

The Fall (Part 2)
Genesis 3:1-7
September 25, 2016

Genesis 3:1-7 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' " 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

I. The Trick (1-3)

- The setting
 - The Garden of Eden
 - Perfect in every way—no sin, death, or decay
- Satan—as a snake—meets with Eve
 - Adam is not with Eve
 - God is not with her either
 - He knows that Satan and Eve are interacting with each other
- Satan only wants to destroy God and His creation

1 Peter 5:8 *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

- He comes up with a plan to make man fall
- His weapon is deception
- The question
 - First question recorded in the Bible
 - Question to put doubt into the person
 - Did God really say this?
 - Satan is acting surprised that God really said something
 - The question is actually based on one word
 - “Not”
 - What Satan is doing is to deceive Eve into doubting God’s goodness
 - He’s pointing to Eve God’s restrictions
- Eve’s response
 - Eve has never dealt with Satan before
 - However, Eve has the perfect intelligence as Adam
 - She is not stupid...just innocent of evil
 - Even then, this does not excuse her actions because even though she did not know evil, she knew God personally and intimately
 - Interesting response from Eve to Satan
 - She talks to him as if she did not have any fear
 - She responds to Satan’s lies by telling him what God says
 - We may eat from the trees in the garden
 - That was all Adam and Eve knew—God’s goodness

- They fellowshiped with God and received only His goodness
- “But”
 - She is agreeing with Satan about God’s restriction
 - This is the first step to sin, the Fall of man
- She adds another part to God’s command that He did not say
 - She adds that they were not to touch the fruit
 - God made no such restriction

Genesis 2:16-17 *And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."*

- Seeds of sin is planted at this point

II. The Lie (4-5)

- Satan does not start off with a lie, but an “innocent” question
- Once Eve is interested, he goes in for the kill
- He lies completely to Eve
 - This is his nature—a father of lies

John 8:44 *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

- The lies
 - You will certainly not die
 - God said, “you will die” if they eat of the fruit of the tree
 - Satan is contradicting God
 - God knows
 - He wants to keep all that secret to Himself (This is what Satan is implying)
 - Your eyes will be opened
 - ½ truth because their eyes did indeed open—to sin
 - But they became blinded and darkened spiritually
 - You will be like God
 - The ultimate lie
 - He tells Eve that if she ate the fruit, she would become like God Himself—be His equal
 - This is the desire that had Satan and the 1/3 of the angels kicked out of heaven
- The devil’s lies involve three elements of a person

1 John 2:16 *For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—Is not of the Father but is of the world.*

- Lust of the flesh
- Lust of the eyes
- Pride of life
- Same temptation that Satan uses with Jesus

Luke 4:1-12 *Jesus full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, 2 where for forty days He was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them He was hungry. 3 The devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." 5 The devil led Him up to a high place and showed Him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And he said to Him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7 So if You worship me, it will all be Yours." 9 The devil led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If You are the Son of God," he said, "throw Yourself down from here. 10 For it is written: "He will command His angels concerning You to guard You carefully; 11 they will lift You up in their hands, so that You will not strike your foot against a stone."*

- Lust of the flesh
 - Rock into bread
 - Why? Jesus was hungry after 40 days of not eating anything
- Lust of the eyes
 - Kingdom of the world as far as the eyes can see
 - All that would be given to Him
- Pride of life
 - Jump off and be saved by angels
 - Why? So that people will know that He is the Son of God

III. The Fall (6-7)

- Eve does not respond to Satan
 - She does not rebuke him for his lies or tell him the goodness of God
 - Lord Jesus Christ responded to Satan's temptation with Scripture

4 *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'"*

8 *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.'"*

12 *Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"*

- Jesus lived to do God's will
- Doubt has now become desire

James 1:14-15 *but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, gives birth to death.*

- Temptation is fully developed into desire
- Eve wants what Satan lies about
 - She desired knowledge
 - She wanted to be like God
- The fruit
 - Looks beautiful and looks delicious
 - Looks to make one wise
 - This fruit does not have anything in it to make Eve open her eyes
 - It was her desire that led to sin
 - In fact her fall happened before she ate the fruit
 - It was when she decided that she did not want to trust God in what He said

- She ate it
 - Breaking God's command with an act (which started in her heart)
 - Evil act
- Where was Adam?
 - He was not with Eve when Satan tempted her
 - We do not know how much time has passed between Satan's temptation and Eve eating the fruit
 - He was not with Eve when Satan tempted her, but he was with Eve when she ate it
 - She gives him the fruit and he ate it
- Mankind falls into sin
 - Who is ultimately responsible for the sin of all men, women, and children?
 - Adam
 - Eve is also responsible
 - They both received punishment for their sins
 - But Adam gets the blame for the original sin
 - Why?
 - Woman was tempted (or deceived)

2 Corinthians 11:3 *But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.*

- Adam wasn't deceived

1 Timothy 2:14 *And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.*

- He was willfully disobedient
- Paul says that Adam is the head of all humanity
- It is through him that all man sinned

Romans 5:12 *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-*

Romans 5:15 *But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!*

- However, Paul also says that Jesus is the Last Adam
- It is through Christ alone that we receive righteousness and mercy