

August 2006

Eve's Lust – Continued

“And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.”

Genesis 4:25

J. What's in a name?

Names may not hold much significance today in the naming of one's children, but they did in those days, for they told us something that was going on, not just with the child, but with the surrounding circumstances.

The first son ever to be born was named Cain. Now *Cain*, or *Qayin*, meant to make, produce or create something, therefore it had the idea of a possession. We studied this out earlier in the naming of the boy.

Abel, Hebel, was an onomatopoeic word meaning breath, vapor, or sighing. This brought in the new reality of life outside the garden. At one time Adam and Eve's life was a wonderful life of pleasure and ease, but now it was full of suffering, tedium, monotony, pain and hard work revolving around an endless, meaningless existence. Not to mention the dismay and frustration of watching their firstborn son turn into an angry monster.

Then there came *Seth, Shayth*, which meant “in place of”. God gave her this son to replace *Abel* whom *Cain* had murdered.

We had seen that Eve thought the Redeemer would come through her personally, and when he did, he would change things; he would perhaps restore them. Eve's “hopes” were on her firstborn son, *Cain*, but after she saw what he turned out to be, (under her influence), she put her “hopes” on her second born son, *Abel*. But when *Cain* murdered him that eliminated both boys. Now her third born son, *Seth*, comes along, whom she named *Seth* in taking the place of *Abel*.

It's like so many mothers down throughout the ages who “put their hopes” on a certain son that he will turn out good and make her proud. It starts out with the first son, but when he disappoints her, she transfers that “hope” to the next son, and on down to she finally does it with her last son, her baby.

Now when *Seth* had a son, **he named him Enosh**. “*And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.*” Genesis 4:26 And we notice that it was *Seth*, the man, who named him. The word *Enosh* signified to be weak, to be feeble, to be mortal, those suffering in punishment. The emphasis is on the sinful nature of the flesh, that is, it refers to man after the fall in the garden, or fallen humanity.

By the naming of the first three sons born on earth the names they were given we are given tremendous spiritual and psychological insight into what was going on in all of them after the fall. Their given names have tremendous significance!

For example, the word *Adam* gives us the idea of man, mankind, or humanity, as well as Adam's personal name. The word *Ish* for man speaks of the masculine gender, as well as a man. Another word for man is *Geber* which emphasizes the nobility of character of a man, often referred to as an hero. And when we come to another word for man, *Enosh*, that brings out the sinfulness of man, or man in his fallen humanity.

Seth named his son Incurable, or Fallen, bringing in the ideas along that line of the meaning of *Enosh*, because **he had finally realized** that, due to his father and mother's sin against God, **he and all the other humans had acquired a fallen nature**, a nature of flesh that had been corrupted by sin! And regardless of what mother had hoped for, and regardless of what he, them and everyone else could try to do to correct that dynamic, nothing would work. Man was incurable, man was hopeless in regard to that matter of sin to do anything to change it.

It was the realization of this spiritual reality that motivated him to name his son Incurable. **He had come to the place in his life where he finally saw that man, including himself, was totally sinful**. And this problem still exists today in most people. They fail, or refuse, to see their own sinfulness!

Remember, *Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Seth*, their daughters and sisters were the most perfect specimens of humanity ever to exist on this planet. Even after the fall they were perfectly proportioned, smart, handsome, beautiful, strong, athletic, rugged and lived, for some of them, almost to the age of 1,000 years!

And most of them refused to see, ignored, or didn't care to see that **they all had fallen, sinful natures**. It's just like today where the rich and famous, the handsome and beautiful, the successful and educated and everyone else; how many of them scoff at the thought that they have fallen, sinful natures? But *Seth* was different; **he saw this about himself and about everyone else**. And when did he realize this and name his son? When he was 105 years old! **And all this took place 235 years after the Fall of Adam and Eve! It took 235 years for the early race to realize that they were all sinners!**

Now what is interesting is that it is at this time that man began to call upon the name of Yahweh. And “*And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.*” Genesis 4:26

Seth now realized that the human race, his own father and mother's children, were all hopelessly incurable! Sin had infiltrated into everyone of them like an incurable, evil virus! And he also realized that there was nothing that any of them could do about their mortality and sinfulness. **He also realized that only Yahweh Elohim, their creator, had the answers so they called on him for help and salvation.**

Regardless of how good their environment was at that time, (it was good, but not idyllic like the garden); regardless of how great the food was, (they were vegetarians); regardless that they were the most perfect specimens of humanity and more intelligent than any living today; it took them 235 years to see their sinful condition, and get away from works oriented thinking to finally turn to God and his grace!

