

Genesis 3

Story of a woman conned out of her Life savings –

Story from CNBC: Marjorie Bloom, a retired civil servant, was the victim of a “tech support” scam in 2021. Criminals used cryptocurrency to carry out the fraud.

Bloom, now 77, lost her life savings: \$661,000.

In Bloom’s case, her computer froze suddenly on April 22, 2021. A popup window alerted her to call a customer support phone number listed on the screen, supposedly for Microsoft.

Bloom then made a key mistake: She called the number, an action that real tech companies won’t ever ask of customers in a security pop-up warning.

During the call, a “Microsoft engineer” told her that foreign hackers had hijacked her computer and stolen sensitive personal data. Her financial accounts, he suggested, were also likely under threat.

When Bloom told him she banked with PNC, the engineer — who was really a con artist — transferred her to an accomplice posing as a PNC fraud investigator. The man convinced Bloom that there were pending transactions worth \$29,000 tied to her bank account. Her money had to be moved without delay to a new account, the scammer urged.

None of it was true.

Before she realized she’d been scammed, Bloom had made five wire transfers within 28 days, amounting to \$661,000, according to receipts of the transactions, which were reviewed by CNBC.

Much of those funds came from liquidating a stock portfolio — an inheritance from her parents — worth more than \$400,000. She also liquidated the bulk of an annuity worth more than \$200,000; if she’d kept it intact, it would have begun paying her a guaranteed income stream of about \$2,700 a month for the next three decades, starting in 2023.¹

- Why do I share this story? We are going to see the original con, and the original con artist.
- The con artist didn’t seem shady, deceptive, or disingenuous.
 - The original con was the first edition of the deceptive playbook.
 - Not much has changed in the fundamentals of how this enemy team works, even today.

(Genesis 3 [Whole Chapter])  – Read Chapter 1st

Verse-by-verse study:

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

¹ <https://www.cnbc.com/2023/10/08/how-one-retired-woman-lost-her-life-savings-in-a-common-elder-fraud-scheme.html>

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

- God made everything, including things that creep and crawl.
- Revelation 20:2 – *And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,*

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

- Crafty?
 - עָרָם – ‘ârûwm – aw-room’ –
 - Brown-Driver-Briggs' Definition
 - subtle, shrewd, crafty, sly, sensible
 - crafty
 - shrewd, **sensible, prudent**
 - He usurps authority
 - Adam named the serpent and had dominion over it.
 - This creature was probably indwelt by Satan because Satan does not have the power of creation and can't create a body for himself (No Scriptural precedent)
 - He speaks with subtlety
 - Crafty, slick, deceptive

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

- to the woman – **Notice:** the 1st spiritual warfare attack/ 1st Con was not a direct assault on the man.
 - The enemy did not talk to Adam.
 - Eve spoke to Adam about the tree.
 - Did God actually say – Questioning what God clearly stated to Adam.
 - Today, the world doesn't want to accept the Bible as the Word of God
 - There are many holy books; who is to say which is true?
 - Did God actually say that Jesus is the “Way/Truth/Life?”
 - Did God actually say there will be judgment on this world?
 - Did God actually say He will indwell those who Believe and receive Him?
 - Did God actually say that the enemy will be dealt with?
 - Did God actually say He will restore all things to new?

² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

- Retrospect/ Hindsight: It's best not to engage with the enemy.
 - Eve did not know this was a spiritual attack; she thought it was a simple conversation.
 - Like a disaster movie we have seen before, we know what it is. But do we?
 - Sometimes, even in our actions, we can overlook the enemy's influence.
 - Matthew 16:21-23 – ²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “**Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.**”
 - I am sure Peter was not intentionally working for the Enemy, yet, he needed to be corrected.
 - I have seen the enemy sow discord in churches through well-meaning believers who were not on guard against the subtle Con.
 - Grumbling about others in the body of Christ instead of going directly to them in humility and love.
 - Grumbling to others in the body about the pastor and his methods. Sowing seeds of discord. Satan uses that.
 - Proverbs 6:16-19 – ¹⁶ There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: ¹⁷ haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸ a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, ¹⁹ a false witness who breathes out lies, and **one who sows discord among brothers.**

⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “**You will not surely die.**

- **Con #1: You will not surely die** – Enemy is saying, “What God said is not true.” “God is a liar.”
 - As if he has better information than God!!!

