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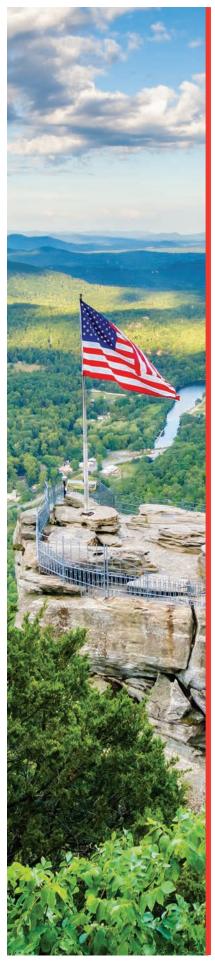
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PathPointe Magazine Volume 24, Issue 5 May 2023

The Second Eve	
Dr. T. D.	Worthington

Radio Bits Your Christian Superstations!

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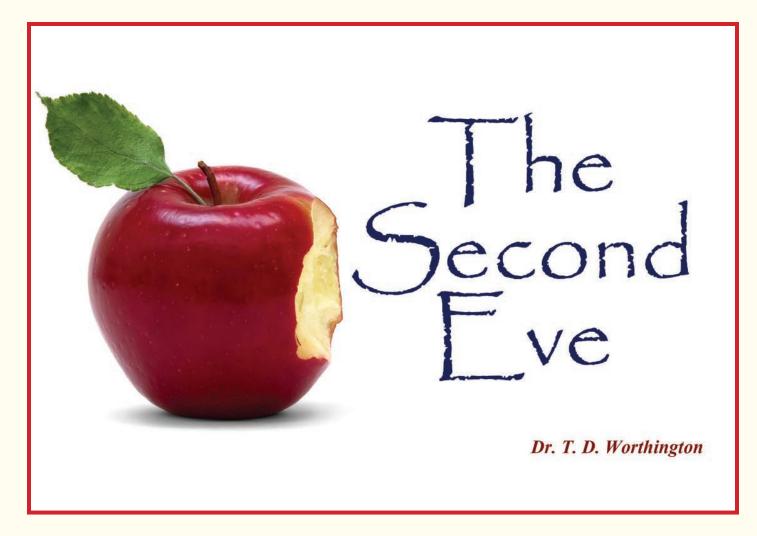
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"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam (second Adam) was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven." I Corinthians 15:45-47

"Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." Genesis 3:16

I don't think there is any sadder story in the world than the third chapter of Genesis. While the facts of the fall of man are contained in just a few verses, what we read details the origin of all human sorrow, death, disease, and heartache. Every sad thing that has ever happened started right there. In this story, we read about the brokenness in the relationship between mankind and God and how that will influence the relationship between man and woman.

Yet, even in this tragic introduction of death and hardship to the world, there is light. Labor will be hard now, but the rewards of hard work are still a blessing. Childbearing will bring much pain, but the curse does not remove from us the joy of our children. There is pain, but beauty and hope will still exist. While tension has been introduced to the relationship between man and woman, love has not been removed. Even in the curse, God gave us great hope for His undoing of it. God made us enemies of the serpent forever but not enemies of each other. Furthermore, even in that awful moment, God began his great plan to restore us to Himself.

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Genesis 3:15

What we see in the Bible is how God has undertaken a plan for the undoing of this curse. Ultimately, the curse is broken in the person of Christ Jesus. In His death, we see what we deserved; in His resurrection we see what we have been freely given. We have a final answer to the curse. But God did not undo the curse in one moment. God chose to work it out slowly and deliberately until the desired result is reached.

It has been said that when we are changed in Christ, we still have to work out what He worked in. We are charged to go about the rest of our lives being conformed into the image of Christ *(Romans 12:2).* When we are made into His people, we are made into the workers whom He is using now to build His kingdom.

When Paul instructs the church how to effectively live this Christian life, he mentions the curse as a foundational reason for some of the rules God has implemented in the church. For example, take a look at this controversial statement; a statement that even many conservative Christians have a problem with.

"But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." I Timothy 2:12–14

Wow! That is certainly a divisive and politically charged statement! Why in the world is Paul referencing the order in which we were created, or the mistake Eve made, as though these facts were relevant to anything in the modern world? What possible relevance does this have in the modern church? Trouble is, these facts must be relevant, because God has instructed Paul to mention them. Perhaps, as unpopular as they may be, they are important because our lives today are still all about undoing the curse in Christ.

