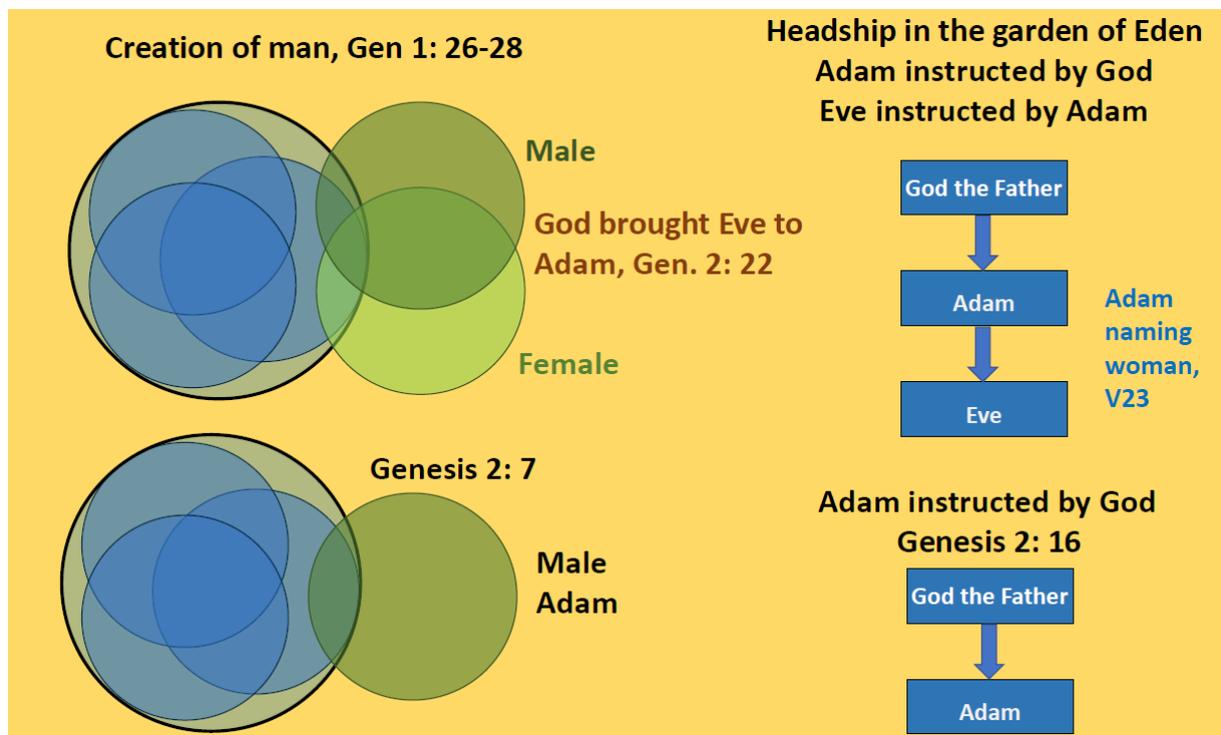
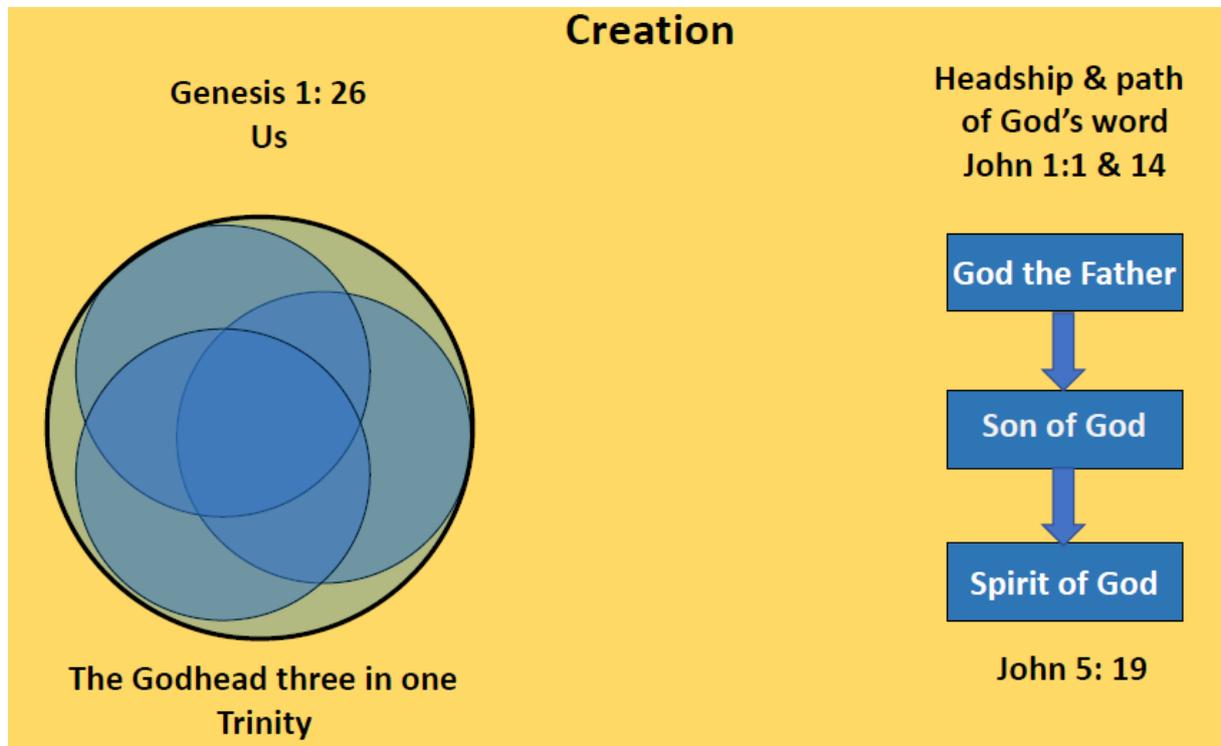


