

Birthday Presents

by Bryan Matthew Dockens

Adam

Adam received a wife on his birthday. On the sixth day, *“God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...’ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them”* (Genesis 1:26-27). Although they were both brought into existence the same day, *“Adam was formed first, then Eve”* (1 Timothy 2:13). She was made to satisfy his need (1 Corinthians 11:9), as *“the Lord God said, ‘It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him’”* (Genesis 2:18). Then, *“the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man”* (Genesis 2:21-22). The day Adam’s life began he received from God Himself the gift of marriage. *“He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord”* (Proverbs 18:22).

Eve

Eve was given a name on her birthday. She is most well known as “Eve,” but that was not her first name. *“Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living”* (Genesis 3:20), but before that she was known only as “Woman.” When the Lord presented her to the man on the day both were created, *“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’”* (Genesis 2:23). Some extreme feminists have tried to alter the spelling of “woman” to “womyn,” “womon,” or “womin” in order to distance the feminine gender from the masculine, but it’s pointless. No matter how it is spelt, the word “woman” exists *“because she was taken out of man.”* The word “woman” is a derivative of the word “man” because Woman herself was derived from Man. That’s how God made her. *“Man is not from woman, but woman from man”* (1 Corinthians 11:8).

Herod

Herod got a provocative dance from his step-daughter on his birthday. *“Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. And when Herodias’ daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, ‘Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you.’ He also swore to her, ‘Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom.’ So she went out and said to her mother, ‘What shall I ask?’ And she said, ‘The head of John the Baptist!’ Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, ‘I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.’ And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother”* (Mark 6:25-28). Having been aroused by the seductive movements of his niece/step-daughter, Herod uttered a rash vow, which his pride compelled him to fulfill. Her lewd behavior was not acceptable (Romans 13:13), and neither was his lust (Matthew 5:22). He ought to have controlled his tongue (Ecclesiastes 5:2), and kept his pride in check (Proverbs 29:23). John was killed because Herod lacked self control in all these areas.

Jesus

Jesus received gold, frankincense, and myrrh to celebrate his birthday. When *“wise men from the East”* (Matthew 2:1) *“had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother,*

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