

**I. Introduction: Satan came to the garden to deceive God's image-bearers and influence them to question the Creator's words and character so that they would rebel against Him.**

**II. The Fall of God's Image-Bearers (Gen 3:1-7).**

A. The Plan of Satan (v. 1).

1. Satan attempted to influence mankind to question God's goodness and persuade them to sin against Him so that he could take over the created order.

B. The Production of Skepticism (vv. 2-3).

1. Eve answered the snake by repeating God's command, but she revealed her heart was already starting to believe Satan's lie because she did not repeat it accurately.

C. The Poison of the Serpent (vv. 4-5).

1. Satan blatantly lied about God's command and indicated that God didn't want her or Adam to be free because He was afraid they would become His rivals.

D. The Power of Seduction (v. 6).

1. Eve saw that the fruit was beautiful, and for the first time, she was tempted to eat it because she believed what the serpent said rather than what God said.

E. The Potency of Sin (v. 7).

1. Adam and Eve ate the fruit, and their eyes were opened, but it only made them aware of evil, and they felt shame for their rebellion against God.

**III. Conclusion: God created human beings as His vice-regents over Eden, but they fell to the devil's temptation to rebel against God and plunged the human race into darkness.**

## Study Questions: The Fall of God's Image-Bearers

1. From where does evil come? (**Gen 3:1-7**) Why is Genesis 3 so critical? How does it explain all the problems we have in our culture? How does it explain pain? Suffering? Evil?
2. Who is Satan? What do you know about him? (**Isa 14:12-15; Rev 12:1-12**) What are some other names for Satan in the Bible? What are his primary character traits? (**John 8:44**)
3. Why did Satan approach Eve rather than Adam? (**Gen 3:1-7**) What was the first question in human history? (**v. 1**) What was Satan trying to get Eve to doubt? What was his strategy?
4. What was inaccurate about Eve's answer? (**Gen 3:2-3**) What did she omit from God's command? What did she add to it? How did she downplay God's punishment? (**v. 3**)
5. How did Satan blatantly lie to Eve? (**Gen 3:4-5**) Why did he say that God didn't want her to eat it? (**v. 5**) What did "good and evil" mean? (**v. 5**) How do humans want to define morality?
6. What was physically appealing about the fruit? (**v. 6**) Emotionally appealing? Intellectually appealing? How was Jesus tempted with the same three temptations? (**Matt 4:1-11**)
7. Where was Adam while Satan tempted Eve? (**Gen 3:6**) Why didn't Adam speak up and rebuke Satan? Do you sit by passively as Adam did? Do you listen to Satan as Eve did?
8. Why did they immediately make clothes out of fig leaves? (**Gen 3:7**) Why does sin cause shame? What are the ways people try to cover their sins? Why do we do this?

### Prayer

1. Pray and ask God to reveal to you how you are like Adam, or you are like Eve.
2. Confess any sins that you may have tried to cover with acts of self-righteousness.