



**“DID GOD JUST SEND FAMILIES BACK HOME?”**

***Mrs. Hickman shares God’s Hand in Coronavirus***

*Greetings women of God:*

*I'm excited to share with you via ZOOM how I see the hand of God in the Coronavirus Pandemic that's moving all over the world! Thank you for joining me and I invite you to share your feeling and thoughts about what you see God doing as well.*

*Mrs. "H"*

***Did God Just Send Families Back Home!?***  
***LOL!!!***

It's no secret that today's families are a long way from home. And as a result things are a mess! You know things are a mess when schools close and parents ask what are they going to do with their own children? You know it's a mess when the role of the parent is out-sourced to team coaches, daycares, before-school-care, after-school-care, the "Y", recreation centers, TV/Cell phone sitters, and summer camps.

So, I ask, how did we get from that first home God created in the Garden of Eden to this? And ***just how far from home are we?*** Some wives feel we're on "lock-down" if we have to stay at home all day? Others say we're so far from home that we eat at restaurant tables more than our own kitchen tables. I can't tell you how many wives I've heard say things like: ***"I'm not cut out for that housewife stuff, that's not me!"*** or ***"I can't deal with those children all day. I've got to work!"***

**This is a good place to plug my book! Anybody Home? *"In Search of the Titus Woman"***

**See pages 123 - 125 (Summary)**

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**Do you recall the television commercial that asked the question; *"What's in your wallet?"***

Well, let's imagine the Lord asking us a similar question with a slight twist: *“What's in your home?”* How would you answer that question? The good news is, when we answer that question, you will automatically answer our initial question: *“Just how far from home are we?”*

What if God came down in the cool of the day and visited us like he visited Adam and Eve that beautiful cool evening; would he say the home he gave us was good and very good? Would he say we're doing a great job of dressing and keeping the home? Dressing and keeping as in cosmetically, orderly, spiritually, economically, and morally. That's what he meant when he said, be fruitful, multiply, replenish, cultivate, and keep the Garden. God was very pleased with how Adam and Eve took care of the Garden, right up until they decided to do things their way. Wives, in particular, are we dressing and keeping the home anymore?

Would our answer finally reveal what's in our home or better yet what's **not** in our home? Could it be that home just never seemed that important to us? After all, there are many more important matters in life that require our attention than home. So many people are depending on us to keep things going at work, at church, and at the children's school until the things at home never seemed like a priority. Not to mention pursuing the things that we really enjoy doing and the career we've always wanted? Why would we forsake all of these things to be at home?

Some wives might wonder what in the world was God up to when he created the man, the garden, and the woman. What does that have to do with me? *Ummm . . .*, well, wonder no more. He actually walked us through it. And being the great “producer” and “screen writer” that He is, He recorded it so we could see it over and over again!

With all of that logic and human wisdom on the tip of our tongues, let's take a few minutes and review what the first home looked like. Amen? Amen.

### **Genesis 2 KJV**

<sup>15</sup>And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

<sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

<sup>17</sup>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

<sup>18</sup>And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him.

<sup>19</sup>And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

<sup>20</sup>And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him.

So that's the Word, now let's extrapolate. What do we see?

The first thing we see in the home before the wife shows up is a single man named Adam: A wonderful godly man that was created in the image of God. I could stop right here and talk about what that image looked like, but I will resist and keep this “post” moving. Obviously, he lived in a very beautiful home east of Eden like we've never seen since. The trees were gorgeous and breath-taking. The scripture refers to it as a Garden, thus, **“The Garden of Eden”**. Some of the trees were loaded with fruit, some were just beautiful to gaze upon, and one in particular was called the tree for life. He had it all! Now, Eden had a river running out from it that eventually split and became four rivers and those four rivers kept His garden watered. You might say these were rivers with a purpose. They each defined and designed Adam's surroundings into four distinct areas: the first river, Pison surrounded Havilah. Havilah was full of gold, bdellium, and the onyx stone; *(You might say that the land was very rich and so was Adam!)* The second river, Gihon surrounded **Ethiopia**; the third, **Hiddekel** went towards the east of **Assyria**; and the fourth river was **Euphrates**, which is said to be the longest and most important river in the western Asia. Did you know that these rivers had their head in Eden. That sounds like a wonderful Bible Study or book; We could call it the rivers of Eden.

The next thing we see in this home is that Adam the owner had a responsibility and a job: To dress and keep the garden. God is a God of order and heaven and earth proclaims his excellence. The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein. Keeping God's property is not an option for man. Adam had the job of keeping what God created and

making sure it indeed looked like God created it. God even waited until he created the man before he allowed it to rain so that Adam would be there to keep it the way God intended.