K. Principles of rule and authority.

By virtue of the fact that *Yahweh Elohim* created the heavens and the earth he is entitled to rule over them. It is from this absolute dominion he is entitled to place man as the ruler over the earth. He chose to establish man as the ruler of the earth and the woman under the authority of the man. God alone decides who rises to power and who stays in power. One needs to consider this when complaining about the leadership of their nation. God sends good leaders to a righteous people and he sends tyrannical leaders to a people who are wicked. **The worse a people become the worse their leaders become.**

All human dominion derives from God, who alone empowers mortals to exercise dominion over his creation and other people. God can punish a people by depriving them of a ruler, *“And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?” Habakkuk 1:14 Or by placing evil, mean or incompetent rulers over them. “ And he gave them into the hand of the heathen; and they that hated them ruled over them.” Psalm 106:41 “Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.” Lamentations 5:8*

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, grand master of the Babylonian mystery religion, an antichrist, and the ruler of the world at that time, learned that *Yahweh Elohim* was and is the ruler of heaven and earth through the suffering of insanity. *“And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.” Daniel 4:32*

It was at the end of the seven years imposed upon him by God that his sanity was restored when he recognized the rule of *Yahweh* over the earth. *“And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou? At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.” Daniel 4:34-37*

It is true indeed that, *“For God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.”*
1 Peter 5:5b How many of us have had to learn this the hard way?

The woman rebelled at the authority structure that God had established on the earth; she wanted to be the leader; she wanted to be in charge! We notice that **Adam was with her**, not **her with Adam**. And here *she is leading Adam to the tree*, and she was the one doing all the talking with the serpent! Instead of talking to the Lord, or to her husband, **she is taking the control and doing all the talking with the serpent!** “*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.*” Genesis 3:6

But she soon found out that God's purpose cannot be thwarted. God told the woman, “*and he shall rule over thee.*”, Genesis 3:16b, and the word he uses for ruling is *mashal*. It is from this concept we will see the principle of rule, authority, who the authority is, where the concept of authority comes from, and the reaction to rule and authority which we call pride.

We have to recognize, first of all, that human dominion does exist on earth. We see it in courts, in law, in kings, presidents, despots and rulers. But what we have to recognize is that **all human dominion on earth derives from God**, who empowers or authorizes mortals to exercise dominion on earth. Now there are those who see and accept this principle and there are those who reject it.

To accept this we need to see that God has the right to exercise dominion over the earth, because as its creator he has the right, not only of ownership, but also the right of rule. It's similar to the right that one has as the manufacturer of something. When a person or a corporation makes or manufactures something, then they have the absolute ownership of whatever it is that they have made and they can do with it as they please.

If they want to sell it they can and in so doing they then pass on the title to the buyer. If they want to break it and do something else with it they can because they own it! It's theirs to do with as they please because they created it by making it.

When God created the heavens and the earth he became the sole and legitimate owner of all these things. He can keep them, he can destroy them if he wants to, he can destroy them and make new heavens and a new earth if he wants to because he owns them.

Yahweh is the ruler of the universe by virtue of his act of creation!

He also can make living creatures and place them in the heavens, whom we call angels, to have rule over his heavenly realm. And he can make living creatures, whom we call man, to place them over his earthly realm, which he did with the man, Adam.

God made the earth, therefore making it his own possession. And then God created the man, Adam, which makes Adam his possession, and then placed **Adam on the earth as the ruler over the earth!** It's important to remember, though, that even though God made the man as the ruler over the earth, which still stands today, he never transferred the title of the earth over to man. God still holds the title to the earth.

So now we have God creating the planet earth and then creating man to have dominion over the planet for God. It's God's earth and man is to rule the earth under God. So now we have delegated authority. Authority is handed down from above from the authority. And God never handed down authority to the woman. Man still has the rule over the earth and over the woman.

Malak, the rule of a king, is a word used for dominion, as well as *mashal*, but *malak* focuses more on the person, while *mashal* focuses on the rule or dominion itself. God is the one who has dominion over the earth because he is earth's creator. And God is the one who places different men to rule over the people on the earth. Now they maybe kings, the may be presidents, or they may be dictators!

God also places evil, mean, or incompetent rulers over people as his punishment on them. And he also places good rulers as a blessing to people who please him. *“And he gave them into the hand of the heathen; and they that hated them ruled over them.” Psalm 106:41* *“The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.” Proverbs 12:24* *“And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them.” Isaiah 3:4* *“As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.” Isaiah 3:12* *“Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.” Lamentations 5:8*

Yahweh created the entire universe and he has the right to rule over that which he has created. This is his dominion and it is an absolute dominion for there is none beside him and none above him. And as its creator, owner and ruler he has the right to establish who he wants to rule over it. And in the case of the earth he has established that man is to rule over the earth and everything on the earth.

