

## Genesis 3

### Verse 1

**Now the serpent was more cunning than any animal of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God really said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’?”**

Satan is called, the great Dragon, The serpent, the Devil and Satan.

See Revelation 12:9

**<sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.**

We learn a lot about the Devil in this one verse.

1. He deceives the whole world.
2. He was thrown out of heaven to the earth.
3. The angels that followed him were also thrown down to earth.

Satan began his deception with Eve by questioning what God had commanded.

### Verses 2-3

**<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; <sup>3</sup> but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’”**

Eve knew what God had said, but she added to His word by saying that they were told not to even touch it. The Pharisees of Jesus day made the same mistake when they told people to clean the outside of the cup rather than to cleanse the heart. The legalism of the Pharisees, with its external regulations, was not making the Law harder to keep; it was really making it too easy. It is much more difficult to control the heart than some outward regulations that don't address the real problem.

See Matthew 5:20

**<sup>20</sup> “For I say to you that unless your righteousness far surpasses *that of the scribes and Pharisees*, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.**

Verses 4-5

**<sup>4</sup> The serpent said to the woman, “You certainly will not die! <sup>5</sup> For God knows that on the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will become like God, knowing good and evil.”**

Adam and Eve had to make a choice, which were they going to believe, God or the serpent?

Satan is quite the salesman; he says eating the fruit of this tree will make them like God. This offer was too good to be true but humans often want to believe they are getting something very valuable for a price that is too good to believe. It should be said that part of what Satan said was true. They were about to know good and evil. However, knowing evil does not make one like God!

Verse 6

**<sup>6</sup> 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 desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate.**

The fruit was physically enticing and Satan added to its value by appealing to their pride.

See 1 John 2:16

**<sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.**

Verse 7

**<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves waist coverings.**

**<sup>8</sup> Now 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.**

The moment they ate they died spiritually and this changed the way they thought of themselves. They now saw their body as something that needed to be covered up and it also changed their relationship with God. Instead of wanting to be with God they were now afraid of Him and wanted to hide from His presence.

Verses 9 - 11

<sup>9</sup> Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup> He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup> And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?”

A good question always makes us stop and think ----- doesn't it? But then God asked a second question that was meant to confront Adam concerning what he had done.

Verse 12

<sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me some of the fruit of the tree, and I ate.”

Adam did admit that he ate the fruit but he laid most of the responsibility for his sin on God and his wife. Hey, we all had a part in this sin.....right. Blaming God or our wife for our sin never clears us of our responsibility.

Verse 13

<sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this *that* you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Then God confronted Eve by asking her a question. She also confessed that she had eaten the fruit but she blamed the serpent rather than God or her husband. In saying “the devil made her do it” she was partly right. Satan had deceived her and he would be punished for that but she was not free from her responsibility for ignoring what God had commanded them.

Verse 14

<sup>14</sup> Then the Lord God said to the serpent,  
“Because you have done this,  
Cursed are you more than all the livestock,  
And more than any animal of the field;  
On your belly you shall go,  
And dust you shall eat  
All the days of your life;

Judging from the punishment that Satan received, God put a fair amount of the blame on the serpent for enticing Adam & Eve to sin against Him.

See Matthew 18:6

**<sup>5</sup> And whoever receives one such child in My name, receives Me; <sup>6</sup> but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depths of the sea.**

Verse 15

**<sup>15</sup> And I will make enemies  
Of you and the woman,  
And of your offspring and her Descendant;  
He shall bruise you on the head,  
And you shall bruise Him on the heel.**

**<sup>15</sup> And I will make enemies  
Of you and the woman,**

There will be a struggle between Satan and all of humanity (Eve's offspring).

Satan will harm believers but he will destroy those who follow him because they will end up in the lake of fire with him.

**And of your offspring and her Descendant;  
He shall bruise you on the head,  
And you shall bruise Him on the heel.**

The devil and his offspring (his followers) will bruise the Christ (her descendant) on His heel. This took place on the cross when He died for our sins.

Jesus will bruise Satan on the head (giving him a fatal blow). This also happened at the cross but there will still be a final battle when Satan and his followers will be thrown into the lake of fire.

This prophesy was spoken more than 5000 years before it would take place.

Verse 16

**<sup>16</sup> To the woman He said,**

**“I will greatly multiply  
Your pain in childbirth,  
In pain you shall deliver children;  
Yet your desire will be for your husband,  
And he shall rule over you.”**

**I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth**

Judgment for sin always involves some kind of suffering.

However, not all suffering is the result of our sin. Sometimes we suffer for the sake of righteous (for doing what is right). In these cases it is the sin of Satan and his followers that is being directed toward believers. And some suffering happens for reason we don't understand. For this see the book of Job.

**Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you**

For those who object to this verse, it should be noted that this came directly from God.

Verses 17-19

**<sup>17</sup> Then to Adam He said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat from it’;**

**Cursed is the ground because of you;  
With hard labor you shall eat *from* it  
All the days of your life.**

**<sup>18</sup> Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;  
Yet you shall eat the plants of the field;**

**<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face  
You shall eat bread,  
Until you return to the ground,  
Because from it you were taken;  
For you are dust,  
And to dust you shall return.”**

**Cursed is the ground because of you  
With hard labor you shall eat *from* it  
All the days of your life.**

God's punishment for Adam was to curse the ground. God limited the fruitfulness of the ground which meant Adam would have to work harder.

