

LIVING GODS WILL

Vessel of God

ADAM & EVE



Adam and Eve by Michelangelo

Born: First humans created by God

Died: Adam died at age 930

Adam was created by God from the **dust** of the earth.

Eve his wife was created using one of **Adams ribs**.

God gave them domain over the **Earth**.

Satan deceived them into disobeying God's will.

They caused the fall of mankind into **sin**.

They were cast out of the **Garden of Eden**.

Adam was the first human being and the progenitor of the human race.

The first chapter of **Genesis** states that God made man in the sixth day of the Creation, fashioning him in His own image and giving him dominion over the rest of creation.

The second chapter of **Genesis** tells the creation of man in more detail. God created **Adam** from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. He placed him in the **Garden of Eden** to cultivate it and keep it.

God told **Adam** that he could eat from every tree in the garden, except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, under penalty of death.

God brought all the animals and birds to **Adam**, who gave them their respective names, but **Adam** could not find among the animals a suitable helpmate.

God then put **Adam** to sleep, extracted one of his ribs, and fashioned with it the first woman, whom **Adam** called **Eve** because she would be the mother of all the living.

Adam and **Eve** were naked and felt no shame until the **serpent** convinced the woman to eat the fruit of the forbidden tree. After **Eve** shared the fruit with **Adam**, the couple became aware of their nakedness. They covered themselves with fig leaves and hid from God in embarrassment.

God asked **Adam** "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat of the tree from which I had forbidden you to eat?"

Adam blamed **Eve**, and **Eve** blamed the **serpent**.

As punishment for their transgression, God condemned the **serpent** to crawl on its belly and eat dust.

He told **Eve** that she would suffer pain in childbirth, would crave for her husband, and be subject to him.

To **Adam**, God said, "**Because you did as your wife said and ate of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' Cursed be the ground because of you; by toil shall you eat of it. All the days of your life: Thorns and thistles shall it sprout for you. But your food shall be the grasses of the field; by the sweat of your brow shall you get bread to eat, until you return to the ground—for from it you were taken. For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.**"

God then made garments of skin and clothed **Adam** and **Eve**. To prevent them from eating the fruit of the tree of life, thus becoming immortal, God expelled them from the **Garden of Eden**.

After being driven out of the **Garden of Eden**, **Eve** conceived and gave birth to **Cain** and, later, to **Abel**.

After the death of **Abel**, who was murdered by his jealous brother **Cain**, **Eve** gave birth to her third son, **Seth** when **Adam** was **130** years old.

There is no further mention of **Eve** in the Bible, and it is not known how old she was when she died.

Though **Adam** lived on for many years, dying at the age of **930**, the Bible gives no account of how he adapted himself to life outside the **Garden of Eden**, except to mention that he fathered sons and daughters.

THE FALL OF MANKIND

The expulsion from **Eden narrative** begins with a dialogue between **Eve** and a **serpent**, identified in (**Genesis 3:1**) as an animal that was more crafty than any other animal made by God, although Genesis does not identify the **serpent** with **Satan**.

Eve is willing to talk to the **serpent** and respond to the creature's cynicism by repeating God's prohibition against eating fruit from the tree of knowledge (**Genesis 2:17**).

Eve is lured into dialogue on the **serpent's** terms which directly disputes God's command. The **serpent** assures **Eve** that God will not let her die if she ate the fruit, and, furthermore, that if she ate the fruit, her "**eyes would be opened**" and she would "**be like God, knowing good and evil**" (**Genesis 3:5**).

Eve sees that the fruit of the **tree of knowledge** is a delight to the eye and that it would be desirable to acquire wisdom by eating the fruit. **Eve** eats the fruit and gives some to **Adam** (**Genesis 3:6**).

With this **Adam** and **Eve** recognize their own nakedness, and they make loincloths of fig leaves (**Genesis 3:7**).

In the next narrative dialogue, God questions **Adam** and **Eve** (**Genesis 3:8–13**), and God initiates a dialogue by calling out to **Adam** with a rhetorical question designed to consider his wrongdoing.

Adam explains that he hid in the garden out of fear because he realized his own nakedness (**Genesis 3:10**). This is followed by two more rhetorical questions designed to show awareness of a defiance of God's command.

Adam then points to the woman as the real offender, and he implies that God is responsible for the tragedy because the woman was given to him by God (**Genesis 3:12**). God challenges the woman to explain herself, and she shifts the blame to the serpent (**Genesis 3:13**).