The next thing we see before his wife showed up, God gave Adam rules for his home. The first of many commandments sometimes called “do’s” and “don’ts”. He had clear instructions from the one and only God who created him and put him in that beautiful Garden. The rules were to eat and enjoy all the trees including the tree of life but not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Next we see something that wasn’t so good about the home that Adam lived in. The Bible said that it was not good that **“the man”** including Adam should be alone. Be careful right here, God didn’t say Adam was lonely; He said alone. The Word “alone” here does not mean Adam was by himself as in without other creatures around him. We know he had animals and even fellowship with God so he could not have been lonely. It specifically means he was all one, without another like himself. God’s design was for the husband to have a suitable helper (*also called a help-meet*). OUCH!, I know. Today’s culture doesn’t like to hear that. But we’re looking directly at the Word of God, right?

We see God’s Omniscience revealed as he announces what Adam needed before Adam himself recognized what he needed. Hence, he gave Adam an assignment that would stimulate his desire for a mate that up to now he didn’t know he needed. The assignment for Adam was to name every living creature that God had created. As a result, not only did it stimulate his desire for a mate, it also revealed Adam’s authority over every living creature, his intelligence to carry out the assignment, his submissive and obedient spirit to do exactly what God told him to do, and finally, his understanding that he was the only creature without a mate.

The last thing we see is the God who knew what Adam needed was the God who would provide what he needed. He knew exactly who he wanted to make for Adam and he knew how he wanted to make her. He didn’t need to ask Adam how she should look. He knew! God gives us better than what we deserve. When we choose, we mess things up. Do you see the “. . . *exceedingly, abundantly more than what we can ask*”- kind of God coming through? We see the

builder of the home revealing His omniscience. When God finished making her, we see Him bringing his last created being to Adam to name. Don't miss this. God knew Adam would reveal his understanding of the wife's joint yet distinct role and responsibility with him when he named her "woman". And Adam even broke down the reason behind the name woman in his own words. He said: ***"because she is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh!"***

As I close out our peep into the first home, I sense something about Adam's and Eve's relationship with God. These passages doesn't say this, but based on other scriptures, I lean towards the idea that God coming down to spend time with Adam and Eve was not unusual. I believe they enjoyed a sweet and glorious fellowship with God up close and personal. Whether it was a spiritual presence in their home or a pre-incarnate visit as an angel, I don't know. But I do believe however, that He was present with them and the fellowship was special. I believe Adam and Eve expected Him and they welcomed him into the home he made for them. I believe they could look forward to Him company because they knew he would find everything in order. Would it be okay to say they worshiped the ground He walked on? We see throughout the Old Testament how it pleased God to walk with our forefathers. Many places we see the words: "he walked with . . ." So, we will use our imagination to help us envision what that must have looked like. Each time, He found that the garden and the home was being dressed, kept, and enjoyed. There's no doubt Adam and Eve were blessed to have a home that was beautiful, organized, and orderly.

This was life as it was meant to be until that awful day another visitor came to their home before God arrived. Yep, Satan himself! He made his way into their home, started a conversation with the wife, as Adam would say, that God gave him. Of course while her silent husband stood right there listening in. As a result, Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying the rules and getting out of order. They ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and like Humpty Dumpty, they had a great fall. But also as one comedian jokingly said he heard Humpty Dumpty say, "I was pushed", so Adam and Eve blamed another. Unfortunately, both were put out of their beautiful home and the rest is history.

Skipping a few details of their acts of disobedience, we see Adam and Eve living with their consequences and moving on. They continued to be fruitful, multiply, replenish the earth and

keep their new home. It wasn't like the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were a long ways from their first home. But, the good news is, they will return home one day never to be put out again!

Now back to Coronavirus families,

### ***Did God Just Send Us Back Home? LOL***

When you look into your home, do you see a beautiful home that is pleasant to the eyes?

#### ***Would God say . . .***

You are acting like the helper He created just for your husband? You are keeping the home beautiful? (Tim. 5:14☺) You are enjoying the home? You have a working man that is taking care of the family and doing the things that God has called him to do because you take good care of him, the children, and the house? (I Tim. 5:14☺☺) You embrace the preceding question as your priorities? You are the wife that knows when to speak and when not to speak? You are doing a great job at helping your husband raise your children in the fear and admonition of the Lord? And finally, that your home models the first home where rules, order, and the sweet and glorious fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ is a way of life. Well if not, let's get started!

#### ***I Think It's Awesome That God Sent Us Back Home To Where It All Started!***

In computer language its called, wait for it . . .  "Refresh"

Anybody Home, "*In search of the Titus Woman*"

Read page 111, Chapter 7 - DECISIONS "*Where Do I Go From Here*"

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