

Bible Study on Male headship & the sin of Adam

By: Rody Chesser

During family worship this morning, Kyra (our oldest daughter) asked a great question. "If Eve sinned, why is Adam held responsible?" Wendy and I took full advantage of the question to discuss two very important doctrines with the children. We discussed Biblical male headship and the effect of Adam's sin on all mankind. Since this is so important, I wanted to put together this Bible study to encourage the study of these very important doctrines.

Two Important questions:

1. If Eve sinned, why is Adam held responsible?
2. How does Adam's sin affect me?

Adam held responsible:

Begin by reading **Genesis 2:15-3:24**

According to **Genesis 2:16** who did the LORD God command? _____

If we take the order of **Genesis 2** to be chronological, was Eve created when God commanded the man?

According to **Genesis 2:24** when a man and woman are joined together they become _____. _____.

According to **Genesis 3:9** who did the LORD God call to? _____

Here we clearly see that God commanded the man. We see that man and woman are seen by God as 'one flesh'. Therefore, God sees a married couple as one.

Read **1 Timothy 2:11-15**.

Paul is giving Timothy (and us) instructions for corporate worship with a local church.

Who is to teach when the church is gathered together? Men or women? _____

For a woman to teach men is for her to *usurp authority* over the _____.

Webster's 1828 Dictionary [K-Z]

usurp To seize and hold in possession by force or without right; as, to usurp a throne; to usurp the prerogatives of the crown; to usurp power. To usurp the right of a patron, is to oust or dispossess him.

Paul gives two reasons for a man having authority over his wife.

1 Timothy 2:13 Adam was _____, then Eve.

Since Adam was created first, he is the head.

According to **1 Timothy 2:14** the woman was _____, but Adam was not.

Read **2 Corinthians 11:3**

Webster's 1828 Dictionary [A-J]

beguiled Deluded; imposed on; misled by craft; eluded by stratagem; passed pleasingly. For this reason, we see that Adam is first and was not deceived therefore as the head of his family, he is held responsible for the sin of him and his wife.

Read **1 Timothy 2:15**.

Notice the PRONOUN change in this verse.

Who shall be saved in childbearing? _____ This refers to Eve.

Remember that God promised that the seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head? **Genesis 3:15**.

God graciously promised Eve a redeemer who would be born without the need of a man. If women would continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety God would bring forth his promise. Through a woman, Mary, God brought forth the redeemer.

Read **1 Corinthians 11:3**

The head of the woman is the _____.

God has a system of authority and headship. God is the head of Christ. Christ is the head of every man. The man is the head of the woman (his wife).

An Old Testament Example of Headship:

Read **Numbers 30:1-16**

Notice four things here:

1. A man is responsible for the vow he makes.
2. A daughter's vow can be allowed or annulled by her father. Here we learn that an unmarried girl is under the authority of her father.
3. A wife's vow can be allowed or annulled by her husband. Here we learn that a woman is under the authority of her husband.
4. A widow or a divorced woman is not under the authority of any man.

Not only are women under the authority of their fathers and then their husbands, they are also under the protection of their fathers and their husbands. This is not oppressive authority, but protective, loving headship.

Adam is held responsible, because he directly disobeyed the commandment of God. He was the head of his family and instead of listening to God, he listened to the voice of his wife when she contradicted God's Word **Genesis 3:17**

Questions for discussion:

1. What do you think would have happened if Adam had refused to eat the fruit?
2. If a man is not a believer, is a woman still under the authority of her husband?
(1 **Corinthians 7:10-16**; 1 **Peter 3:1-7**)
3. If a man is not a believer and he leads his wife and family to directly disobey God, what should she do?
4. What does Biblical male headship mean for a man?
5. What does Biblical male headship mean for a woman?
(**Ephesians 5:22-33**)

Adam's sin and me:

Read **Genesis 1:26-27** In whose image was Adam created? _____

Read **Genesis 5:3** In whose image was Seth born? _____

Read **Job 14:4 and Job 15:14** Can a clean thing come out of an unclean? _____

Read **Psalms 51:5** According to David, his mother conceived him in _____.

These verses help us to understand that from the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has been born from sinful parents and we are like our parents.

Read **Romans 3:10 and 3:23** Apart from Jesus Christ, is there anyone righteous? _____ We all have _____ and come short of the _____ of God.

Read **Romans 5:12-21**

By one _____ sin entered into the world. What came as a result of sin? _____

According to **Romans 5:12** _____ passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

Remember: **Genesis 2:17** *But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

According to **Romans 5:14** Adam was a _____ of him that was to come.

Romans 5:15 explains that by the offense of one _____ be dead.

Who is 'him that was to come'? _____

What are the consequences of Adam's sin?

Romans 5:12 _____

Romans 5:16 judgment to _____

Romans 5:18 tells us that by the offense of _____ judgment came to _____.

Look closely at **Romans 5:15-18**. How many times can you find the word 'gift'? _____

According to **Romans 5:19** Adam d _____ and Jesus Christ o _____.

This passage in Romans 5 helps us to understand that we were born sinners just like Seth. Adam became unclean when he and Eve sinned and their children that came out of them were born unclean as well. The good news is that while Adam disobeyed, Jesus Christ obeyed and he offers us the free gift of righteousness by his grace!

Read **1 Corinthians 15:22** In Adam _____ die. In Christ shall all be made _____.

How many people were born 'in Adam' or descendants of Adam? _____

Is Jesus Christ a direct descendant of Adam? _____

Who is Jesus' Father? **Luke 1:35**

Read **1 Corinthians 15:45-49**

Who is the last Adam? _____

Which comes first, the spiritual or the natural? _____

What was Adam made of? _____ **1 Corinthians 15:47; Genesis 2:7; Ecclesiastes 12:7**

According to **1 Corinthians 15:47** the second man is the _____.

God's word teaches us that like kind begets like kind. See **Genesis 1**

Your earthly birth makes you like your earthly father. What do you need to be like your heavenly Father? _____ See **John 3:1-21, 36**

According to **1 Corinthians 15:49** whose image have we born? _____

Whose image shall we bear if we are in Christ? _____

Remember that God created man in the image of God but Adam lost that when he sinned, and he begat a son after his own image. Every one of us has been born earthly and in the fallen image of our earthly father, Adam. Jesus Christ who is the last Adam is from heaven and he is a life giving spirit. If we

receive his free gift we can be born again and bear the image of our heavenly Father. We all are born sinners because we are born from unclean Adam. However, if we trust in Christ we will be born again and the spiritual life of Christ will be given to us. We will be forgiven and cleansed. Then we will become children of God!

1 John 3:1-3

Questions for discussion:

1. Does anyone have to teach little children to disobey?
2. If everyone is born sinful, what is the only answer for every man?