

LESSON # 2

SIN SEPARATES MAN FROM GOD

Genesis 2:15-17 Introduction:

God made everything good for man; even the "restriction" of verse 2:17 was for man's good. (Psalms 84:11 No good thing will be withhold from them that walk uprightly.) The proportion of freedom to restriction was undoubtedly great—say, of 15,000 trees in the garden, only one was forbidden.

God, from the very first, made His will known to man in terms man could understand; Adam and Eve both knew God's law; they did understand.

Genesis 3:1 Serpent=dragon=evil=devil

"subtil" = under weaving, as in a tapestry. II Corinthians 11:3 "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ Jesus."

"Yea, hath God said" – raises a doubt in Eve's mind—first step toward sin. Peter never doubted so long as he kept his eyes on Christ; but when he looked around, down he went. Matthew 14:30

Verse 2: Made her first mistake—stopping to give the devil time.

Verse 3: So Eve starts to talk—to have communion with—to share with THE DEVIL. As I Corinthians 15:33 says . . .evil companions corrupt good morals. She knew the commandment—because she repeated it—yet she stopped to consider the devil's proposal and was under his influence.

Verse 4: Serpent said "Ye shall not surely die") Not much difference, but enough to make them God said, "Ye shall die") opposites.

Verse 5: God knows when you eat (1) your eyes will be opened—true (verse 7) but told her nothing of the consequences and how they would affect her; and (2) be as gods, knowing good and evil—true. But all "gods" are a mixture of good and evil, light and darkness, yea and nay. I John 5 & II Corinthians 1:17-20 "Knowing"= experiencing, being intimate with—so can no longer be God's. I John 1:6—If we say we have fellowship with Him and walk in darkness, we lie and do not the truth. II John 9—Abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God.

Verse 6: When the woman saw . . .something changed her vision; she was now looking at the tree through the eyes of the devil—he'd slipped rose-colored glasses on her while she spent time with him.

I John 2:16 "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh (it was good for food), the lust of the eyes (pleasant to the eyes), and the pride of life (desired to make one wise), is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world passeth away and the lust thereof; but he that doeth will of God abideth forever."

"gave also unto her husband"—sin loves company (Proverbs 16:29 A violent man enticeth his neighbor, and leadeth him into the way which is not good.)

"he did eat:—Adam loved Eve more than he did God. He was not deceived (I Timothy 2:14); HE SINNED WILFULLY—HE KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING. Perhaps he could remember being alone; if Eve had already sinned, she would be dying and he would be alone again. Rather than face loneliness again, he ate thinking he would die with her. Some men who would obey Christ if they followed the prompting of their heart, refuse to do so because their wife won't—so they both go to hell because one refuses. FOOLISH; CHRISTIANITY IS AN INDIVIDUAL MATTER—YOU CAN SERVE GOD ALONE REGARDLESS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

Verse 7: eyes were opened—just as devil said—but were they happy with what they saw?

Genesis 2:25 they were naked and were not ashamed. Genesis 3:7 naked and ashamed and tried to hide it. IT WOULD NOT BE WRONG TO GO NAKED TODAY IF WE HAD NOT EXPERIENCED

EVIL. BUT, INASMUCH AS WE HAVE ALL EXPERIENCED EVIL, GOD WANTS US TO DRESS MODESTLY. I Timothy 1:9, Exodus 20:26, Deuteronomy 13:24

Hebrews 4:13 “Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His (God’s) sight; but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” **DOES NO GOOD FOR US TO TRY TO COVER OUR SHAME—NOR TO DENY OUR SIN; HE ALREADY KNOWS.** Any efforts of ours to do so (Aprons) leaves us naked from most angles, even to man—and from all angles to God.

Verse 8: John 3:20-21 “Everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov’d (discovered). But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”

Verse 9: “Where are thou?” God knew, but Adam didn’t.

Verse 10: I heard thy voice—and I was afraid because I was naked (unintentional confession of sin) and hid myself (from fear of facing God).

Hebrews 10:26-27 “If we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sin, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation which shall devour the adversaries.” **Verse 31: “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”**

Job 28:28 Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

I John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. (NOT MADE COMPLETE IN LOVE BY DOING ALL GOD COMMANDED)

“because I was naked”—**Matthew 12:37** “By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”

Verse 11: Numbers 32:23 Be sure your sins will find you out.

Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

Isaiah 59:12 Our transgressions are multiplied before thee and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us (plain to be seen); and, as for our iniquities, we KNOW them.

Verse 12: Adam says, “It’s her fault!”—but did not deny eating. By complaining about Eve, he actually complained about God who gave her to him.

