

‘Adam shows wild exultation, defiance, insolence, and victory when he gives his wife, over whom this curse has been proclaimed, the name ‘mother of all living’. It is as if – like Prometheus – he is boasting about robbery that he has committed against his Creator –as though he were defiantly severing himself from the Creator with his booty his wife, to whom he is bound in a new way by the decree of the curse which will burden both of them from this point on. The fallen Eve is the ancient mother of man from whom all pleasure and pain have their beginning, she is the first of the knowing, and all her children the knowing. those who are tormented by pleasure and pain look back upon her with thanks and reproaches.’ (Bonhoeffer, 89)

‘What prompted the man to call his wife “life” especially at this juncture of the story? It comes immediately after the curses announcing man’s mortality (v19), the pains of childbirth (v16), and the struggle of the woman’s seed with the snake (v15). Any of these curses could furnish the cue for the naming of the woman “eve”, but whether it represents an act of faith on the man’s part... is more doubtful’ (Wenham, 84)

‘Adam’s naming of Eve is the beginning of hope. Adam shows his restoration to God by believing the promise that the faithful woman will bear offspring that will defeat Satan’ (Waltke, 95)

‘After the curses, Adam graces his wife with the name Eve (=living) which has hope for the future she is to be “the mother of all living”’ (Dumbrell, 48)

‘So the two seeds – the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent – stand for two communities in opposition throughout history...headed by two distinct principals...the history-long conflict dividing humanity will finally have two principals: the seed of the woman, Jesus, is pitted against Satan. So the cross is the beginning of the end and the second coming of Jesus is the conclusion of the victory.’ (Dumbrell, 46)

: ‘the rest of us wrinkly types have lived with the sacred word of gender equality...for decades, imbuing our families and peer group with its simple but profound truth: *Men and women should and can do everything the other can –except for giving birth and reading on the toilet for hours.*’ (italics inserted) ‘...Most men I know define (feminism) as simply another word for equality.’ (Sam De Brito, SMH)

‘Eve, the fallen, wise mother of man – this is the man – this is the first beginning. Mary, the innocent, unknowing mother of God – this is the second beginning.’ (Bonhoeffer, 90)

‘As Eve was seduced by the word of an angel and so fled from God after disobeying his word, Mary in her turn was given the good news by the word of an angel and bore God in obedience to his word. As Eve was seduced into disobedience to God, so Mary was persuaded into obedience to God; thus the virgin Mary became the advocate of the virgin Eve.’ (Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*).