

GENESIS 3:1-24

REVIEW

- **CHAPTER 1**
 - o Having concluded the 6 days of creation God saw that it was VERY good
- **CHAPTER 2**
 - o On the 7 day he rested from all his work – a pattern for us to follow...
 - o God then saw something that was not good – Adam was alone...
 - o So He created Eve – and with her the covenant of marriage...
 - o All was right in Eden – the perfect garden God had created for Adam and Eve!
- **CHAPTER 3**
 - o The world is not perfect today though – it is not VERY good...
 - o There are a lot of problems / there is evil / something went terribly wrong...
 - o The Temptation / the Choice / the Question / the Consequences / the Result

THE FALL OF MAN... (5 POINTS)

- **1ST - THE TEMPTATION... VS. 1-5 (4 POINTS)**
 - o 1st - Who was the Serpent... vs.1
 - The serpent here is no ordinary animal – this is none other than satan (*meaning adversary*) ...
 - Serpent – [שָׁרָף] – used 31x in OT – describes a snake – but it does have a dark intonation...
 - Almost the identical word [שָׁרָף] – means to practice divination / sorcery!
 - Whether satan possessed a *serpent* / or took the form of a *serpent* – we do not know
 - But perhaps he chose this form because the serpent was the most CUNNING (*sensible*)...
 - CUNNING – used 11x in OT – 8 of those times it is translated as prudent (*Proverbs*)...
 - The idea being the serpent was perhaps the most intelligent / trustworthy of animals...
 - Take note that Eve does not even hesitate when it speaks – VERY intelligent!
 - The impression most have of satan is a red horned - pitchfork wielding - ugly monster
 - But that description actually comes from the Greek God Pan - god of the underworld...
 - Likely satan spread this description of himself - so people would not recognize him!
 - Satan is not ugly - God created him as the perfection of beauty...
 - **Ezekiel 28:12** – “You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty...”
 - Paul would go on to say that satan can appear as an Angel of light - **II Corinthians 11:14**
 - It is possible he was even the worship leader in heaven – for a short time – **Ezekiel 28:13**
 - Satan had rebelled against God - believing that he was equal with God...
 - **Isaiah 14:12-14** - "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'"
 - PRIDE was the original sin – PRIDE was the SIN of satan!
 - **Pride already knows it all / Pride does not say sorry / Pride is never wrong...**
 - **And if allow ourselves to be prideful – we will also fall from HEAVEN!**
 - **I Peter 5:5** – “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”
 - God cast satan out of heaven...
 - **Revelation 12:4** - 1/3 of all the angels [stars] rebelled along with satan against God...
 - How many angels are there – we do not know – but innumerable – **Hebrews 12:22**
 - As a result - God cast them out of heaven - they were banished to the earth...