Rather than face it like a man and confess his wrong, Adam pointed the finger at Eve and laid the blame on her. (**Job 31:33** If I have covered my transgressions as Adam, by hiding mine iniquity in my bosom. . .)

Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

I John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ADAM SINNED FIRST BY LISTENING TO MAN IN PREFERENCE TO GOD. See **Galatians 1:10**

Verse 13: Eve says, “The devil made me do it.”—but did not deny she ate of it. SHE TOLD THE TRUTH (I Timothy 2:14—Eve was deceived; she thought she was doing the thing best for her at the time.)

II Corinthians 11:3 “But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

PERHAPS EVE DIDN’T KNOW HOW TO SAY SHE WAS SORRY.

II Peter 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

I Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. (DON’T TARRY WITH IT, DOUBT WITH IT, EAT WITH IT)

Verse 14: Why didn't God ask the serpent what he had done? No need to ask a liar anything—you won't know whether his reply is true or not. (John 8:44 There is no truth in him. . .he is a liar and the father of it.)

The buck stopped at the source of the trouble—evil.

Serpent was undoubtedly changed from a flying, crawling, swimming dragon to a snake that goes on its belly—can't get any lower. (Psalms 44:23-25 Awake. . .O Lord, Arise, cast us not off forever. . . Our soul is bowed down to the dust; our belly cleaveth to the earth.) (Micah 7:17 They shall lick the dust like a serpent.)

Verse 15: The devil's seed—those who killed Christ (bruised his heel—stopped his progress temporarily) and all who do evil. (Matthew 3:7 Pharisees & Sadducees—generation of vipers, who warned you to flee) (Matthew 13:38 Tares are the children of the wicked one) (Matthew 23:33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell.) (John 8:44 Ye are of your father, the devil. . .abide not in the truth because there is no truth in him.)

The seed of the woman (Mary)—Christ (Luke 3:23 Jesus himself began to be about 30 years of age being, as was supposed the son of Joseph. . .verse 38 . . .which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.

“It shall bruise thy head”—Romans 16:20 The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. Hebrews 2:14 “thru death he (Christ) might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil.”

Verse 16: GOD MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT—BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE—TO CARRY OUT HIS ORIGINAL COMMANDMENTS. She would have had sorrow and conception had she not sinned—but now fear of death would multiply both. (John 16:21 A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come; but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.—SORROW NOT LONGLASTING). (I Timothy 2:15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing—her special function in God's scheme for man—if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Verse 17-19 Man had work to do before he sinned (to dress and keep the garden) but NOW HE WILL HAVE MORE WORK BECAUSE OF CURSED GROUND, SORROW, THORNS AND THISTLES, SWEAT—WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL HE DIES, GOES BACK TO THE DUST FROM WHICH HE LIVES.

Ecclesiastes 1:3 What profit hath a man of all his labours which he taketh under the sun?

I Timothy 6:7 We brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can carry nothing out, and having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

Ecclesiastes 13:13 This sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith.

II Thessalonians 3:10-12 This we command you, that if any would not work, neither should they eat. . .we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ that with quietness they WORK, and eat their OWN bread.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more; but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth (who could not work??).

Verse 19: Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return. (Job 34:14 If he set his heart upon man, if he gather unto himself his spirit and his breath; all flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.)

Psalms 103:13-14 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Psalms 104:29 Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth.

Ecclesiastes 3:19-21 Part of man, like the beast, goes back to dust; spirit goes to God.

Ecclesiastes 12:7

Romans 5:12-19 By one man (Adam), sin entered the world and death by sin, so death passed on all men, for that all have sinned.

Ezekiel 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die (spiritually). The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be

upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. But if the wicked turn, keep, and do lawful and right, he shall sure live and he shall not die (spiritually).

John 11:26 Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die (spiritually).

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life thru Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hebrews 9:27 It is appointed unto men once to die (physically—because they are not earth-bound creatures) but after this the judgment (and the second death—separation from God eternally—for the disobedient.) Also: **Revelations 20:14**

GOD DROVE THEM FROM HIS PRESENCE BECAUSE THEY HAD SIN IN THEIR LIVES—
and He would not allow them to eat of the tree of life and live forever in a sinful state. **BUT, BY**
ACCEPTING JESUS CHRIST AND HIS POWER TO TAKE AWAY SIN, WE CAN AGAIN GAIN
ACCESS TO THE TREE OF LIFE IN THE MIDST OF THE PARADISE OF GOD—AND ENJOY
COMPLETE COMMUNION WITH GOD THAT ADAM AND EVE HAD IN THE GARDEN AT FIRST.