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Genesis 3:1

Ladies, you cannot go back to the garden as Eve and choose not to listen to the serpent in the first place. You can't go back to that moment and be undeceived. You can't go back to that first great leadership moment of womankind and undo the damage that was done.

And men, neither can we go back either. We can't refuse to follow a deceived Eve. We can't go back and cry out to God to forgive us for eating of the forbidden fruit. We can't go back and refuse to usher death into the world. Instead, we are here, after the fact. You and I cannot undo the tragic moment recorded in Genesis. Therefore, while God is methodically undoing the damage, we are still living under some of the restrictions imposed.

The ultimate undoing of the original sin will be accomplished only in Christ, in due time. In the mean time, the literal and figurative thorns and thistles will still prick us from time to time. Yet, while it is true that we can't go back and be undeceived by the serpent in the garden, we can be undeceived by the serpent now. Ladies, and men, that is why it is so important for us to refuse to listen to any "*Hath God really said*..." conversations that the serpent starts up now; and he does it quite often.

Just think about how many conversations we have today that take us right back to the garden. How well are you handling the "*Hath God really said...*" statements in your life? How often do you make the same mistake as Eve? Let's ponder over a few:





"Hath God really said that with rare exception ladies need to follow the lead of their husband?"

"Hath God really said that ladies will constantly have to fight against the desire to rule over their husbands?"

"Hath God really said that husbands ought to lead their families and love their wives as Christ loves the church?"

"Hath God really said we must be faithful to the church?"

"Hath God really said that I can't set up a confession booth and forgive men of their sin?"

"Hath God really said that I can't modify, change around, or rewrite the Scriptures as I see fit?"

And that's just a small sample of the *"Hath God really said"* statements of the serpent that we often ignore today.

Ladies, just like your husbands, you must learn to recognize the serpent in these conversations. Although I can appreciate anyone with an honest desire to serve our Lord, yet no church enriching knowledge will ever be found in listening to anyone who has decided not to listen to God; men or women. In the church today, we have a disobedience pattern as old as Eden. Women are still being deceived into distrusting God's intention in His word, and men are choosing to listen to those women over God. This is a death path, and it has been heavily trod. But there is another path, the path of life. The life I speak of is both eternal and abundant.

How can we find this path of life? It is in the presence of God. It is in obedience, offered to the God who equips us for it. It is in trusting in His purposes, whether we understand them or not, whether we agree with them or not. The more we do that, the more we will see the great work God is accomplishing by undoing of our first failure in the garden. In us, through the Holy Spirit, He is building a new garden, a new dwelling place for His glory *(Ephesians 2:22)*.

Did Eve understand all of God's intentions in the garden? No, she didn't, and that is why she could be deceived. Do you understand perfectly why God calls you to glorify Him through acting like a Christian lady who is in submission to His word? The moment is similar, and we too are vulnerable. Let's not play the role of the first Eve to the first Adam, but instead take up the part of the second Eve to the second Adam.

That second Adam laid down His life for His deceived bride. He took our penalty, and through His death and resurrection has brought us life. Choose to remember what God hath said, and to joyfully obey it. Trust His plan. Because through this mysterious gift of gladly embracing our roles, we will be used of God for the greater furtherance of His kingdom. There is nothing little about our obedience now, just as there was nothing little about Eve's disobedience then.

What glory would there have been in the garden if Eve had not listened to the serpent? The way for us to find out is to *not* listen to Him now. I speak to mothers, ladies, young girls, I speak to the Second Eve. Do not listen to the "Hath God really saids" of the serpent. Today, I do not focus so much on your role as a wife or mother, but to your role as the Second Eve-not to vour husband-but to the Second Adam. Because what awaits you in obedience to God is always glory, a more delightful glory than you could ever imagine.

You will lose nothing in your obedience, even to the rules that you may not like, understand, or personally agree with. Don't be deceived by the serpent.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry for over forty five years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries and Christian Bible College.







It's always nice when people can lift each other up and flourish together. When we can flourish spiritually, one of the wonderful side effects is that others can flourish along with us.