Now when it comes down to the nation in which we live, or a specific area in that nation, and we look around and find that the rulers are corrupt, or tyrannical, or incompetent, one needs to consider that God too has placed these men, or women, over the people in that nation as punishment!

Now along that idea of rule it's interesting that we find the same word used, *mashal*, when Christ is talking to Cain when he was so angry that God rejected his sacrifice. *“If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.” Genesis 4:7*

Cain was very angry; he was filled with enormous rage. And the Lord talked to him about it. He said that sin was crouching at the door like a vicious beast to destroy him. Sin was lusting after him, *teshuqah*, the same word that was used for the woman lusting for the power that Adam had.

Then the Lord uses the word given to the man for his rule over the earth, *mashal*. He says that you must be the one who is ruling in the situation. And this takes us down to the idea of **self control**. It is the mental attitude of pride that brings on the emotion of anger. And once anger is there then all sorts of evil will ensue.

By the Lord telling *Cain* he was to gain the rule over the situation he was telling him that he had a **choice**!! He could choose how all this would go. And it all went back to *Cain* recognizing the principle of authority and who the authority was. The one standing before him was the one who created the earth and he was the authority over it.

All *Cain* had to do was humble himself there before *Yahweh Elohim* by following the prescribed protocol concerning the sacrifice and offering up the sacrifice that God wanted. And even though he didn't do that at first he could still admit that he was in the wrong and offer the proper sacrifice.

All *Cain* had to do was submit himself to the mighty hand of God's rule and this self rule still applies to all of us today. "*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*" 1 Peter 5:6 "*Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.*" Romans 6:12

Pride is the rejection of the authority of God over us in life. Hopefully it will be helpful to understand what authority is, who has the authority (God), why he has the authority, (he has the right to rule over what he has created), and how beneficial it is for us in every way for us to be in submission to his authority.

The woman in the family is in authority over her children, but her authority is under the authority of her husband, who is under the authority of Jesus Christ, who operated and still operates under the authority of God the Father. And it all goes back to the one who created this has the right to rule over it. When the evolutionists deny God as the earth and man's creator they also throw off his dominion over them.

The structure of authority had already been established on earth by God **before** the woman was ever created and brought to the man. The woman was brought into a situation of an already existing planet with a man placed there by his creator as the authority and ruler over this planet. Not Mars! Not heaven! The man was the authority over just this planet. The government of God was in effect on earth with the man as its ruler. And her position in the chain of command was under his authority.

When the woman lusted after the rule that the man had, and ate of the forbidden fruit to gain the power over him, what she was doing was throwing off the government of God over the earth and his rule over her! A very serious matter. And of course when it was all over, she was still under the authority of God and the man.

The command not to eat from the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden was nothing more than a **test** to see if the man and woman would obey God to determine if they would be under his authority or not. It was a simple test of authority and once passed they would have been established in their idyllic setting forever. But as we know, they failed the test leaving us with what we have today. But there is one man who did pass the test of authority, one man who submitted to the Father's rule, and that man was Jesus Christ! "*And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*" Philippians 2:8

And because of that God not only made him the ruler over the earth, but also the ruler over the entire universe! *“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:”* Philippians 2:9 Jesus Christ is Lord over all of God's creation. He is the King of kings. He is the High Priest of God's priests. And he is the man that is the ruler over the earth.

Our biggest problem, and the number one sin that God hates the most, is our **pride**. Pride is the mental attitude that sees ourselves higher than we are. It is the mental attitude that refuses to recognize the authority of God's rule. It is the mental attitude that rejects authority, that resents authority, that rebels against authority. It existed in Lucifer before man was created and it exists in the mental attitude of all of us today, including Christians! It opposes grace and keeps God from blessing us in grace. *“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”* James 4:6 And the only way that we can deal with our monstrous pride is to submit ourselves to the rule of God over us! *“Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God (God's rule over you as Sovereign), that he may exalt you in due time.”* 1 Peter 5:6

Why is all this important to us? Because it's not just about our roles and responsibilities as men and women in life; it's not just about our areas of weaknesses; it's about **our being connected to the original couple in the garden!** It is our beginnings in the garden, (the Hebrew word Genesis means beginnings), that explains our existence today on earth.

We tend to think of ourselves in relation to our families, our friends, spouses, children, towns, careers and nations, sort of like the movie “Matrix”. What we have failed to see and need to see is **our connectedness to Adam and Eve**. From these two, humanity has spread all over the world and we are all a part of that humanity. And every area of weakness, every failure, every aspect of sin these two possessed after the fall is now inherent in all of humanity, including ourselves.

At one time their descendants had degenerated to the place that all of them, except for eight people, were destroyed from off the face of the earth by God's judgment in the flood. Indeed the flesh nature is corrupted, defiled and incurable. It is only through faith in Jesus Christ, and living within the spiritual dynamic that he supplies to all believers, can we escape that corruption we inherited from the original couple.

