but I think ya'll get the point, and know what a *menage trois* is.

I have my own theory as to why Adam participated in Satan's act of seduction. It's presented in greater detail, as speculation, in my Bible study titled "[Two Virgins](#)" which you can download and read at the link in this sentence.

But suffice it to say, without going into much detail here, that I believe Adam was trying to hide from God what he'd allowed to happen between Eve and the serpent.

In other words, Adam jointed in with the seduction because he hoped his own "seed" would take root in his wife's womb, and take precedence over the serpent's "seed."

Put more bluntly, he hoped his sperm would out swim Satan's to the woman's egg, and the resulting child would be his own. And then God would never find out about the seduction. A vain thought on Adam's part, yes. And an equally vain undertaking, as we all know from our more in-depth studies of Genesis chapters two and three.

Nevertheless, Adam ultimately jumped in at the last moment for a reason, and participated in the seduction of his wife by the serpent. You could say it was just because he was horny. But I believe it was because he knew he was wrong *not to have stopped the seduction in the first place*, and was trying to cover his bases, and make sure any resulting pregnancy was from his own "seed."

So Eve was definitely weak – both spiritually and physically -- in that she fell hook, line and sinker for the serpent's deception and resulting seduction.

And Adam was definitely weak, in that, as Eve's husband, and as God's personal representative on this earth, he most miserably failed to put a stop to what was happening when he knew beyond any shadow of a doubt that it should not have been allowed to take place at all.

As Eve's mate -- designated as such by God Himself, and with her being made from his own body -- Adam had the right, the authority and the ultimate responsibility to put a stop to the serpent's deception and resulting seduction.

But he *didn't*. He allowed it to happen on his watch, so to speak. He failed miserably as her husband. And he failed miserably as God's earthly representative.

## Two "Gardens"?

Think about this:

It was Adam's job to "dress and keep the garden" (Genesis 2:15), which means he was to tend and preserve it.

As the designated gardener, he was to plant seed in the garden, and protect the garden from becoming spoiled by things like weeds. Think of the garden as an earthly reproductive system, for that's exactly what a garden is.

In thinking along those lines, consider the idea that in addition to the very clear literal meaning to Adam's assigned job duties (i.e., "dress and keep the garden"), there was a hidden metaphorical meaning as well.

In other words, as Eve's husband, it was also Adam's job to "dress and keep" (i.e., tend and preserve) the "garden" of his wife's flesh reproductive system, which is to say, her *womb*.

It's no different between a man and his wife to this very day. The womb is the woman's reproductive garden. The man's job is to "dress" it (i.e., plant seed/impregnate) and to "keep" it. In other words, to protect it from "weeds" growing, meaning outside impregnation from taking place.

Indeed, just as Adam was the designated gardener in the garden of Eden, and was therefore not to allow any weeds to grow in the garden, knowing that once they spread they'd crowd out the herbs and other plants God had put there for their benefit, so he was the designated "gardener" (so to speak) of his wife's metaphorical "garden," which is to say, her womb.

Adam was not to allow any "weeds" (i.e., think in terms of the tares of Matthew chapter 13) to grow in his wife's metaphorical "garden" (i.e., reproductive system) knowing that the resulting lineage would eventually attempt to crowd out the "plant of renown" that our heavenly Father would later bring into this world through Eve's descendants. I'm speaking of Christ Jesus, of course (i.e., Ezekiel 24:39).

So Adam didn't do his job of tending to Eve's metaphorical "garden." He was the ONLY one that should have been planting "seed" there, tending and keeping that "garden" so that no other "seed" were allowed to take root there (so to speak).

But in his flesh weakness, he allowed the seduction in the garden to take place, his wife being ravished by another -- God's very enemy, none-the-less. Adam knew from God's command in Genesis 2:16-17 that this was never to be allowed to happen. But he allowed it to happen anyway. This was his sin. (And I'll show you how that ties in with Christ Jesus, in just a moment.)

The end result, of course, was the birth of the two twins, Cain and Abel. One being the son of the serpent himself (i.e., Satan). And one being the son of Adam. One a murderer. And one an innocent tender of sheep.

Adam's willful disobedience to God's Word (for I Timothy 2:14 tells us he was not deceived, therefore he knew what he was doing), shows, in my opinion, that both Adam and Eve were equally in the transgression.

They *both* disobeyed God's clear command not to "touch" (i.e., Hebrew *naga*, "to have sexual intercourse with") the metaphorical "tree of the knowledge of good and evil" which is the family tree of Satan.