- How many times have we listened to the news or the government speak with confidence and authority, only to find out later it wasn't true?
 - "Read my lips, no new taxes." "WMDs," "Healthcare costs will go down." "Shovel-ready jobs." "Masks work." "Safe and effective" on and on.
 - "People will believe you if you just speak with confidence and authority," often misattributed to Mark Twain, George Carlin
 - Unfortunately, Eve did.

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."

- **Con # 2:** The insinuation that God is withholding things from them to keep them down or in the dark.
 - We often see this with parents of teens. The teens buy the con that their parents really want to hold them back from joy or fun.
 - Most of the time, that is the exact opposite of reality.
 - It is not limited to teens. Loved ones of all ages can fall for this.
- **Con #3:** "you will be like God"
 - Very subtly planting a seed that has plagued humanity ever since.
 - Shirley MacLaine famously claimed "I am God" as part of her New Age spiritual beliefs
 - Isaiah 14:13-14, Ezekiel 28:11-17
 - You said in your heart,
 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God
 I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly
 in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the
 clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

Ezekiel 28:11-17—..."¹³ You were **in Eden**, the garden of God;" ...

"¹⁴ You were an anointed guardian cherub."

"¹⁵ You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you." "¹⁷ Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I exposed you before kings, to feast their eyes on you."

⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

- During the Cold War, the US had the “**Nuclear Triad.**”
 - Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs):
 - Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs):
 - Strategic Bombers:
- This attack by sin was also **three-pronged**
 - good for food, a delight to the eyes, desirable to make one wise
 - 1 John 2:15-16 – ¹⁵*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* ¹⁶*For all that is in the world—the **desires of the flesh** and the **desires of the eyes** and **pride of life**—is not from the Father but is from the world.*
 - good for food – Desires of **the flesh**
 - delight to the eyes – desires of **the eyes**
 - make one wise – (“Boastful” ^{NASB}) **pride of life**
 - **Who was with her???** – Adam let this 1st spiritual attack happen?!
 - **Men**, you MUST cover your wives in prayer!
 - You must identify when the enemy is attacking through lies and deception.
 - Sometimes my wife can see the attacks on me before I realize what is going on.
 - What would have happened if Adam just said, “Wait, let’s ask God to tell us about good and evil?”
 - I can have an intellectual knowledge of cancer and its effects without needing to experience them.
 - You must employ the armor of God (Ephesians 6:12-18) when engaged in spiritual battle.
 - Adam’s lack of intervention here is telling.
 - The woman was engaged in spiritual activity
 - The man was either oblivious or, even worse, considering the conversation (If he was privy to it).

⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin cloths.

- Here we have the shot heard round the world? Try the universe.
- **Video**
 - I think Adam and Eve were clothed in Glory, shekinah glory, or at least righteousness
 - Revelation 19:8 – ⁸*it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.*

- Their eyes were opened
- Romans 8:19-22 –¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.
- Fig leaves? – This is the first man-made religion. Man, trying to fix his problem, to repair his situation with the creator.
 - All “religions” are an attempt to do something to get to God.
 - This is why they are all work-based.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “**Where are you?**”

- **Notice:** As soon as sin entered into the story, God reached out to man.
- God wasn’t driving a tank, looking to blow up Adam?
 - Notice: God addressed Adam 1st since he was head over all God’s creation.
- hid themselves – This shows that they realized their attempt to cover with fig leaves was not getting the job done.
 - Look at the contrast between the overwhelming despair when people realize that religion is empty, and the joy felt when the true relationship is restored through faith in Christ!
- **Where are you** – Did God not know? Of course He did.
 - Anytime God asks a question, He already knows the answer.
 - I believe it was for Adam to check not his location, but his relation to God.

¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

- **I was afraid** – 1st response to sin: fear and shame
 - Man seeks darkness to hide his shame to this day.
- Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten...? – God gave Adam an opportunity to repent & confess.

¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

- **The woman whom you gave** – Notice Adam blames the Woman, and God.
 - What Adam said was true, but don’t miss the blame game.
 - He could have just owned it, but instead, he tries to dodge the guilt by implicating God and his wife!

¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

★ ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and **between your offspring and her offspring**; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

- Lord God said to the serpent – **Notice:** The immediate judgment was directed at the Serpent, with no questions asked, unlike with Adam and Eve.
- The creature that the Enemy inhabited was changed to crawl on its belly.
- There is a natural fear of snakes in most people.
 - They are fantastic creatures from a biology perspective, yet most humans are afraid of them.
- and dust you shall eat – A biblical sign of defeat ([Micah 7:17](#))
- ★ **1st** gospel promise! Protoevangelium, 1st direct prophecy
 - The Virgin Birth, The Messiah will be bruised on heel, the enemy will have a blow to the head (deadly)

¹⁶ To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

- Pain – 1st mention in the bible, not the last.

- **Childbirth** in humans seems much more **painful** than in other animals, including large apes.
 - The secular answer is that the birth canal is so small and human heads are so large, but we see the answer right here.
- **desire** – **Same word** in next chapter: *Genesis 4:7 – ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its **desire** is for you, and you must rule over it.*"

¹⁷ And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the **voice of your wife** and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ **cursed** is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the **days of your life**;

- **voice of your wife** – In contrast to the voice of God.
- **Cursed** – What he was taken from now is impacted.
- **Pain** – Adam would now know pain because of his actions.
 - **Notice:** Satan/ Serpent didn't mention any of this when he spoke to Eve.
 - How many drug addicts or alcoholics would not have become that way if they had known how it would turn out?
 - The Super Bowl will have plenty of beer commercials.
 - I wonder if they would ever show the DWI or even worse, the death by drunk driver on their advertisement?
 - My point is that marketing rarely highlights the danger, instead focusing on young, attractive people having fun.
 - How many unplanned pregnancies would have been avoided if the Mother and Father knew what would happen?
 - How much guilt would have been avoided if the whole story were told?
- **days of your life** – huh? Death is real now! There is a timer on Adam's life where before there was no expiration date.
- *Romans 6:23 – ²³For the **wages of sin is death**, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

¹⁸ **thorns** and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the **sweat** of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

- **Thorns** – A sign of the curse.
 - When Christ came to redeem mankind, we placed a crown on his head – Thorns.
 - He wore the curse, it pierced His flesh, drew His blood
- **Sweat** – The joy of work was now gone. There is a curse aspect to work.
 - Many people either worship work, are enslaved by work, or will not work.
 - Adam now had to work the dirt he was made from, but it no longer yielded the same way as before the fall.
 - Christ sweat blood? – ([Luke 22:44](#)) *And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.*
 - Hematidrosis
 - [2 Corinthians 5:21](#) – ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

²⁰ The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And

the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife **garments of skins** and clothed them.

- **1st bloodshed**, and this was at the hands of God!
 - Adam would now witness the direct results of his rebellion.
 - These were animals that he had just named. Now dead, because of him.
 - This must have been horrific for him.
 - This was necessary to cover Adam and Eve.
 - In this is **a picture of the gospel**.
 - God providing coverings for man because man's attempts at coverings were inadequate.
 - Innocent blood was shed to cover Adam and Eve.
 - The innocent Lamb of God shed His blood to cover our trespasses.

²² Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has **become like one of us** in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the **tree of life and eat, and live forever**—
 ” ²³ therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden **to work the ground from which he was taken**.

- **become like one of us** – Trinity? Angels?
 - [Genesis 1:26](#)
- **tree of life and eat, and live forever** –
 - To live in a sinful state for eternity would be hell.
 - Mankind now has to work to survive, to bring about change, to improve.
 - No pain, no gain.
 - Before there was harmony and connection; now there is a curse and discontinuity
 - [*Romans 8:19-23 – ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*](#)

²⁴[He drove out the man](#), and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed [the cherubim](#) and a [flaming sword that turned every way](#) to guard the way to the tree of life.

- [He drove out the man](#). They probably felt an overwhelming sense of sadness.
- [a flaming sword that turned every way](#) – This was an actual prohibition from eating and touching from God.
- [Genesis](#) – Revelation compare:
 - The Curse – [Genesis 3:15; Revelation 22:3](#)
 - The Tree of Life – [Genesis 3:24, Revelation 22:2,14,19](#)
 - The Serpent – [Genesis 3:1-13; Revelation 12:1-17](#)
 - Death – [Genesis 3:17-19; Revelation 20:14-15](#)
 - Clothing for the Bride – [Genesis 3:21; Revelation 19:7,8](#)
 - Redeemer – [Genesis 3:15; Rev 20:1-6; 21:22-27;22:3-5](#)

The Lord bless you and keep you;
 the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
 the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.