Divine pronouncement of **three judgments** are then laid against all the culprits, (**Genesis 3:14–19**). A judgement oracle and the nature of the crime is first laid upon the **serpent**, then **Eve**, and, finally, **Adam**.

On the **serpent**, God places a divine curse, to crawl on its belly and eat dust.

Eve receives penalties that impact her in two primary roles: she shall experience pangs during childbearing, pain during childbirth, and while she shall desire her husband, he will rule over her.

Adam's penalty results in God cursing the ground from which he came, and **Adam** then receives a death oracle, although **Adam** has not been described, in the text, as immortal.

Abruptly, in the flow of text, in (**Genesis 3:20**), **Adam** names the woman "**Eve**", "because she was the mother of all living". God makes skin garments for **Adam** and **Eve**.

The chiasmus structure of the death oracle given to **Adam** in (**Genesis 3:19**), is a link between man's creation from "**dust**" (**Genesis 2:7**) to the "**return**" of his beginnings: "**you return, to the ground, since from it you were taken, for dust you are, and to dust, you will return.**"

The garden account ends with an intradivine monologue, determining the couple's expulsion, and the execution of that deliberation (**Genesis 3:22–24**).

The reason given for the expulsion was to prevent **Adam** from eating from the **tree of life** and becoming immortal: "**Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever**" (**Genesis 3:22**).

God exiles **Adam** and **Eve** from the Garden and installs cherubs (supernatural beings that provide protection) and the "**ever-turning sword**" to guard the entrance (**Genesis 3:24**).

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 2:7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

Genesis 2:16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Genesis 2:18 And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

Genesis 2:21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

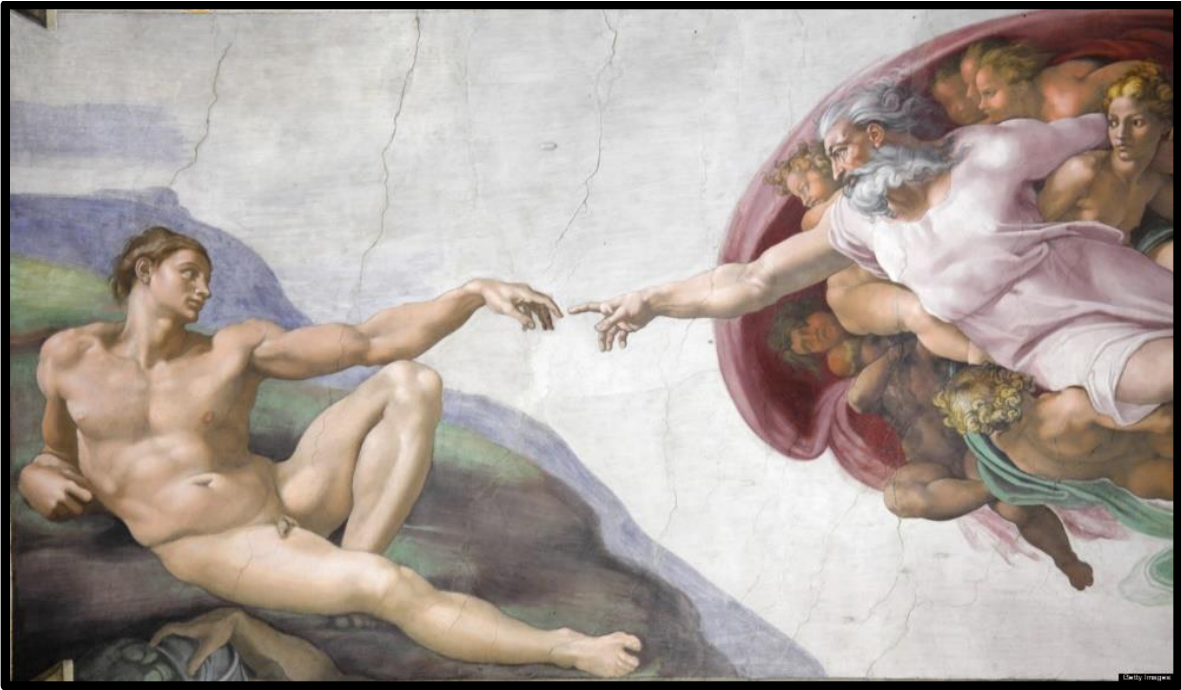
Genesis 3:4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Genesis 3:14 So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

Genesis 3:16 To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

Genesis 3:17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.

Genesis 3:22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"-- therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.



Creation of Adam, the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo



Adam and Eve in the Garden by Tintoretto