However, Eve was *deceived* into the seduction by the serpent, which is simply Satan in his role as the seducer of mankind. But Adam, knowing better than to believe Satan's lies, and seeing the seduction taking place in real time, *failed to put a stop to it* when it was his clear duty and grave responsibility to do so as the "tender" and "preserver" of her "garden," and as God's personal representative on this earth.

Who had the greater sin of the two? Well, I'm NOT THEIR JUDGE. So I can't and won't even attempt to answer that question.

But looking around me at men and women today (and knowing my own sordid personal history from long ago) I'd say anyone who tries to blame it all on Eve and her descendants – meaning the female gender – is all wet on this particular issue, theologically speaking.

We're all sinners. And we all fall short of the glory of the Lord, who is none other Jesus Christ. And we're each INDIVIDUALLY responsible for our own sins, just as Adam and Eve were each individually responsible for their own respective acts of disobedience to God's Word, particularly in relation to the sinful acts that took place in the garden.

Eve slept with God's avowed enemy, though she was Adam's designated mate (wife). Adam failed to stop her from doing so, even though he had the right, the direct responsibility and the authority to do so as her designated husband, and as God's personal representative on this earth.

Adam failed to "dress and keep" (tend and preserve) his wife's "garden," in the face of Satan's seductive deception.

## Y'shua Will *Not* Fail

But (and here's the good news) our Lord and Savior will NOT fail to "dress and keep" (tend and preserve) His own wife's "garden" -- which is to say, the "garden" of His elect body -- in the face of Satan's current and ongoing deception and coming spiritual seduction.

Our Lord and Savior does, and will *continue*, to dress and keep His spiritual wife, which is to say, to plant seeds of truth into our minds, and through the power of His Holy Spirit and knowledge of His Word to keep the "weeds" of spiritual deception at bay.

Adam, we're told in Romans 5:14, was the "figure of Him that was to come." In other words, Adam was the *forerunner* of Jesus Christ.

But as we've seen, Adam failed in his duties to his tend and preserve His wife's "garden." And thus, he failed his heavenly Father, as well, for he was God's representative on this earth, just as Christ would later be.

The difference is this: Jesus Christ will *not* fail. He will not fail His wife (i.e., His elect body), which, just as Eve was part and parcel of Adam, so we are part of the body of Christ through His Holy Spirit. As it's written of His faithfulness to His duties as Husband:

**Php 1:6** Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Unlike Adam, our Lord will perform His duties as spiritual Husband to His elect, all of the way to His Second Advent. What's more, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will not fail our heavenly Father in this task, as Adam failed. Jesus Christ will preserve the "garden" of His elect, and He will do so body, mind and spirit. As it's further written:

**Rev 3:10** Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Knowing that gives me great comfort. How about you? You keep His Word and stay away from the deceiver. And He'll keep you from the temptation of Satan to come.

It all started with Satan's temptation in the Garden of Eden. And it's all going to end with Satan's temptation. In the first case, he sought to seduce the wife of Christ's forerunner, Adam. And in the final case he will seek to seduce the wife of Christ Himself. But we will be preserved from it by our Lord and Savior, *if we do our part* and follow God's command to "touch not" the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

As St. Paul taught in the great book of Romans regarding the differences between Adam and Christ:

**Romans 5:9** -- For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

In that verse, the word “disobedience” is quite poorly translated from the Greek word *parakoe* (see Strong’s G-3876), which actually means “inattention.” In other words, Adam was not *attentive* to his God-given duties in regards to tending and keeping the “garden” of his wife’s reproductive system. And when you’re inattentive to your garden, it will surely get taken over by weeds (think the parable of the tares in Matthew chapter 13). On the other hand, the word “obedience” in the above verse is translated from the Greek word *hupakoe* (see Strong’s G-5218), which actually means “attentive hearkening.” Unlike Adam who was inattentive in his God-given duty toward his wife, Eve, Christ Jesus will be *actively attentive* to His wife. He will indeed keep her “from the hour of temptation.”

### **Christ’s Beautiful Prayer**

Just before Christ completed His redemptive task at His first advent, He prayed the following prayer to our heavenly Father. You might want to read it. I find it to be the most precious prayer ever spoken or written, in light of what we’ve learned above:

**Joh 17:1** These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

**Joh 17:2** As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

God the Father has given Christ your hand in marriage, spiritually speaking. Think about it.

**Joh 17:3** And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

**Joh 17:4** I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

**Joh 17:5** And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

**Joh 17:6** I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

He was the visible manifestation of our heavenly Father, YHVH. And God’s elect have been given that understanding. And as a result, we keep (i.e., preserve) His Word. We do not allow His Word to be distorted, as did Eve in the garden when the serpent lied and told her “*Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*”

**Joh 17:7** Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

**Joh 17:8** For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

**Joh 17:9** I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

**Joh 17:10** And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

**Joh 17:11** And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, **that they may be one, as we are.**

That's speaking of spiritual marriage, beloved. And it's beautiful and precious and true. It's the second man Adam and His beloved wife, His spiritual many-membered body.