For example, as God blesses you and in-turn you support worthwhile ministries, those ministries are also able to flourish. That is what hundreds of **Faith Partners** do each month here at **GoMix Christian Radio**. On the other hand, as **GoMix**



is able to flourish because of your generosity, we can also help others to flourish as they are able to listen to Christian programming 24 hours a day. It is like a circle of blessings!

For example, as we are able to get our new station on the air in Clinton in the upcoming months, hopefully that will be a special blessing to hundreds of people who cannot receive our signal at this time. We're flourishing because of you. They'll be flourishing because of us.

In both our personal relationships with God and in the cooperate life that we enjoy with each other, spiritual flourishing comes as the result of our own cooperation with the abundant graces God pours out over us. We are joined to one another in the Body of Christ, so as we each flourish, the rest of the body does too. As Christians, none of us are an island unto ourselves; every act of love or act of sin impacts not only us and our relationship with God, but also impacts every other Christian. As we each flourish, the natural result is that the whole body receives the benefit. It's a win-win for us all!

For Additional Information: GoMix Radio PO Box 1895 Goldsboro, NC 27533 call 252-747-8887 or fax 866-537-8189 www.gomixradio.org When Writing, Please Enclose Your Mailing Address And Partner Number.



Have you ever had someone promise you something only to take that promise away? What did you think? Were you disappointed and furious at their lack of integrity? To you, at least at that moment, integrity mattered.

Here is another example. You over-hear someone talking to another person about going to church and following Christ. When you listen to them, they sound like a great Christian. However, as you take note of their actions, you notice they rarely practice what they preach. What do you say to yourself? You probably say they have no integrity. To you, integrity matters in someone who talks about being a good Christian.

As a spouse, as a parent, as a family, integrity matters. Integrity matters. Who you are matters to those around you, and it matters to God. When God was deciding who the next King of Israel would be, this is what he told the prophet Samuel.

"And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart." I Samuel 16:6-7

What was God saying? Don't be fooled with image. What really matters is the heart, a person's thoughts and intentions. One of the challenges we all have in following Christ is maintaining integrity.

We have just completed our **Spring Share-A-Thon** here at *GoMix Christian Radio*. Hundreds of **Faith Partners** responded to help us continue our work. We realize that these generous friends are trusting in the Lord, but they are also trusting in us. Please know that it is always our intention to consistently maintain our 25-year history of integrity. We must be good stewards over every penny that is entrusted into our care. It is of paramount importance for us to continue to earn your trust.

Thank you for your trust!

<section-header>

Misery is having the flu visit your home. The flu, COVID, or any other sickness is a visitor that wears out its welcome. About the time one person gets well, another person gets sick. You live in dread that the "bug" will start over again once everyone gets well. I am not too big of a baby about most things, but I don't like to get sick. I always tell the Lord I don't have time to be sick. Regardless, one of the best things about being sick is getting well. I have a new appreciation of sleeping at night and getting up in the morning feeling well.

As weird as it may sound, when I get sick, I think of my mom. No matter how old I get, pleasant thoughts of Mom spoiling me when I was sick fill my mind. Everyone has his favorite soup that his mom made when he was

sick. At my house, our favorite soup is potato soup. Do you know why? My mom comforted me with potato soup when I was young, and I have continued the tradition. I still love potato soup. It is especially good when you have a cold or when it is a damp, dreary day.

What about the cool cloths on your forehead when you had a fever? That felt so good. Mom would get up at all hours of the night to make sure my fever had not gone up, even though she was sick herself. Mom always set the clock to make sure she didn't miss the next dose of Tylenol. No matter what the sickness, Mom seemed to make it better, even when it was a sickness of the heart.

Do you remember when you had your first heartbreak? The first time

someone dumped you was horrible. Who wiped away your tears? Mom did of course. She's the one who told you it would be better with time, while you insisted that you would never love anyone else. She was right, as usual. In time, you fell for someone else with the same enthusiasm as before. Mom made an occupation of fixing things that were broken.

When I was young, I thought I had the greatest mom in the world. Mom's job got much harder when I became a teenager. I just knew that my mom was trying to keep me tied to the house and restrict my freedoms. I told myself, "When I become a parent, I am not going to treat my kids this way."