- **Luke 10:18** – “[Jesus] said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven...”
- He and the angels that followed him suffered quick reprisal for rebelling against God...
- He fell like a flash of lightning - so quick if you had blinked you would have missed it!
- **Satan is not the equal of God - God has no equal - God has absolute power over satan!**
- Having fallen from Glory – he now looks to destroy the work of God...
 - There is a final judgment that awaits these fallen angels - **Jude 1:6**
 - When they will be cast into the Lake of Fire prepared for them - **Matthew 25:41**
 - And satan knows his time is short so he seeks to destroy what God cherishes most - us!
 - **II Corinthians 4:4** – “Satan, the god of this evil world, has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe, so they are unable to see the glorious light of the Good New...”
 - **Satan knows his time here is coming to an end – so he is trying his hardest...**
 - **He is going to get violent – hold nothing back – to try and keep people from God!**
 - **We need to be wise – not underestimate the dangerous enemy we face!**
 - **I Peter 5:8** - “Be careful! Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour.”
- He is the LIAR - he is the father of lies...
 - **John 8:44** – “The devil... was a murderer from the beginning [Garden of Eden], and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”
 - **Nothing that the devil says is true - everything that comes from him is a lie...**
 - **He lies and tells you sin is fun - just give it a try - get you hooked like a drug dealer...**
 - **He lies and tells you once you have sinned - you cannot go back to God!**
- He is the *devil* – false accuser...
 - Satan loves to remind us of our past – the accuser of the brethren - **Revelation 12:10**
 - He has all the evidence he needs - all our sins / our immoral past!
 - **But God who is THE judge of all men - has forgiven us - who then can accuse us!**
 - **Romans 8:33** – “Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies.”
- He is the TEMPTER...
 - **Luke 4:1-13** – satan even tried three different times to TEMP Jesus!
 - **Revelation 12:9** – “The great dragon [literally a large serpent] was cast out, that serpent of old [*ophis* – same as 3:1 in LXX], called the Devil and Satan, who DECEIVES the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”
 - Which brings us back to our study in **Genesis 3** – when satan first deceived!
- o 2nd – The question... vs. 1
 - Up until this point in the Bible every sentence has ended with a period...
 - Everything that has happened has been a statement of fact – and was VERY good...
 - Until satan tempted Eve and asked – did God say – question mark!
 - **His tactics have not changed – he still tries to get us to doubt the Word...**
 - **He tries to keep us from listening to the Bible – from believing the Word!**
 - Misquoting the Word of God...
 - God never said – you shall not eat of EVERY tree of the garden...
 - He said of EVERY tree of the garden you may freely eat – except the tree of KNOWLEDGE...
 - It is the same tactic he used with Jesus in the wilderness temptation – **Luke 4:9-12**
 - Satan quoted from **Psalms 91:11-12** tempting Jesus to jump from the top of the Temple...
 - Satan knows the Word of God - and he is willing to misuse it - to confuse people...
 - Satan did not misquote the Psalm - what he did was take it out of context!
 - **Most errant doctrines / many of the cults / and untold confusion about the Word...**

- Comes from a misuse of the Word of God - taking it out of context...
- Context is critical when it comes to properly interpreting the Bible!
- We need to be wise - get into the Word of God – and see if what is said is true!
- **Acts 17:11** - “They searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.”

o 3rd – The response from Eve... vs. 2-3

- Eve knew the Word – she knew that God told they could eat of the fruit of the trees...
- With the exception of the tree of KNOWLEDGE – if they ate that they would die...
- But Eve also added to the command – God never told them not to touch the tree...
- They were only commanded not to eat of the Tree of knowledge of Good and Evil...
- But it may have been a wise addition - the best way to avoid temptation is to stay away!
- If we know something God has told us not to do – better to stay away...
- Do not play with sin – do not put ourselves in a place where we can be tempted!
- **II Timothy 2:22** – “Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

o 4th – Challenging the Word of God (*a lie mixed with a little truth*) ... vs. 4-5

- You will NOT surely die - DIE is repeated twice here – DIE imperfect / DIE infinitive...
 - This was an outright lie – this is EXACTLY what God had said – **Genesis 2:17**
 - Eating the fruit would directly result in both physical and spiritual death!
- God KNOWS that in the day you eat your eyes will be opened...
 - This is the first use of the word KNOW in the Bible – and it comes from satan...
 - Satan wants to distract us from have a relationship with (KNOW) God...
 - And one of his best tactics is to get us pursuing KNOWLEDGE rather than GOD!
 - The common convention today is – those who go to church are blind / fool ...
 - And those who pursue knowledge – go to universities – will have their EYES OPENED!
 - But the truth is most higher education has one purpose – to DESTROY FAITH...
 - The students are told there is no right or wrong - it is all relative - **Judges 21:25**
 - **Romans 1:22** – “Professing to be wise, they became fools [morons]...”
 - Do not mistake knowledge for wisdom – universities might give LOTS of knowledge...
 - But the knowledge of men – if we listen – can blind us to our need for Jesus...
 - That is not wisdom – that is foolishness – because it keeps us from God!
- They will become like God (*Elohim*) – SIN OF SATAN - they would know GOOD and EVIL...
 - That was true that they would know GOOD and EVIL – just like God...
 - But it was a truth mixed with a lie – that was meant to TEMP and DECEIVE...
 - Satan was suggesting God was trying keeping something GOOD from them!
 - God was keeping them from SIN – from SEPARATION – and from DEATH!
 - Satan will always try to make sin look GOOD - but he does it by lying (*father of lies*) ...
 - For sure sin is enjoyable – if it were not there would be no temptation to sin...
 - But it is enjoyable only for a short time - **Hebrews 11:25**...
 - No matter how we choose to sin – in the end there are consequences – **Galatians 6:7**
 - Like having a boyfriend / girlfriend - till an unexpected baby comes along!
 - **John 8:34** - “I say unto you he that commits sin is the slave of sin...”