**Joh 17:12** While I was with them in the world, **I kept them in thy name:** those that thou gavest me **I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.**

The first occurrence of the word "kept" in the above verse is translated from the Greek word *tereo* (i.e., Strong's G-5083). It means "to watch over and guard from loss or injury."

The second occurrence of the word "kept" in the above verse is translated from the Greek word *phulasso* (i.e., Strong's G-5442), and it means to watch over and preserve a family offshoot.

In other words, Christ will not lose His beloved wife, His spiritual body. He will watch over and guard that offshoot of His own body.

**Joh 17:13** And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

If this doesn't fill you with joy, beloved, I don't know what will.

**Joh 17:14** I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

The word "word" in the above verse is translated from the Greek word *logos* (i.e., Strong's G-3056). It means doctrine. But I like to think of it also as a vow. A marriage vow. He's bestowed upon us God's Word. And God's Word says He'll take care of us, as husband takes care of a wife.

As it's written in the great book of Isaiah, chapter 54, verse five, "*For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.*"

**Joh 17:15** I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

Again, the word "keep" as used here is translated from the Greek word *tereo*, meaning "to watch over and guard from loss or injury."

**Joh 17:16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

**Joh 17:17** Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

**Joh 17:18** As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

**Joh 17:19** And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

**Joh 17:20** Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

**Joh 17:21** That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Again, that's a spiritual *marriage*, beloved.

**Joh 17:22** And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

**Joh 17:23** I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

You can't get any more clear about it than that. In a marriage, the two shall become one. Christ and the Father are one. And that One God has taken His elect body to wife.

**Joh 17:24** Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

**Joh 17:25** O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.

**Joh 17:26** And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare *it*: **that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.**

You are part and parcel of the precious garden of God, beloved. He's the Living Word. And that Word is His garden in which we dwell, as His beloved wife whom He so deeply loves, and wants nothing more than that love be returned.

He's in you, through His Word of truth. And you're in Him, through Father's Holy Spirit.

He dresses and keeps (i.e., tends and preserves) His garden daily. And He's given you the authority and responsibility to do the same, just as He did Adam.

Don't let Him down. He asks one thing, and that's for you to remain true to Him, just as Eve was supposed to remain true to her husband.

He will not let you down. If you do your part, He will nurture and "grow" you. Stick with Him. And He'll stick with you, as well, even through the deception and seduction that's about to come on this old earth once again.

Take a quick look at these verses, as well, in light of what we've learned above:

**Jud 1:20** But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

**Jud 1:21** Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

**Jud 1:22** And of some have compassion, making a difference:

**Jud 1:23** And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

**Jud 1:24** **Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,**

**Jud 1:25** **To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.**

In conclusion, it's important to remember that the Scripture describes Christ as "the last Adam." But unlike the first Adam, when the tempter arrives He will not fail you. He will both dress and keep (tend and preserve) His garden, if you'll remain in His Word.

**1Co 15:45** And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; **the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.**

The “last man Adam – Jesus Christ -- is the life-giving Spirit of God Almighty. Rejoice and take comfort in that.

Satan’s head will ultimately be crushed under His feet. And why? For trying to seduce *you*, His wife. Your spiritual Husband, Jesus Christ, will not put up with it. The “first man Adam” failed in this regard. But Christ will not fail. He will intervene on your behalf. Just stand firm in His Word. Don’t be an “Adam” or an “Eve.” Be a *Christ-man*. And you’ll always be under His protecting arm. As it’s further written:

**Psa 37:37** Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

Our Lord and Savior – our Husband – is that perfect man. He is the Prince of Peace. And He’s promised us a peaceful eternal family household, with Him at the head.

**Psa 37:38** But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.

The wicked one and his minions have already lost the battle. Do you believe that? You’d better. Your Husband has *promised* this to you.

**Psa 37:39** But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

**Psa 37:40** And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

As it is written, so it shall be. Embrace it. And hang on tight. The time is growing quickly at hand.

-- End --

You can sign up to receive Steve’s periodic “News & Current Events from a Bible Perspective” email commentaries, and gain instant access to Steve’s other in-depth Bible studies, at [www.HaveYeNotRead.com](http://www.HaveYeNotRead.com)

© Copyright 2018. [Have Ye Not Read?](http://www.HaveYeNotRead.com) an independent Christian Bible study ministry unaffiliated with any church or denomination.