

## Genesis: Chapter 3

**Opening Question:** The story's conflict or problem is introduced in this scene. What is it?

**Key Takeaways:**

1. The words spoken by the serpent in verses 1 and 3 are the exact opposite of the LORD's command to Adam in 2:17, signaling the serpent as the antagonist.
2. The language used in the story for making judgments or determinations is "saw."
3. The serpent's enticement was that the woman could determine good for herself and do what was good and right in her own eyes.
4. God determined what was good in chapter 1, "God saw that it was good," and now the woman is determining good for herself (3:6) apart from God's revelation.
5. This scene introduces the conflict as the main character, God, now has a problem because the ones He created to do what was good and right in His eyes are now doing the opposite, what is good and right in their own eyes.
6. Genesis 3:15–16 contain the "protoevangelium" or "first gospel" where One is promised who will defeat the antagonist and restore God's desire.
7. Adam was created to bear God's image and "mashal" meaning "be like" the Lord, which he failed to do, and now the story is looking for One promised who will "mashal" as God's true image-bearer.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What characteristics of the serpent tell the reader he is the story's antagonist?
2. Together relisten to this week's podcast and discuss why understanding the correct translation for Genesis 3:16 is paramount to understanding the rest of the story. The correct translation is, "To the woman He said, 'I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception, in sorrow you shall bring forth sons, yet your desire shall be for your Man, and He shall rule (be like) with you.'
3. What two sides and desires are set forth in chapter 3 and why does Adam name his wife Eve?

### **Practical Application:**

1. Reread Genesis 1:1 through Genesis 3:24. What has transpired in the story so far? Begin identifying and listing what you learn about the LORD's character as you read through Genesis.
2. From these chapters explain how the conflict identified in chapter 3 will be resolved and for whom the story is now looking.
3. Read “A Case of Mistaken Identity” under the Resources/Articles tabs on the Teach Me the Bible Website for a detailed explanation of Genesis 3:16.

### **Closing Prayer:**

Father, Thank You that although from the time of Adam and Eve's rebellion mankind lives under the pronouncement of death, our hope is in the Promised One, Your true image-bearer Who is coming to remove the curses, restore what was lost in the Garden, and rule among us. We long for His coming. Amen.