

SYMBOLIC MEANING OF THE NAME EVE

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In Genesis 3:20 and Moses 4:26, Adam “called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.” This is a play on words in Hebrew. Eve in Hebrew is *Havvah*, while *life* is *hay* and *hayyim*. Eve’s name derived from the Hebrew word for *life*, highlighting Eve’s role as the mother of all living. Moses 4:26 added additional nuance to this point: “Or thus have I, the Lord God, called the first of all women, which are many.” In the same way that Moses 1:34 suggests that the symbolic meaning of the name Adam applies to humanity, Moses 4:26 suggests that the symbolic meaning of the name Eve as “mother of all living” applies to all women.

Related verses

Genesis 3:20

Moses 4:26

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