

Creation of Adam
1510
Fresco, 280 x 570 cm
Cappella Sistina, Vatican

XHOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
...vintage Christianity for the next generation...

NEW FALL MESSAGE SERIES!

Creation of Eve
1509-10
Fresco, 170 x 260 cm
Cappella Sistina, Vatican

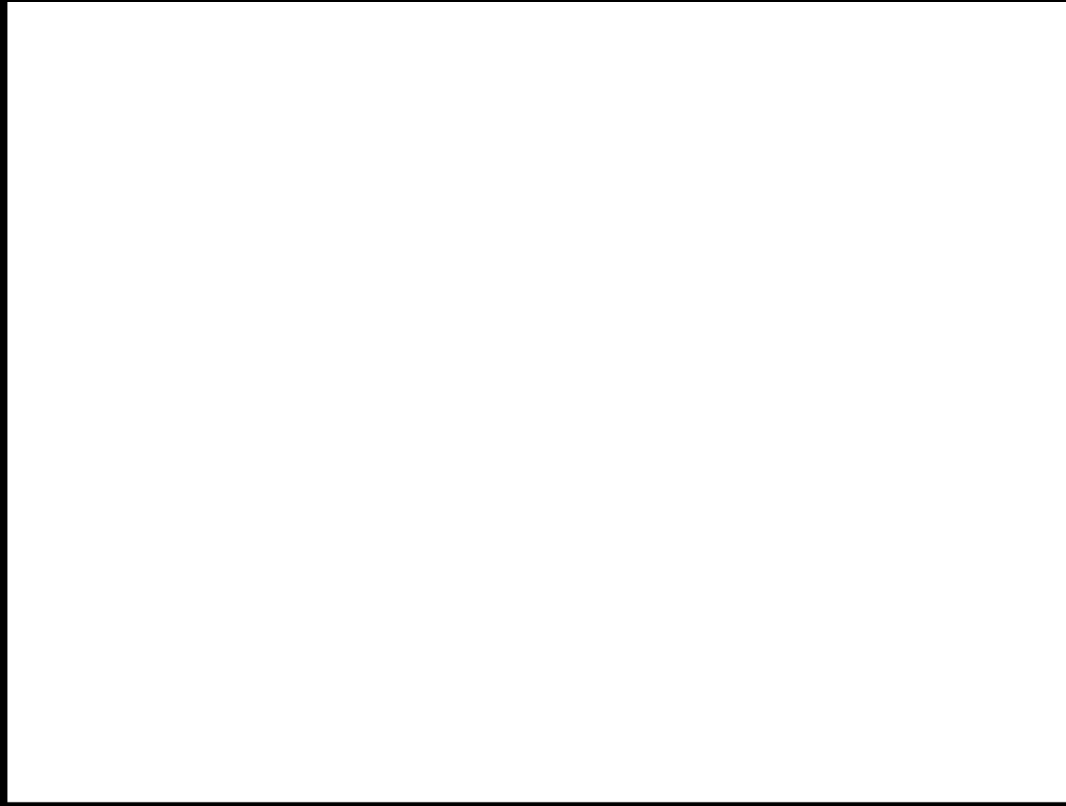


"In the beginning, God created them male and female..." (Genesis 1:27)

WHY?

A six week look at what God was up to in creating us as we are

- September 16th, 2007 -- "The Battle of the sexes! How did we get here?"
- September 23rd, 2007 -- "What does it mean to be a real man?"
- September 30th, 2007 -- "Is there more to being a woman than being 'hot'?"
- October 7th, 2007 -- "Sex. God created it. God likes it. Why then do we have such issues?"
- October 14th, 2007 -- "Singleness, Dating and Marriage: Is there a way to live in harmony with the other sex?"
- October 21st, 2007 -- "OK! Enough beating around the bush!! What about men and women in church leadership?"



"The latest research by the underground women's rights organisation the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) reveals that as many as 25,000 Afghan women worked as prostitutes in 2001 - 5,000 of those were in Kabul alone - with stark predictions that the number will rise as women and girls resort to selling themselves to escape poverty."

South China Morning Post, April 9, 2006

A Plea
before we begin...



*Where did Jesus start
at understanding the
Battle of the Sexes?*





Where did Jesus start at understanding the Battle of the Sexes?

Matthew 19:3-6

³Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?”

⁴“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female’, ⁵and said, ‘For this reason

a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two

will become one flesh’? ⁶So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God

has joined together, let man not separate.”



God as Creator





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

⁴God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

¹⁰God called the dry ground “land”, and the gathered waters he called “seas”. And God saw that it was good.





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

¹²The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

¹⁶God made two great lights — the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

¹⁷God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth,
¹⁸to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

²¹So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.





God as Creator

Genesis 1:1-25

²⁵God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.





The creation of humans





The creation of humans

Genesis 1:26-30

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.





The creation of humans

Genesis 1:26-30

²⁸God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase

in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” ²⁹Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

³⁰And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.
And it was so.



*A Detailed look @
The creation of humans*





A Detailed look @ The creation of humans

- 1. The one and only command!**





A Detailed look @ The creation of humans

1. The one and only command!

Genesis 2:16-25

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”





A Detailed look @ The creation of humans

2. The problem and a “solution”?

Genesis 2:16-25

¹⁸The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” ¹⁹Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he

would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found.



A Detailed look @ The creation of humans

3. SUCCESS!!



Genesis 2:16-25

²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³The man said,

“This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman’, for she was taken out of man.” ²⁴For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. ²⁵The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.



A Detailed look @ what went wrong!



TIZIANO Vecellio Adam and Eve c. 1550 Oil on canvas,
240 x 186 cm Museo del Prado, Madrid

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

1. The Temptation

Genesis 3:1-24

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” ²The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” ⁴“You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵“For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

2. The first human sin ever committed

Genesis 3:1-24

⁶When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

3. The Result

Genesis 3:1-24

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

4. A changed relationship with God

Genesis 3:1-24

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?” ¹⁰He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” ¹¹And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?”

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

5. A changed relationship with one another

Genesis 3:1-24

¹²The man said, “The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

6. The Curse - to the serpent

Genesis 3:1-24

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

7. The Curse - to the woman

Genesis 3:1-24

¹⁶To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

8. The Curse - to the man

Genesis 3:1-24

¹⁷To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

A Detailed look @ what went wrong!

9. Amazing Grace in the midst of sin

Genesis 3:1-24

²⁰Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

²¹The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. ²²And the LORD God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live for ever.” ²³So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

That's not the end of the story...

That's not the end of the story...

Revelation 21:1-7, 22:3

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." ⁵He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

³No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.