**<sup>18</sup> Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;  
Yet you shall eat the plants of the field;**

This made providing for his family a much more difficult job. It also reduced the food supply available to the animals. This in turn forced them to look for alternative food sources.

See video 305 1.5 A fallen world

<https://www.levickfamily.com/1.5.html>

Death and suffering entered the world the moment they ate from the tree.

**Until you return to the ground,  
Because from it you were taken;  
For you are dust,  
And to dust you shall return.”**

Adam is told that he will die. Even though God had warned Adam and Eve that this would happen if they ate of the tree it may not have sunk in until this moment. Punishment has a way of making people understand the consequences of their actions in a way that nothing else can do.

Verse 20

**<sup>20</sup> Now the man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all *the* living.**

See Acts 17:26

**<sup>26</sup> and He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, <sup>27</sup> that they would seek God, if perhaps they might feel around for Him and find *Him*, though He is not far from each one of us;**

All humans are descendants of Adam and Eve. If that is the case then who did Cain marry? Obviously, it had to be one of his sisters. This was not a problem in the beginning, however by the time of Moses there were laws that governed what relationships were not appropriate.

See Lev. 18:6 - 18

**<sup>6</sup> ‘None of you shall approach any blood relative of his to uncover nakedness; I am the Lord.**

Verses 7 thru 18 give the specifics of everyone that is included in this exclusion.

Verse 21

**"And God made for Adam and for his wife coats of skins, and clothed them."**

Some commentators have suggested that this may have been an object-lesson to show Adam & Eve that the shedding of blood (to procure the animal skins) was necessary because of their sin. That is a possibility but we won't hear much about animal sacrifice until the time of Cain and Abel. In either case God provided them with clothes.

Verses 22-23

**<sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out with his hand, and take *fruit* also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— <sup>23</sup> therefore the Lord God sent him out of the Garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken.**

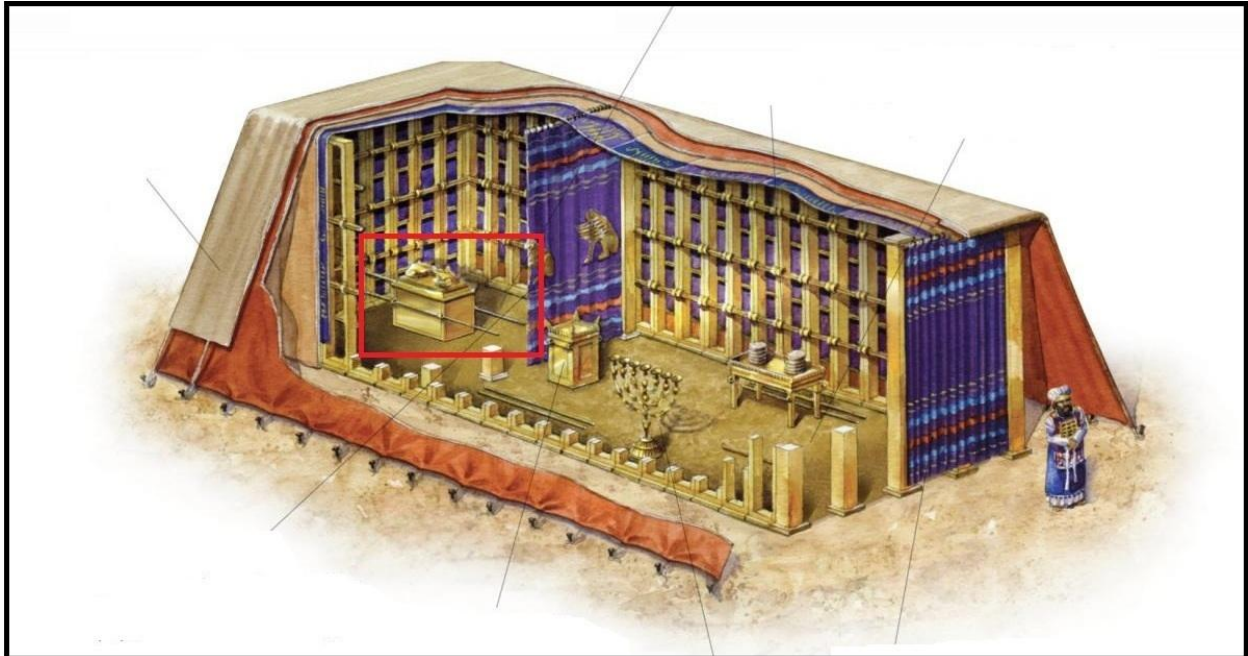
It would have been a disaster if Adam and Eve had eaten of the tree of life and lived forever because mankind would have lived forever in this fallen condition. That would truly be Hell on earth. So God keeping man from eating from the tree of life was an amazing act of grace.

Verse 24

**<sup>24</sup> So He drove the man out; and at the east of the Garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.**

In 1446 BC when God gives the Israelites the Law He also instructs them to build the Tabernacle. The Ark which symbolized the presence of God is placed in the Holy of Holies. On the Ark are two cherubim that face each other with their wings spread over the covering of the Ark

See pic 310 & 315





Just for the record the poles that are attached to the Ark so it could be carried were on the short sides of the Ark. Almost every picture of the Ark that one sees on-line shows the poles on the wrong sides.

See 2 Chron. 5:9

<sup>9</sup> The poles were so long that the ends of the poles of the ark could be seen in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen outside; and they are there to this day.

See pic 320



The larger cherubim that stood on either side of the Ark were not present until the Temple of Solomon was built.