

ADAM & EVE

Genesis 3:1-24

The Serpent

Later identified with satan, or the devil. (Rev. 12:9, 20:2) Satan took control of the serpent and used it as an instrument of temptation. (2 Cor. 11:3, 14) In this weeks text, satan attempts to attack God, through his creation by using the serpent to tempt Adam and Eve. The serpent persuaded both Adam and Eve to question God's motives, and the truth of his word by using two lies. (Gen. 3:1-5)



Two Lies From the Serpent

Gen. 3:2

"Did God *actually* say, 'you shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"

Gen. 3:4

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

What Did God Actually Say?

Gen. 2:16-17

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.'"

Human Rebellion

In verse five of this weeks text we see the serpent stating to Adam and Eve, “*God knows that when you eat of it (tree of good and evil) your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.*” As Adam and Eve believed the serpent’s lie, a deeper form of rebellion began to take root.

They did not simply believe that God was lying to them. Rather they began to falter their trust that

1. God’s intent for them both is good. And 2. That God could individually and personally care for

them. Their distrust provided a fertile foundation for unbelief to take root. There are two prevalent sins (*acts of disobedience*) that we can learn from in this text, unbelief of God’s word and self idolatry.



Unbelief

More specifically as seen in the text, unbelief in God’s word. As when Adam and Eve trusted the lie of the serpent rather than God’s word in 2:16-17. Unbelief in God’s word is doubting that he really means what he says about salvation, righteousness, sin, judgement, and death etc. Satan’s persistent lie is that sinning and rebelling against God will not *necessarily* lead to separation from God and eternal punishment. (*1 Cor. 6:9, Gal. 5:21, 1 John 2:4*)

Self-Idolatry “*.you will be like God.*” (Gen. 2:5)

Satan’s consistent temptation as in the verse above, is that people can be like God and decide for themselves what is good and what is evil, what is right, and what is wrong. The consequences will always lead to separation and a greater distance between you and God. As learned within this weeks video, “Religious action is an attempt to cover yourself without God.” Satans intent is always to “*steal, kill, and destroy*” (*John 10:10*)

The Redemptive Plan of God

Judgement of Satan (Gen. 14-15)

As stated within the video, God did not interrogate nor negotiate with the serpent. Rather he imposed his judgement against the serpent stating “enmity” or animosity, will be between the woman and satan. In other words God was saying to satan as you used the woman to bring down the human race, I will use the woman as an instrument to bring the Redeemer into the world, who will save the human race.

"Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of truth." (1 Timothy 2:4)

In 3:21, God shedded blood to cover both Adam and Eve. This would symbolically foreshadow (called "types" and "shadows") Christ shedding his blood for our sins once and for all. This tells us that Salvation is altogether of God and not at all of man. The life of Christ given on the cross, and given as our substitute like within the text, provides our only redemption from sin. Everything else must be rejected.

God intended for us to know only good as we depended upon him and his Word. After this rebellion God allows all who accept Christ's forgiveness and confess him as Lord, to return to his original purpose for our lives. Then as we rely on God's word, then and only then, will we be able to determine what is good, right, and true. Relying on his word to realign our "moral compass."

Discussion Questions

1. Who was the serpent?
2. After Adam and Eve rebelled against God, who did God speak to first?
3. What was the first prophecy of the Messiah given and where can this be found in this weeks text?

1

READ

Genesis 3:1 through 3:24.

2

REFLECT

Do I trust that God's intent is good? Do I trust that God can care for me?

3

RESPOND

This week spend some time in prayer and praise the Lord for your redemption.

Answers: 1.) The serpent was an instrument of satan used to tempt Adam and Eve. 2.) In 3:10, God speaks first to Adam asking where he is. 3.) The first prophecy given is of how the coming Messiah or savior, Jesus Christ will fulfill God's eternal plan of redemption. Therefore restoring relationship between God and humanity. This prophecy is found in 3:15.

