

# CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

## The Fall of Humankind

### Humankind Fell As A Result of Sin

#### THE FALL

- The Fall Of Humankind From Its Original Created State.

#### Genesis 1:26-27, 31 (NLT)

26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

27 So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

31 Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

- God made us to be like Him: Good.
  - Since God made us in His image, and He is self-determinate, we were created with free will.
  - Adam & Eve exercised their free will, chose disobedience, and as a result, humans ceased to be good.

#### Mark 10:18 (NIV)

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone."

- Ever since The Fall, sin shades every aspect of human existence, enticing us from the outside as an enemy and compelling us from the inside as a part of our fallen human nature.

#### Genesis 2:8-9 (NLT)

8 Then the Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. 9 The Lord God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit.

In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

### Genesis 2:15-17 (CSB)

15 The Lord God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die."

- For humans to have genuine free will, there had to be a choice: the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
- Sin is a person choosing their own will over God's will.

### Genesis 3:1-6 (NIV)

3 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 certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat from 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.

- Sin promises freedom but instead enslaves us with insatiable desires. The harder we try to escape, the tighter it grips us.

### Genesis 3:7 (NIV)

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.

## THE CONSEQUENCES

- Because of sin, humanity experienced an immediate spiritual and emotional death, which eventually led to physical death.

### Genesis 3:8-10 (NIV)

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

- Separation from God

### **Genesis 3:11-13 (NIV)**

11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” 12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

- **Exaltation of Self**

### **Genesis 3:16 (NIV)**

16 To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

- **Distress and Disruption**

### **Genesis 3:17-19 (NIV)**

17 To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

- **Difficulties and Death**

Sin is real and personal; it originated in the fall of Satan, who is personal, wicked, and active. And through Adam’s fall, sin spread to a humanity created good by an all-good God.

### **Genesis 3:14-15 (NIV)**

14 So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

- **God’s Salvation Plan**
  - **The seed of the woman, Jesus, will crush Satan’s head!**

### **Romans 16:20 (MEV)**

20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Because of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have been delivered from:

- The *penalty* of sin - **death**
- The *power* of sin - **bondage**
  
- The *presence* of sin - **evil**

#### Revelation 20:10, 14-15 (CSB)

10 The devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet are, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

14 Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

#### Revelation 21:1-4 (CSB)

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

3 Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away.