

## Towards the Emergence of Original Eve

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July 20, 2015



In pagan religions, women were held in high esteem, with men and women holding rites and ceremonies honoring the Earth Goddess. But looking more closely, we see humans were still living almost as part of creation, like a superior animal, with no recognition of their divine natures, and little realistic concept of a God who created out of love transcending nature itself. Tracing the course of monotheistic religions as God's attempt to establish the spiritual nature of the human being, we see how Unificationism has brought a total break with the past, in honoring the nature of the divine feminine as an equal and necessary expression of God.

Judaism, Christianity and Islam were established on the basis of male superiority, females, having inherited Eve's inability to think for herself, considered incapable of anything other than raising children and supporting their husbands. Thus each monotheistic religion which preceded Unificationism and laid the foundation for today left Mother God in some way unempowered.

To sum up the achievements of the messianic mission, we must evaluate clearly the foundation for the world to receive not just a new Adam, but also a new Eve.

In Principled terminology, Eve also acquired two natures as a result of the fall, Eve and Fallen Eve, just as Adam had two natures. Notice that neither Eve nor Fallen Eve is actually the same as Original Eve. Original Eve still has to be explored, a happy quest in which we will all be involved.

Therefore, Eve's task is also to set up the conditions for the Foundations of Faith and Substance. For women, this primarily involves healing, because that is the uniqueness brought to humanity by women, their unique expression of Mother God, although Eve's emergence will also be accompanied by the expression of Eve's intellect and subjectivity in ways history has been unable to imagine.



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We could state Eve's fallen natures in the same way as Adam's fallen natures are described: a series of failures, such as failure to know that God loved her. However, this automatically brings in a masculine perspective, since mothers do not regard their children as failures. Mothers see the potential, and their love perceives the beauty and original desire underneath the mistakes. Therefore, we will perceive Eve in this more feminine way, and describe her situation in accordance with Mother God's viewpoint.

Eve's basic mistake was to listen to a male being instead of God, unaware that her desire for love was still immature; then to allow that male being to make a big decision for her; and finally, to believe his, not God's, assessment of her situation afterwards.

Eve wasn't mature enough to reject the Archangel's assessment that God would blame her and never love her because of what she'd done. She blamed herself and felt inadequate ever since. She believed she was responsible for the loss of humanity and God's ideal, and could not come to God feeling like that. We certainly see that women in positions of abuse find it extremely hard to escape because of this fundamental feeling of deserving punishment at the core of their being.

Eve didn't make her own decision about the fall, in the sense that she listened to an external voice instead of the voice in her own heart, and this opened her up to creating a being who took her position of responsibility away from her. Since she couldn't face this terrible dilemma within herself, she could never take responsibility. On top of this, Eve allowed Adam to blame her also, and has been under the false dominion of men ever since. Adam himself chose blame and accusation instead of trying to understand

and work things out, and so this situation continued until today.

Eve has not been able to love others who make mistakes due to the pain at the root of her own being, and has co-founded a world of pain and punishment as a result. We see men demanding obedience and total dedication from their wives, usually expressed as ownership of them, throughout most of history, still the case in many parts of the world. And this is on top of the terrible cruelties visited upon women in every part of the world at every time.

Had Eve already reached the intended state of maturity of heart at the time of the Archangel's interference, she would have found a better response to the fall. Original Eve would know beyond a doubt that God loved her no matter what mistakes she made, and she could choose to manifest her own divinity by making her own decisions freely and through her own responsibility. Eve would naturally love all people and all of God's creation unconditionally. Of course, if she already had attained this state of being, she would never have thought to act without consulting God, her Mother, so it could not have happened.

So either God is destined to work with Fallen Eve forever, or there is a path back to the original plan for the expression of the feminine nature of God, and the Principle makes it clear that restoration offers such a path, for both men and women.

Just as psychology encourages us to love the child within our own being, so Eve needs to embrace herself, the immature parts of her own being. This is clearly extremely difficult as evident from the fact that attempts in history to allow this failed even while there has been some measure of progress on the male side of the providence. Often the male side has been at least partially responsible for the failures.

