

The First And Second Adam

by

Ellis P. Forsman

The First And Second Adam

by

Ellis P. Forsman

October 15, 2011

The First And Second Adam

1 Cor. 15:45-49

1 Cor. 15:45-49, *“And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.”*

This text mentions two Adams.

The inspired apostle had just declared in the 44th verse, *“... There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.”*

He now illustrates this by a comparison of the two Adams.

In verse 45 he shows that as we have our natural body, the animal body we have from Adam in this world, we also can expect our spiritual body to be from Christ, the Second Adam.

Therefore, if we are in Christ, it is certain that we shall have spiritual bodies, as it is now that we have natural, or animal, bodies.

So the dead in Christ shall not only rise, but shall rise changed.

Mortality came by Adam, but immortality came by Jesus Christ.

As descendants of Adam, we have all been born in his likeness and subject to the same kind of temptations: sin, death, and corruption.

But if we are Christ's, we shall be raised to bear His image and to enjoy a life of immortality such as He now enjoys.

- Col. 3:4, *“When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”*
- 1 John 3:2, *“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”*

Concerning Adam, Paul said in Rom. 5:14, that he is *“... the figure of him that was to come.”* Therefore a study of some points between the two Adams will prove interesting, and we can receive some practical instruction from it.

We shall consider the following:

- A comparison between them — their resemblance's.
- A contrast between them — their dissimilarities.

A comparison of the two Adams.

God placed them both on the earth by a miracle.

The existence of each was not according to the ordinary course of nature.

Neither came by the ordinary laws of generation.

The first was formed out of the dust of the earth, and the second was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Let use notice:

The creation of Adam.

Gen. 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 soul.”*

This was a miracle — a deviation from the laws of nature. We don't understand the powers of God.

But we accept it by faith; we cannot explain it except by faith.

The birth of Jesus.

That God placed the Second Adam upon the earth by a miracle is also a matter of faith. Neither can we understand it, except by faith.

The God that made the world, and made two people, and gave them the power of reproduction, simply placed that power in the womb of the virgin Mary.

Two of the gospel writers give us accounts of it. (Matt. 1:18-23 and Luke 1:26-38).

Each Adam had a nature capable of temptation.

Temptation is an attribute of all created intelligence.

Where there is no power to do wrong there is no virtue in keeping right.

The first Adam was tempted and was conquered; the Second Adam was tempted, but He triumphed.

- Matt. 4:1-11, *“Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty*

days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.”

- Heb. 4:15, “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”

God named them both.

God named Adam. Gen. 5:2, “Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.”

God named Jesus.

Phil. 2:9, “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.”

Jesus — because He is our Saviour. Matt. 1:21, “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.”

Emmanuel — because He is God with us. Matt. 1:23, “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

Lord — because He is our Ruler. Matt. 3:3, “For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Christ — because he is our anointed one. Matt. 16:16, “And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Mary, sister of Martha, anointed Jesus' head and feet and wiped his feet with her hair. The disciples were upset because she used very costly ointment. Jesus said in Mark 14:8, "*She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.*"

Both Adams were married.

God made a wife for Adam.

Gen. 2:18, 21-23, "*And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. ... And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.*"

Jesus Christ was given a wife — the church.

2 Cor. 11:2, "*For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.*"

Several things were similar in the relationship of Adam to Eve and Christ to the church:

God caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam. Jesus had to sleep the sleep of death.

Rom. 7:4, "*Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.*"

God opened Adam's side; the soldiers pierced Christ's side.

John 19:34, "*But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.*"

Adam paid the price of his own flesh and blood for a wife. Christ paid the price of His blood for the church.

Acts 20:28, "*Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.*"

Eve was the help meet for Adam; the church is the help meet for Christ.

How many wives did Adam have? Just one. How many does Christ have?

Eph. 4:4, "*There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*"

The first Adam's wife wore his name.

She was called:

“Woman.” Gen. 2:23, *“And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”*

“Adam.” Gen. 5:2, *“Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.”*

“Eve.” Gen. 3:20, *“And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.”*

Therefore she was Eve Adam.

The practice of the wife wearing the name of her husband started with the first pair.

The church, the bride of Christ, should wear the name of Christ.

- Rom. 16:16, *“Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.”*
- Acts 4:12, *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”*

A contrast of the two Adams.

Adam sinned upon temptation. Christ avoided sin upon temptation His entire life.

Adam's sin affected the whole human family.

Rom. 5:12, *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”*

Christ's death affected the whole human family.

1 Cor. 15:20-22, *“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”*

Conclusion.

For those who die in the Lord, the power of death cannot interrupt their eternal rest.

Rev. 14:13, *“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the*

Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.”