▪ 2ND - THE CHOICE... vs. 6-8 (4 POINTS)

o 1st - Eve saw the tree... vs. 6

- It was good for food – lust of the flesh / it was pleasant to the eye – lust of the eyes...
 - Pleasant – used 20x in OT (*first here*) – means to long for or lust after...
 - It was desirable to make one wise – PRIDE of life...

- **I John 2:16** – “All that is in the world–the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life–is not of the Father but is of the world.”

▪ The fruit ticked all the boxes – it was everything sin can be!

- Eve did not wake up that morning and think - I want to ruin all of humanity today...
- She was tempted by something because she genuinely thought would make her happy...
- We are the same – we think - if I can only get that perfect figure then I will be beautiful...
- If I can only get that next promotion – then I will have enough money...
- If only I look at that picture on the internet – then I will be satisfied!
- But we are DECEIVED – these desires are not from the Lord!

o 2nd - The obvious question is where Adam was when this was taking place... vs. 6

- We are not told – perhaps he came up toward the end of the conversation...
- It is also possible that Adam arrived after Eve had already eaten...
- Regardless of when Adam arrived – he knew eating the fruit was wrong!
- Eve was deceived by satan – but Adam ate rebelling against the command of God!
- **I Timothy 2:14** – “Adam was not deceived, but... fell into transgression.”

o 3rd - The result of their choice – the EYES of both were OPENED... vs. 7

- Just as satan had said their eyes were opened – but not in the way they expected...
 - They were not LIKE God – instead they know SAW their SIN before God...
 - They were NAKED – this is not just a reference to a lack of clothes...
 - They saw that they no longer were clothed by the righteousness of God...
 - They were now dependent on their own righteousness – good works...
 - So THEY sewed fig leaves (*VERY itchy*) together to cover themselves!
- **Matthew 22:1-14** – Jesus gave the parable of the wedding feast...
 - There was a man who came to God – wearing the wrong clothes...
 - Rather than showing up forgiven by Jesus - **Revelation 3:5** – clothed in white robes...
 - This man came in his clothes - his righteousness – his own good works...
 - When God questioned him - the man was speechless – then cast into outer darkness!
 - Everyone will one day stand before the Great white throne – **Revelation 20:11**
 - There are only 2 options as to what we can WEAR as we stand before a Holy God...
 - We can stand in our own clothes and be judged – FILTHY RAGS – **Isaiah 64:6**
 - Or we can be clothed in FORGIVENESS – in the white garments given by Jesus Christ!

o 4th – In the cool of the day (*ruwach yom*) – afternoon breeze... vs. 8

- The LORD God would come to meet with Adam and Eve every afternoon (*lago lago*) ...
- But this day when they heard the sounds of the Lord coming to meet with them...
- They HID from His Presence – FACE – they did NOT want to see the Lord!
- When we choose to rebel against God – we are convicted of our sin...
- We no longer want to be in His presence – we feel dirty / naked...
- We want to hide – we want to stay away – we do not want God to see us...
- Sin separates us from God – keeps us from being in His presence!
- **Isaiah 59:2** – “Iniquities have separated you from God; and your sins have hidden His face from you.”