God allowed for Eve's healing by setting up a situation in which Eve could embrace a person in the position of Fallen Eve, and love her as a mother, or at least an older sister. In that way, she can become Original Eve to the fallen part of her own nature, and choose a more mature response to the fall.

Many stories in the Bible repeat the situation of a woman, such as Sarah, being asked to embrace another woman, who through no fault of her own, is put in the position of Fallen Eve, like Hagar. Sarah has the position of Abraham's wife, Hagar the position of Abraham's concubine. To overcome the feelings of inadequacy, anger and distress within herself, Sarah must be able to love Hagar as a person loved by God, but her unexamined self intervenes, and she is unable to do this. Therefore, Judaism starts as a religion with no female position to equal that of Abraham, the original patriarch, and this begins the problem of the monotheistic religions perpetuated throughout history until today. The male God declares himself to be the Lord, a jealous God who is angered by disobedience, and who punishes sin with a heavy hand.



*The "womb of God": Stars being born in a distant nebula (photo courtesy NASA).*

Leah then finds herself in the position of Jacob's wife, but knows that Rachel is his love, again a situation they cannot resolve internally. Elizabeth is Zachariah's wife, the position of Eve, but her cousin Mary is in the position of Fallen Eve, the mother of God's son. Since Elizabeth cannot embrace Mary, then Elizabeth's daughter has no foundation to become Jesus' wife, despite providential necessity, because there is no foundation set up on the side of the Eve providence.

Christianity itself found another Elizabeth and Mary in a situation at the origin of Protestantism that could have carved out a little enclave of harmony amidst the chaos and division that permeated Christianity almost from its inception. The lack of this protection is probably the reason why Christianity could not find a Western Eve figure for the providence as we know it.

Therefore Father's mission begins without a foundation within Christianity to release an Eve figure from the Archangel's accusation as the female messiah, of equal stature, and likely with similar strength of character as Father.

Worse, the person chosen in this position now has to restore all the previous attempts that ended in failures in order to set up the foundation. Thus, there is a providential need for this woman to have to be confronted by a situation to embrace a woman who through no fault of her own is placed in the Fallen Eve position, and be victorious in accepting this and loving this person.

By the time Mother comes to the position of Eve, there is much to be restored which can only be done by her. She is faced with decisions only she can make, and she cannot even ask Father. Given the nature of the situation, he is involved, and understanding Father's actions and motivations is the deepest part of Mother's challenge. Mother finds herself in a position to decide that even if she were the only one acting in accordance with God's providential need, still she would take that path. She cannot simply obey Father. Her choices were not a committee decision, not an act of obedience, but a solitary choice made in the most difficult of circumstances. Mother God had to leave it to her. And it represented Eve finally making her decisions in accordance with her own responsibility.

Thus we come to a totally new level of manifestation of the nature of God within humanity, both men and women, the first time in history.

Now that we are entering a post-restoration, post-indemnity age, we can look back with a new perspective on the era centering on the messianic mission of True Parents, in which we all participated. Many of us are feeling a certain new inspiration and confidence in our own capacity to create a world of justice and freedom — especially women — even as the old world around us presents so many challenges. Most positive new eras come after the sometimes very challenging breakdown of the structures of the past.

We have successfully passed Foundation Day in 2013, and Unificationists can have much deeper confidence in the dawning of a bright new future than those still unaware of the meaning of the 20th century. Women are now in a different position than ever in the past, especially with respect to men. We can no longer think only or even primarily of supporting men in establishing a harmonious world, but really need to find our own path in accomplishing this goal as equal and essential participants.

The evil in this world cannot truly be overcome until humanity is healed, and this is the role of women. Healing means learning to love ourselves, and reach out with understanding to love others, irrespective of religion, race, economic status, or anything that has divided people historically.

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Painting at top: *Detail from "Paradise" (1961) by Marc Chagall, part of the collection of the Musée Marc Chagall in Nice, France.*