



Deconstructing Adam and Eve (Removing the Fig Leaf)

Rafael Ferran

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From the FOREWORD.

Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden is the Biblical story of Mankind's oldest couple. According to Church doctrine, they are recognized as the progenitors of the human species. Beginning several centuries ago, a proposed narrative inspired artists in their painted pictures and molded sculptures.

My book analyses more than a dozen artists' interpretations. In the past, painters and sculptors were chosen by Papal patronage for their proficiency at depicting religious subject matter, whether their muse came from the Bible or other works of art. But, from a secular viewpoint, in our modern time artists were free to explore more dimensions to this biblical parable. The reader will notice that the artistic interpretation of this story varies over the centuries but the central personalities remain. Included in this work we will also see some scandalous characters such as Lucifer who was guilty of pride, envy, and prejudice. Lucifer may be pinpointed as the villain who ruined God's most prominent creations, Adam and Eve.

Another name for the scoundrel is Satan, who engineered their downfall by catering to their most lascivious vice: human vanity. Religious doctrine views vanity as a manifestation of self-worship. Compare one-self to the significance of God: ones image becomes differentiated and in time, separated from the Divine elegance. Christian teachings define vanity as having too much pride in oneself and henceforth why pride is described as one of the seven deadly sins.

Adam and Eve's pride came from their desire to be more god-like by ingesting the Forbidden Fruit from the *Tree of Knowledge*. Their conspiracy with Satan (Lucifer) initiated "Original Sin", a curse that all men would inherit until the birth and baptism of the Holy Savior, Jesus Christ.

The transgression of Satan confirmed his metamorphosis into the Devil. Rebellion to God results from his jealousy of man. Lucifer loathed God's decree that the majority of the heavenly angels ought to love the picture of God in the recently made Adam.

Deconstructing Adam and Eve The Fall of Man narrative underlies the rationale for the existence of the Church because only through the baptism ritual can man be free of Original Sin and gain entrance to Heaven as interpreted in the Christian faith. This is the theme of the book you are about to read.

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