▪ 3RD – FINDING WHAT WAS LOST... vs. 9-13 (5 POINTS)

o 1st – The LORD God called to Adam – where are you... vs. 9

- The first question in the Bible was satan casting doubt on the Word of God...
- The second question in the Bible is God looking to restore what was lost!
- God does not want us to stay in a place of sin – He wants to restore us...
- He wants us to confess and repent so that He can forgive us!
- **Luke 19:10** – “The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

- o 2nd – WHY did God need to ask... vs. 9
 - God knows everything – He knew what had happened – He knew where they were...
 - **Hebrews 4:13** - “There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account...”
 - He asked so that they could have a chance to repent – to confess their sin!
 - When someone gets drunk – wakes up the next morning with a splitting headache...
 - Of course they swear they *will never do that again* because they are miserable...
 - So why is it that after a month / week / day – it happens again!
 - If we do not turn from our sinful ways TO JESUS – we will not change...
 - True repentance is seen through a transformed life – no longer doing the same things!
 - Not that we are perfect – but we are different – desiring to live for Jesus!
 - **II Corinthians 7:10** – “For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.”
- o 3rd – Adam was afraid... vs. 10
 - Afraid – [יָרָא] – first time used in the Bible – came as a result of the voice of God...
 - Adam was afraid because he knew he deserved the judgement of God for his disobedience!
 - True fear – comes from knowing that the judgement of God is coming – **Hebrews 10:31**
 - But the next time FEAR is used in the Bible is **Genesis 15:1** – do NOT fear!
 - The passage where Abram believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness!
 - The greatest fear of all men is the fear of death – some say because it is an unknown...
 - But the truth is we fear it death because in our hearts we know we will be judged!
 - The solution to FEAR is FAITH – because through FAITH we are FORGIVEN!
- o 4th – God asked Adam if he had eaten from the tree... vs. 11-12
 - Who told you are naked – did you eat from the tree I commanded YOU not to eat...
 - Rather than take the blame and confess his failure – he passes the blame to the woman...
 - Not only was Adam blaming Eve – he was blaming God – the woman YOU gave me!
 - So many times - when we fail – we want to blame anyone but us – even God...
 - If we take the blame – then it means that we have to change...
 - It is far easier to just pass the blame onto someone else – ANYONE else!
 - But until we accept responsibility – there is nothing God can do to restore us!
- o 5th – God next asked Eve - what is this you have done... vs. 13
 - Rather than take the blame and confess – she passes the blame – serpent...
 - She admitted to having been deceived by craftiness of the serpent - **II Corinthians 11:3**
 - So many times - I have heard people blame their sin on satan...
 - It is true that satan loves to see us sin – loves to see us make mistakes...
 - He even can have a hand in tempting us to make the wrong choice...
 - But in the end we only have one person to blame – we choose to sin!
 - **James 1:14** – “Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”
- 4TH – THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN... vs. 14-19 (3 POINTS)
 - o 1st – To the Serpent - cursed more than the cattle or all the beasts of the field... vs. 14-15
 - On your belly you will go – and shall eat the dust of the earth...
 - Now whether or not snakes used to have feet (*or talk for that matter*) ...
 - We do not know – it might just be that this refers to the snake satan indwelt
 - What we do know is that God gives the first prophesy in the Bible - about the fate of satan...
 - The SEED (*singular*) of the woman – women do not have SEED (*Hebrew term*) ...
 - This is not doubt referring to the virgin birth – points to Jesus Christ – **Isaiah 7:14**
 - The SEED of the serpent may very well be talking about the antichrist – **1 John 2:8**

