

Rebellion and Redemption

#2- Crisis in Eden

Memory Verse - **Hand out Scriptures to read**

Genesis 3:15 (NKJV) *‘And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel’.*

Gen. 1:28, Rom. 8:17, Matt. 6:26, 14 Gen. 2:15– 3:19.

Three Blessings

After the creation of the world, God declared everything was “very good” (*Gen. 1:31*). However, it’s obvious now that everything in the world is not “very good.” What happened?

People see the evil in the world and question the goodness of God.

The phrase “and God saw that it was good” appears seven times in Genesis **1. First**, He blessed the sea creatures and the birds. He encouraged them to “‘be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth’ ” (*1:22, NKJV*). **Second**, when Adam and Eve were created, God blessed them, too, with similar encouragement: “ ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth’ ” (*1:28, NKJV*). They were also to be the king and queen of the world. **The third** blessing given in the Creation story is the seventh-day Sabbath.

Here is further confirmation that people are far more than just animals; they were created to enjoy fellowship with the Creator in ways none of the other creatures can. Adam and Eve are given the responsibility to care for the earth and all its creatures. **No Death and pain before sin.**

James 1:17 (NKJV) *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*

***Psalm 34:8** (NKJV) *Oh, taste and see that **the Lord is good**; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Found 7 times in the bible.*

Psalm 84:11 (NKJV) *For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

Mark 10:17–18 (NKJV) *Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?” So Jesus said to him, “**Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.**”*

The Test At The Tree

Genesis 1:3–5 (NKJV) *Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. **God makes Boundaries and divisions.***

Genesis 1:6 (NKJV) *Then God said, “Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.”*

Genesis 2:8–9 (NKJV) *The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. ⁹ And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*

“The tree of knowledge had been made a test of their obedience and their love to God. The Lord had seen fit to lay upon them but one prohibition as to the use of all that was in the garden; but if they should disregard His will in this particular, they would incur the guilt of transgression.”—Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 53.

Genesis 2:15–17 *And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷ But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. **Why the test?***

Deuteronomy 8:2 (NKJV) *And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.*

***2 Chronicles 32:31** (NKJV) *However, regarding the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, whom they sent to him to inquire about the wonder that was done in the land, God withdrew from him, in order to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart.*

The Fall: Part One

The Serpent

Genesis 3:1 (KJV) *Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? Described as more “crafty” than any other animal (*Gen. 3:1, 5 NIV*), the snake became a powerful symbol throughout Bible history.*

Perhaps because its poison was a threat to life and its lidless eyes provided an enigmatic image, the serpent has been associated with both death and wisdom. Both aspects of wisdom and of death are addressed in the Genesis account. Every movement of a serpent is graceful, and many species are beautifully colored.

Moses lifted up a bronze serpent on a pole to stop people from dying in a plague of deadly serpents during the Exodus (*Num. 21:5–9*). The same bronze serpent became an object of idolatry and of occult practice and was destroyed by King Hezekiah about seven hundred years later (*2 Kings 18:4*). In the book of Revelation, the “serpent of old” is clearly identified as “the 12 devil, or Satan” (*Rev. 12:9, NIV*).

The angels had cautioned Eve to beware of separating herself from her husband while occupied in their daily labor in the garden; with him she would be in less danger from temptation than if she were alone. But absorbed in her pleasing task, she unconsciously wandered from his side. . . . She soon found herself gazing with mingled curiosity and admiration upon the forbidden tree. The fruit was very beautiful, and she questioned with herself why God had withheld it from them. Now was the tempter's opportunity. As if he were able to discern the workings of her mind, he addressed her: "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" - Conflict and Courage pg. 15

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV) *But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*

John 8:44 (NKJV) *You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, 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.*

***Psalm 91:13** (NKJV) *You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.*

Romans 16:20 (NKJV) *And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.*

Mark 16:17–18 *And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.*

The Fall: Part Two

Matthew 6:26 (NKJV) *Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?*

Temptation: The Two Adams Contrasted

1 John 2:16	Genesis 3:6 First Adam	Luke 4:1-13 Second Adam -- Christ
"the lust of the flesh"	"the tree was good for food"	"command this stone to become bread"
"the lust of the eyes"	"it was pleasant to the eyes"	"the devil...showed Him all the kingdoms"
"the pride of life"	"a tree desirable to make one wise"	"throw yourself down from here"

The Consequences

God's 4 Questions

- 1.) "Where are you?"
 - 2.) "Who told you that you were naked?"
 - 3.) "Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"
 - 4.) "What is this you have done?"
- Adam blames Eve, who blames the serpent, who suddenly doesn't have a leg to stand on. ☺

Fig leaves = Self-righteousness Jesus cursed the fig tree

I think I found Adam's Suit.

To the dwellers in Eden was committed the care of the garden, "to dress it and to keep it." Their occupation was not wearisome, but pleasant and invigorating. God appointed labor as a blessing to man, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties. In mental and physical activity Adam found one of the highest pleasures of his holy existence. And when, as a result of his disobedience, he was driven from his beautiful home, and forced to struggle with a stubborn soil to gain his daily bread, that very labor, although widely different from his pleasant occupation in the garden, was a safeguard against temptation and a source of happiness. Those who work as a curse, attended though it be with weariness and pain, are cherishing an error. The rich often look down with contempt upon the working classes, but this is wholly at variance with God's purpose in creating man. What are the possessions of even the most wealthy in comparison with the heritage given to the lordly Adam? Yet Adam was not to be idle. Our Creator, who understands what is For man's happiness, appointed Adam his work. The true joy of life is found only by the working men and women. The angels are diligent workers; they are the ministers of God to the children of men. The Creator has prepared no place for the stagnating practice of indolence. P&P - pg: 50