Well, guess what? After I was married and had my own family, I

tried desperately to remember all of the things my mom did for me when I was a child, as well as the rules she had for me as a teenager. Some of the rules my parents had are different than ours were of course, but the way I cared for my children when they were sick was very similar to when my mom cared for me. She became so much smarter the older I got. I began to realize how hard it was to be the mother of a teenager. So much thought and prayer had to go into every decision. I thought that was going to be the most difficult part of motherhood.

But I was wrong. I think the hardest part of motherhood is letting go. When your children get married and you are not able to sit by their beds and talk things through anymore, you wonder how they will get along without you. When you are not able to fix the hurts or ground them when they are out of line, it is scary. Most of all, you know their spouses don't love them as much as you do. You have hopes that as they grow together, their spouses will one day love them as much or more than you do. When you have grandchildren, you know you must keep your mouth shut. If you want your children to listen to you, it is

best to save your comments for the really important matters. I realize if I give input too often, nothing I say will be heard. My mom and I did not always see eye to eye in the way I was raising my family, but I appreciate her concerns so much more now that I have grandchildren of my own.

As I look back over my life, motherhood has a whole new meaning. When I was young, I thought I had the greatest mom in the world. When I was a teenager, I thought I could have done so much better. When I became a mom, my admiration for her grew tremendously. When I became a grandmother, my respect for her blossomed, and now that she is in Heaven, I know she was the mom I needed.

I try to take care of my family in every way possible. I can only hope that I have been a great comfort to them, and when they look back on their lives, they will remember me and say with a smile, she was the mom I needed.

"Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her



Mrs. Worthington has five children and twelve grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.

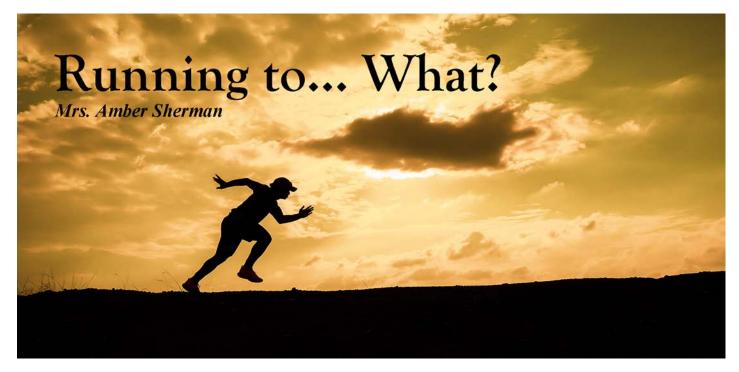


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tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised." Proverbs 31:25-30



What do you find yourself running to? By that I mean what do you do to relax or enjoy yourself? What do you do to "get away" when things get tough, or you need a little "help me feel good" after such a tough encounter with a person or event? Some people eat... hence the name comfort food. Some people like to go and do – being still drives them crazy. Others like to recline with a book and get away from the craze. What about the guy who likes to golf, build something, fish, or hunt? Is that your "happy place?" Or what about the gals – is your sweet retreat to go shopping, get a pedicure or manicure, go on a walk, or simply find a nice quiet place to relax?

Most of us have a place, event, or behavior pattern that is our way to "get away from it all." We find we need to escape after a tough day at work, our kid has pulled our last hair out, or the pressures of life simply have us feeling a need to "chill out." Our actions at this point determine what our escape route is.

It startled me when I realized that for many of us, myself included, our "relax" patterns were actually the same thing we turn to when needing to get away, or shall I say run away, from problems. I found personally that sometimes I did not want to face and fight what needed to be done, so I "gave up" and went to "relax" to get away.

When I realized the pattern, I was shocked. Yes, I liked to relax as much as the next person, but upon

close examination, I saw I was running away from my problems rather than facing them head on with God.

Sometimes we run from sorrow. Sometimes we run from frustration. Perhaps we run from confrontation or conflict. Maybe it is a spouse. Maybe it is a boss. Or perhaps we are running from reality. Have you ever run from your trials, choosing instead to do that which relaxes you?

Sometimes I think we feel God has let us down. We ask ourselves why we should turn to Him with these repeated troubles that do not seem to be going anywhere, no matter how hard we try.

