

Bereisheet-Genesis Chapter Two

The snake was the most *arum* (naked, clever, prudent) of all the wild animals that God made. He said to the woman, “Did God also say, don’t eat from any tree in the Garden?” The woman said to the snake, “We may eat the fruit of the garden trees. About the fruit of the trees in the middle of the garden, God said, don’t eat of it, and don’t touch it, lest you die.”

The snake said to the woman, “Surely you won’t die! For God knows that on the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowers of good and bad.”

The woman saw that the tree is good for eating, desirable to the eyes, and delightful for knowing. She took from its fruit and ate. She gave some to her husband [who was] with her and he ate.

The eyes of both of them were opened. They knew that they were *eirumim* (naked, clever, prudent). They sewed fig leaves and made themselves belts.

They heard the sound of YHWH God walking in the garden in the breezy time of day. The human and his wife hid from the presence of YHWH God among the tree[s] of the garden.

YHWH God called to the human, and said to him, “Where are you?” He said, “I heard your sound in the garden, and I was afraid because I am *eirum* (naked, clever, prudent), so I hid.

He said, “Who told you that you are *eirum* (naked, clever, prudent)? Did you eat from the tree I instructed you not to eat from?” The human said, “The woman you gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”

YHWH God said to the woman, “What’s this you did?” The woman said, “The snake put me up [to it], and I ate.”

God said to the snake, “Because you did this, you are more cursed than all the domestic animals and all the wild animals. You’ll walk on your belly, and you’ll eat *afar* (dust) all the days of your life.” I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers. He will strike at your head, and you will strike at his heel.”

To the woman, He said, “I will greatly increase your *etzev* (sorrow, pain, toil). And your pregnancy—you’ll birth children in *etsev* (sorrow, pain, toil). Your desire will be for your husband and he *yimshol* (rule, teach) you.

To the human He said, “Because you listened to the voice of your woman, and you ate from the tree about which I instructed you saying ‘don’t eat from it,’ the ground is cursed because of you. With *eetsavon* (sorrow, pain, toil) you will eat it all the days of your life. Thorns and thistles will sprout for you, and you’ll eat field grass. With the sweat of your brow you’ll eat bread until you return to the earth because you were taken from her. For you are *afar* (dust) and to *afar* (dust) you will return.

The human called the name of his wife *Chava* (snake) because she was the mother of all *chai* (all that lives).