

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

The Lord God said: “It is not good for the earth creature to be alone. I will make a suitable partner. So the Lord God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and God brought them to the earth creature to see what name they would receive; whatever the earth creature called each of them would be its name. The earth creature gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner.

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the earth creature, and took out one of the ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that had been taken from the earth creature. When God brought her to the man, the man said;

“This one, at last, is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
This one shall be called ‘woman,’
because from ‘man’ this one has been taken.”

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.

The Word of the Lord.