

Adam, the First Man

(Genesis 1-5)

Adam is the Hebrew word for man. It may have been pronounced aw-dam'. Sometimes the word is used to refer specifically to Adam the first human but the vast majority of references are to man or mankind. The origin of the Hebrew word is the word for the color red. As the first created man it is only fitting that he would be called Man.

Adam

- The original image bearer of God; created without a nature inclined to sin
- Given the mandate to be fruitful and multiply and to subdue and have dominion over the earth
- Formed out of the dust of the earth and received the breath of life from the LORD (YAHWEH) God
- Placed in the garden in Eden (the garden of God, Eze 28:13) to work and keep (or watch) over it
- Commanded not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—creating for Adam a choice
- Responsible to steward the Garden of Eden
- God's man to name all the animals, exercising dominion over every living creature
- Lost a rib so that a woman for him could be created by God
- Received a female helper from God because it was not good that Adam be alone
- Identified that the woman was bone of his bone, and flesh of his flesh (he was in love)
- Husband to Eve, meaning the mother of the living
- Became one flesh with Eve yet felt no shame in their nakedness
- Failed to lead his wife to reject the deception of the Serpent (Satan) in the garden
- Participated in the sin of eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and immediately experienced an awareness of nakedness
- Made clothing from fig leaves to cover the shame of being naked (an entirely new emotion for Adam and Eve)
- Hid from the presence and voice of God for the very first time
- Blamed God for giving him the woman who gave him the fruit; who in turn blamed the serpent
- Received from God the following consequences for his sin:
 - The ground he had been told to tend would be cursed
 - Labor would be painful
 - Gardens would now have thorns and thistles
 - Sweat would be required to plant and harvest
 - Adam would return to the dust of the earth in his physical death
- Clothed by God from animal skins that gave their lives so that their nakedness (sin) could be covered
- Expelled from the Garden of Eden as a consequence of his disobedience so that they would not eat of the tree of life and be forever held in a state of sin
- Fathered two sons Cain and Abel:
 - Cain worked the ground (farmer)
 - Abel was a keeper of sheep (shepherd)
 - In the course of time, both presented offerings to Yahweh (the LORD)
 - God accepted Abel's firstborn and fat portion offering but rejected Cain's fruit of the ground offering
 - The rejection was too much for Cain; he was angry, but God told him the rejection was not permanent
 - Cain could do well but he would have to rule over sin to be accepted by God; sin was crouching at Cain's door and sin's desire was contrary to Cain's best interest
 - Cain failed to rule over sin. He murdered his brother and was cursed by God
- Lost two sons on that day: one was dead and the other left his father and mother and lived in the land of Nod
- Fathered Seth, who fathered Enosh
 - At which time, people began to worship Yahweh [the LORD] (Gen 4:26, NET)
 - Enosh fathered Kenan, who fathered Mahalalel, who fathered Jared, who fathered Enoch, who walked with God and was taken by God such that he did not experience death
 - Enoch fathered Methuselah, who fathered Lamech, who fathered Noah; the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth
 - Thus, there are 10 generations between Adam and Noah
 - Adam fathered other sons and daughters and died at 930 years old