So yes, it is important that we understand our connectedness to Adam and Eve, for it is only then that we truly understand ourselves and our place in the history of man. And as we see the problems going on, the wars raging on the earth, the earth being destroyed, the deterioration of society, our own personal trials that we go through, and even one day our own death, for death and judgment await us all; we know that all of this is the result of that one couple in the garden. And that, when we have to face God in judgment, as all will, we have comfort and assurance because we have trusted Christ as our Savior. But in all this we also need to see where was Adam when all this was going on? Did Adam drop the ball? And was the earth as idyllic as we think it was?

L. Adam's Failure

“*And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.*” ויקח יהוה אלהים את־האדם וינחהו בגן־עדן לעבדה ולשמרה: Genesis 2:15

There is a problem with the KJV of “*to keep*”, and the NIV translation of “*to take care of*”, for the usage of *shamar* throughout the OT in virtually every reference has the idea of to guard or to protect.

It is found in the qal infinitive construct which denotes a purpose, something is being done for a purpose. Adam was placed in the garden for the purpose of dressing it, yes, but he was also placed there for the purpose of protecting it!

Shamar meant that one has been placed in charge of something, therefore he is responsible for it. And we want to notice that **this included the woman as well** when she was created by God, placed in the garden and given to Adam as a wife.

From this idea of responsibility we have the ideas of accountability and protection. So for Adam to protect he has to be on guard; he is to be watching for something; he is to be narrowly looking, observing, concentrating, scrutinizing, looking for something threatening or suspicious. In English we would say he is to be vigilant.

The word implies a potential threat! But from what? From whom? He is not told, at least not in the passage, **but he is nevertheless to be on the lookout, to guard, protect and keep safe the garden and the woman he was in charge of.**

It reminds me of the male species of creation in the animal world and how the male always stands guard over the females and their offspring, always watching, always on guard to protect them from threats.

Adam failed in his responsibility before Eve succumbed to the serpent's temptation in her lust for power. He was placed there in the garden for the purpose of not only cultivating it, but for protecting it from any internal or external threat! And the first time the serpent came there he should have rushed forward to deal with it! But he didn't! He failed to watch; he failed to protect, and as the result the serpent was able to get to his wife!

Let this be a lesson to all of God's men! God has placed us over the home to protect our wives, our children and the lot in life that he has assigned to us. But if they leave the home and reject our authority, through divorce or rebellion, then we have no more responsibility in the matter.

To fulfill our responsibility, therefore as protectors of the home, family and country (garden), we must be eternally vigilant. We must always be on the watch for negative influences, things and people that can not only bring physical harm to our families, but also moral and spiritual harm and then deal with it as God would have us according to the teaching of the Word of God.

The garden of Eden was hedged about by a mountain range, which is an interesting concept. Why the physical geographical protection? What potential threat was outside the garden? Now Adam was placed in this secure physical environment, but he was to watch over it, to protect it. But from what? The word implies the idea of an hostile environment outside the garden; not the idyllic setting we have thought the entire earth to be.

Because we have not correctly understood the true meaning of *shamar*, to keep, we have drawn a false impression of the original life on the earth down to this day. *Shamar* meant to watch, to guard, to protect, to be watching out for something.

Some have surmised that outside the garden was a world of dinosaurs. Others think that it was Satan and his fallen angels, who were judged, had their planet, this planet destroyed and came back to see what was going on with this man creature in the garden. And Adam was to be on the lookout for this!

In Genesis 3:24, “*So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.*”, after God expelled Adam and Eve from the garden, he assigned *Cherubs*, (three or more), and a flaming sword to prevent them from going back into it. *Shamar* is used once again to protect the garden and the tree of life from the couple, as well as to protect them from themselves.

Adam failed in his responsibility to protect his wife from potential threat. At the very least, Adam should have grabbed that serpent by his talking neck and dragged him back to the Lord and said, “What's this!”

Pastor-Teachers are to protect their flocks from predators and false teachers; and they are to protect the body of Bible doctrine from false teachers. Men are to watch over and protect their families and their nations. “*But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*” 1 Timothy 5:8. The word for *provide* is *pronoio* and it means to think ahead, anticipate the problems, have a solution for it and be on the watch for problems.

Only the male of the species has this unique ability and responsibility and we got it from Adam and from God for God created us this way. But how many men, like Adam, have failed to exercise *shamar* over those we love, over those whom God has given to us for safekeeping?

May God give us the grace, strength and wisdom through Bible Doctrine to become the men in the home that God wants us to be, to exercise eternal vigilance to protect **our** families from the serpent!

Pastor Mike