Man's fall – Adam's sin, Genesis 3

Summary

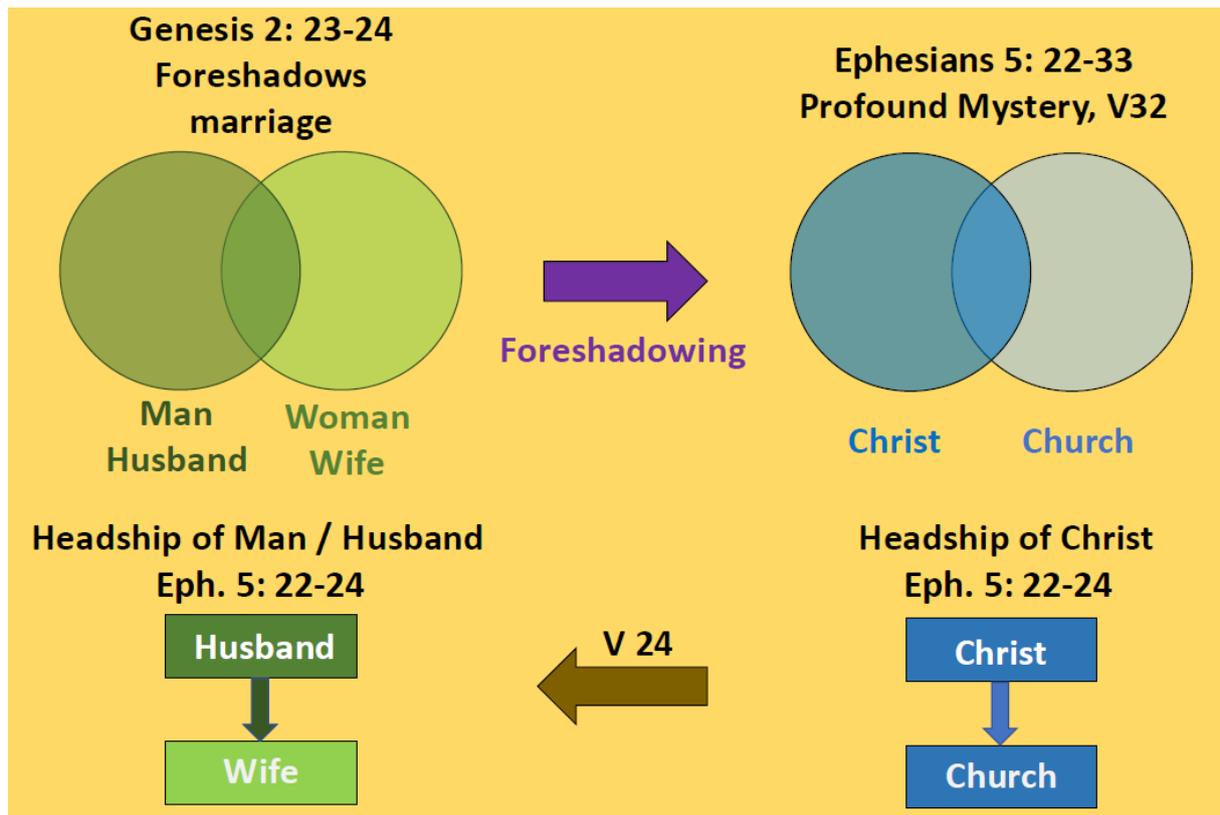
Creation



Man and Woman spiritually equal. Both are in the image of God.