Or perhaps we run to fleshly pursuits rather than to God because we are angry with Him over what He has allowed in our lives. I experienced a grief over the last few months which I could not share with others. At first I turned to God. Later, as He seemed to be so silent, I became down and discouraged and sought out (or ran to) what I knew to be enjoyable and comforting to me. It was not until I gave in to this self-indulgence for several weeks that I realized I was receiving very little comfort and even less fulfillment of purpose. One morning I woke up and cried out immediately to God in final surrender, "God, my life is so meaningless like this! I cannot take it anymore. I must have You. I need You more than anything. Please forgive me for looking to another source for comfort during these troubles instead of to You."

How many times do we give up on prayer and on God, turning instead to our flesh's desires? It was much easier for me to run away from my grief. On many other occasions, it has been easier to give up in a huff, turning away from that which was frustrating me so greatly. How much better off would I have been to decide to go to my God over what was grieving or frustrating me? What if instead of running away or temporarily giving up, I had determinedly bowed my knees and taken it to my Father at the very moment it was the hardest to bear?

How many spouses get irked or frustrated with each other and just walk away? They have to get away from the troublesome spouse or circumstance. Sometimes we swallow ourselves up in self-pity. In reality, when we run to our "happy place," it is usually because something has bothered us, so we seek to pacify ourselves. I believe the above words of "us, self, and selves" are key descriptions here.

Can a happy place truly be good when it is centered upon ourselves and not upon the God which we serve? For those who do not trust God, they only have that "happy place." It is sad that their alcohol, drugs, parties, money, or other means of pleasure will never satisfy them, yet they continue searching aside from Christ. What about Christians who seek worldly things to satisfy and comfort them? They will never know the depths of the fountain of purpose that God has for those who serve Him with their whole being.

I was trying to get away and not face my grief. I was trying to get away and not face that source of ever continuing frustration. I was...running away, repeatedly. I finally kneeled to my God and told him my "happy place" was not enough...not without Him, it wasn't.

I remembered I must run *to Him*, keeping my eyes upon Him. Without Him my life was so, so empty. Once you have tasted and seen that the Lord is good, life is so miserable any time you turn anywhere but to Him.

Where, or what, is your sweet retreat or happy place? Do you use it to run away, instead of to God? He really does care. He really does answer prayer. He really, truly, constantly is looking to see who He can show



Himself mighty through. To those who have claimed Him as Savior, He has promised to never leave you nor forsake you (Hebrews 13:5). Why not turn to the One Who can truly help and comfort?

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10



Mrs. Amber Sherman is the mother of four and serves as a teacher at Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro, N.C.

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And Finally...



My Mom...

To my mother, the only way to raise a big family was to turn it over to God. No matter when we went to her, she always pointed us to God. She was a Sunday School teacher for many years. When she passed, several people talked about the good example she lived with her life. People often came to my mother for prayer and guidance. Many times, they came back with thanks. When my family gets together now, we always talk about all the answers we have had to her prayers and the effects they have had on our lives. We don't remember ever hearing her raise her voice. I can still see her kneeling on her knees in prayer and I thank God for giving her to me as my mom. **S. W.**

Memories of my mother are always with me. She was so comforting in all she did. Never finding faults, she only saw good in everyone. She loved all God's creatures. She also loved the wildflowers that bloomed by the road. She never missed an opportunity to say "thank you" to the Lord and she saw His handiwork in each person she passed. Her books were the way she traveled to distant lands and far away places. Her dishes were always mismatched and bought at thrift stores, but each had the imprints of wildflowers. She prayed over big things and small things. She planted a garden in my own heart sewn with love and endearment for all the good life brings. Oh, how I miss and love her and how my heart yearns

to see her. Praise God, I will one day! G.A.

I remember my Mama, Annie, as a wonderful cook, housekeeper, and tenderhearted person. She died in 1957 when I was just 11 years old. I can see her in my mind's eye sitting in her rocking chair crocheting dollies for family and friends. I now have some of them mounted. I was lost without her for years. Daddy remarried the most compassionate person I have ever known. When my new mom mentioned a sick friend, she cried. I wondered why. Now I know. She loved deeply. I learned that love from her. I lost her in 1986. Most of us have one mama, I had two. They had so much to do with the wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother I am today. **M. B.**

And Finally

will be retiring after the June 2023 issue of PathPointe Magazine.
Thank you to everyone that has contributed over the years by sending in your funny, inspirational, and heartfelt memories and thoughts.

Be sure to check out this page in the upcoming months for something new and improved headed your way!



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