- He shall bruise your head - and you shall bruise His heel...
 - Speaking of the cross – at Calvary satan bruised Jesus...
 - But at the cross Jesus crushed the head of satan - He defeated sin!
 - **Romans 5:12-15** – “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin... much more the grace of God through Jesus Christ abounded to many.”
 - In light of the first sin – God shows us His plan for salvation...
 - One man sinned brought all of us under the curse of sin...
 - But through one man (*Jesus*) God showed Grace and gave forgiveness of sin!
- o 2nd – To the woman – pain in childbirth – desire for her husband... vs. 16
- First – SORROW in childbirth – this does not speak of pain – although God also adds...
 - Pain in childbirth (*apparently not part of the original plan*)...
 - SORROW – 3x in OT - likely speaks of brining children into a FALLEN world...
 - Eve brought sin into the world – and her children would have to live in that world...
 - But through another woman – Mary – salvation also came into the world – Jesus Christ!
 - So while it might bring SORROW to think of bring innocent children into a fallen world...
 - It is also through our children that we can also bring light back into the world!
 - Second - your DESIRE shall be for your husband – but he will rule you - TWO thoughts on this...
 - One is that a woman DESIRES to be married / be under the authority of her husband...
 - The other is that a woman will DESIRE to rule over her husband...
 - DESIRE – only used 3x in OT – also in **Genesis 4:7** – sin DESIRES to rule over you!
 - The idea here is that woman will want to have authority over their husbands...
 - But they will be commanded - **Ephesians 5:22** - to be under their authority!
 - Seems the better interpretation – if it was their desire – God would not have to command it!
- o 3rd – To the man - cursed ground – hard work...
- First all of creation was cursed as a result of the disobedience of Adam...
 - Before the sin of Adam and Eve - the world was perfect - there was no death...
 - After the sin - death entered the world - the whole of creation fell into decay...
 - All animals die - trees die - the very world itself began to slowly decay and die – entropy...
 - But the world waits for the day it will be redeemed from the curse of sin!
 - **Romans 8:21** – “The creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God...”
 - Second by the sweat of your face...
 - In TOIL (*same word as SORROW*) you will eat of it all the days of your life...
 - Every time Adam worked in a now cursed field and a thorn and thistle grew...
 - He would be forced to remember what was LOST in the garden of Eden!
 - Working was in the original plan of God for man - caretaker of the garden...
 - The consequences for Adam was to work HARD for food all the days of his life...
 - SWEAT – only here in OT – to violently sweat!
 - To sweat to survive until the day he died and returned to the dust of the earth!
 - It is interesting that if you ask a man what his role purpose in life – provide!
 - Yet the Bible NEVER says that – we are required to work – it is the curse – **Genesis 3:19**
 - But God never tells us we are to PROVIDE – God provides – **Luke 12:32-33**
 - We reap what we sow...
 - The point is that we do not get away with sin – it comes with consequences
 - When we choose to do what God says is bad for us (*touch the fire – get burned*)
 - There will be consequences for our actions – but there is also hope!

- Galatians 6:7 – “Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

▪ **5TH - THE HOPE OF SALVATION... vs. 20-24 (3 POINTS)**

- o 1st – Adam called his wife Eve... vs. 20
 - This is the first time we are given her name in the Bible (*used only 4 times*) ...
 - EVE – the root of the names means to breath – she was the MOTHER of ALL life!
- o 2nd – God clothed Adam and Eve... vs. 21
 - At this point they are both clothed in fig leaves – their own covering...
 - God sacrifices an animal (*sheep*) so He could cloth them!
 - **If we choose to confess our sin – repent – God clothes us in His righteousness...**
 - **Our sin gets taken away by the blood of the lamb – Jesus Christ!**
 - **All we have to do is cry out and ask for forgiveness – I John 1:9**
- o 3rd – The Garden was sealed... vs. 22-24
 - Behold the man has become like one of US (*plurality to God again*) knowing good and evil...
 - The concern was Adam and Eve might eat the fruit from the tree of life...
 - If they did so they would remain in their fallen state (*not die*)...
 - So angels (*cherubim*) were placed on the east side of Eden to guard the way to the tree...
 - And Adam and Eve were kicked out of Paradise – removed from the presence of God!
 - The Tree of Life will appear again in **Revelation 2:7 / 22:2 / 22:14**
 - The title deed to the earth had just been handed to satan (*the god of this world*)...
 - The curse of sin had come upon all creation – death had entered the world...
 - Adam and Eve were removed from the Garden of Eden never to return...
 - But the hope had been given of the restoration of all things that were lost...
 - The promise that through the woman would come the savior...
 - The one who would take away the sin that they had brought into the world!