

Week 2 – Adam

This season, we are going to be studying different characters in the Bible and seeing how they fit into the grand storyline that the Bible presents. The first character we are going to look at is the first human being that ever lived; his name was **Adam**.

Genesis 1:1 says that “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” God created everything from nothing and finished with His most special creation which was a person. In those 6 days of creation, God had made everything that would be necessary on earth to sustain life and He had created many different kinds of animals just by speaking. But when it came time to create man, God did it differently. God formed Adam out of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. It was intimate and careful. Adam was different than any other creature that God created. He was special and had a special role.

God made Adam with the purpose to rule over the rest of creation. Adam was meant to represent God’s rule over everything. To make this possible, God gave Adam his duties and then made a helper for him. The helper was a wife for Adam and they were both important for taking care of creation in the Garden of Eden and necessary to keep everything working rightly.

God gave Adam guidelines to follow, but instead of following God’s guidelines, Adam decided to follow his own desires. Adam rebelled against God and refused to serve Him like he should.

Everything had been perfect in the world with Adam and his wife having a perfect relationship with each other and with God, but it all changed when they did something God told them not to do. Their rebellion cost them everything: their innocence, their peace, and their lives. When Adam sinned as the head of the whole human race, he took on a curse that would last as long as more people would be born. Everyone person born after Adam and Eve would inherit a sin nature.

Having a sin nature means that everyone automatically has the inclination to sin and rebel against God when they are born. The natural thing for people to do is choose to serve themselves instead of serving God, who is the only One deserving of any kind of worship. Adam brought this curse of sin upon the whole human race because of his choice to disobey God, and it was devastating.

Before sin, there was no evil. There were no broken relationships. There was no hatred or pain. There wasn’t any death either, but sin brought all of these things into the world. In that moment when Adam and his wife sinned, everything changed forever.

Adam is most well-known for being the first man and for committing the first sin, and for good reason. We also need to remember that Adam was also the first one to have a glimmer of hope that God would fix everything. Right after Adam was confronted with sin and learned of the devastating effects, God promised to one day defeat the effects of sin and eliminate sin itself. Adam was given the good news that God was willing and able to reverse the curse and restore His relationship with man. We will trace the storyline of that good news in the weeks to come.

Discussion Questions:

- For what purpose did God create Adam?
- What are some things that you know about Adam?
- What was the hope that God gave to Adam after he disobeyed?