Man received headship, while the woman was his helper. Both were to serve God in spirit and truth.

Man's fall – Adam's sin, Genesis 3



Man's fall – Adam's sin

We have seen that God built male headship and not male dominion in to His glorious creation. Male and female were spiritually equal because they share the same Spirit. This is the real paradox.

When God set man in the garden

Genesis 2:8-9, Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. ⁹The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were **the tree of life** and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

V15-V17, The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶And the LORD **God commanded the man**, "**You are free to eat from any tree** in the garden; ¹⁷**but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.**"

After reading these verses, in your observation, to what tree did God point the man and what does this mean to you?

Man's fall – Adam's sin, Genesis 3

Realize that God commanded the man that he was **free to eat from all the trees** in the garden **except from the tree of knowledge of good and evil**. With it God ordered man also to eat from the tree of life.

So, in Eden eating from the tree of life was in fact **mandatory!** Is it still like that, Rev. 2: 7; 22:2,14 & 19?

The man and the woman were not aware of anything beside following God's command to eat from the tree of life and the other trees. This was their normal behavior that was pleasing to God.

Until the serpent executed his scheme.

The fall of man

The serpent singles out the woman to evaluate her life on his terms.

Genesis 3: 1-5, *Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"*

²*The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, **or you will die.**"*

⁴*"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

Compare what God said with Eve's and the serpent:

1. 2:16 - God with 3:1 – serpent. How could you characterize it?
2. 2:16-17- God and 3:2-3 – Eve. What are your observations?
3. 3:4, the serpent draws the attention away from the tree of life and refocuses on the tree of knowledge of good and evil. What can you observe further?

Genesis 3:6-7, *When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, **she took some and ate it**. She also **gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.** ⁷ **Then the eyes of both of them were opened**, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

Man's fall – Adam's sin, Genesis 3

This was the moment that man fell!

1. How would you observe the woman's behavior in relation to the order God has put in His creation?
2. What do you think of the man's behavior?
3. When exactly were both their eyes opened to what they had done?

So, Eve usurped Adam's headship and led the way into sin. Adam for his part stood by passively, allowing the deception to progress without decisive intervention – as it were he abandoned his post as head. Eve was deceived, but Adam forsook his responsibility.

Q. If both have sinned, why is it that God blamed Adam and even the apostle Paul in Romans 5: 12-21, blamed Adam?

Adam's fault

God called for the man, **Genesis 3:9**, *But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"*

Q. Why did God call for Adam and not for both of them? The man was given the responsibility to lead their partnership in a God glorifying direction.

If we analyze the situation, the serpent struck at the headship of Adam by deceiving his helper. The words Satan used had the strength to draw Eve out to assume prime responsibility. A responsibility that was Adam's.

When confronted by God, Adam shifts the blame to Eve, **Gen. 3:12**, *The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."*

Eve admitted that she was deceived, **Gen. 3: 13**, *Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

What God Decreed

God curses the serpent, Gen 3: 14-15,
*So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,
"Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.*

Man's fall – Adam's sin, Genesis 3

¹⁵ *And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring^[a] and hers;
he will crush^[b] your head,
and you will strike his heel."*

Our only hope as a fallen race is God's merciful promise to defeat our enemy, which He will accomplish through human instrumentality.

For the Woman, **Gen. 3:16**

To the woman he said,

*"I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;
with painful labor you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you."*

God's decree is twofold:

1. As a mother and in relation to her children, she will suffer in bearing them. She will be able to bare children, by which God is provided with a means to carry out His death sentence on the serpent. She will suffer in childbirth. The new element is "painful labor" through which her children will be born.
2. She will suffer in relation to her husband:
Compare this with Gen. 4:7, *If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."*
What do you understand of this? Clue; Cain's sin and Eve's sin. Romans 1: 24, 26, 28.

To the man He said, Gen. 3: 17-19

*To Adam he said, "Because you **listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,'***

*"Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat food from it
all the days of your life.*

¹⁸ *It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.*

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¹⁹ *By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return.”*

Notice four things:

1. Work was not his punishment, but what; *“through painful toil”* until his ultimate defeat in it. What does this mean?
2. What is God's rationale for this punishment? Sinning against Gen. 2:17 and *“listening to his wife”*. Abandoning his headship.
3. Adam was disobedient. His disobedience was pivotal in the fall.
4. Adam alone was told that he would die. Eve would follow because she came from Adam. Romans 5: 12.