

### #3 - Fall - Genesis 3:1-24

#### Engage:

- Always take note of what you have already talked about in the previous session(s) to see if there is something you can use to help you introduce/connect with the present story – and to use as a reminder of what you have already talked about.
- In Genesis 1-2, God speaks and life has begun. Beginning with chapter 3, Satan speaks. With Satan entering the picture, chaos begins which leads to sin and death!
- Please share any unique insights that are brought out during the application discussions!!!

#### Thoughts about the story:

v. 1 - Satan enters the story as a “serpent.” He was created and is therefore not like God who was, who is and will ever be. Immediately the “serpent” does what he always does - seeks to deceive (“crafty” [NIV] or “subtil” [KJV] or “cunning” [ESV]) all who will follow his lead. In this case he started with the woman. He asked her if God said that they could not eat from ANY tree in the garden.

Pt - We must accept the fact that this is Satan’s way. It has not, nor will it ever change! His ultimate purpose is to bring havoc to the lives of those who follow his lead. For other pictures of Satan’s character, see the lesson from the Foundations series about Satan.

vv. 2-3 - She replied that God had said that there was a tree in the middle of the garden from which they could not eat or touch. If this was done, death would occur. Also, the woman added the part about “touch” from what they were told. See Genesis 2:16-17. Note: Satan approached the woman when she was alone. Are we not most vulnerable when alone?

vv. 4-5 - The serpent responded with a lie (“You will not surely die”) and an accurate statement (“your eyes will be opened” - See v. 7 and “be like God, knowing good and evil” - See v. 21). Satan seems to question the character of God, suggesting that He would be jealous if they could ever be “like” Him.

vv.6-7 - The senses of taste and sight, plus the desire to gain wisdom caused the first sin - which led to guilt and shame. They covered themselves with fig leaves they sewed together. Remember, they felt no shame before they sinned. As it has been said, they were innocent like little children. See Genesis 2:24.

Note: This is the same process that will occur over and over again in our lives until Jesus returns – and until we learn to say no to ungodliness (Titus 2:12). To say it another way, this is the history of every temptation and sin as to how it works in our lives. Talk about how you have you experienced Satan’s same scheme to tempt you and the result of believing his lie? See 1 John 2:16; Luke 4:1-13.

vv. 8-11 - God confronted the man and the woman after their act of disobedience / sin.

vv. 12 - God first spoke to the man and he placed blame on the woman. Note: This is how sin works.

vv. 13 - God then approached the woman and she placed blame on the serpent. She noted that the serpent deceived her. This is the way Satan continues to work in our lives. We believe his lies and deceive ourselves in thinking that there will be no harm done in doing our own thing (“having it my way” - remember the song by ole blue eyes - Frank Sinatra - where he sang “I did it my way”).

vv. 14-15 - God then confronts the serpent. A curse is pronounced and the first announcement of the coming redeemer was made. Jesus was the one who became “enmity between you (Satan) and the woman”. Jesus would “crush” his head and whereas the serpent would only be able to “strike his heel.” See Romans 16:20. This is a promise that all followers of Jesus will share.

vv. 16 - God then pronounces a curse on the woman for her disobedience.

vv. 17-19 - God then pronounces a curse on the man.

Note: The curse brought about by the sin of Adam and Eve will affect humankind (1 Corinthians 15:21-22) and all creation (Romans 8:20-22) until Jesus returns.

Note: Adam and Eve sinned by “eating” and would suffer in order to eat!

vv. 20 - The man and the woman now have names.

vv. 21-24 - God takes over.

- First, God makes garments for Adam and Eve from animal skin. Therefore, a sacrifice was made so that Adam and Eve could be clothed.

- Next, God determined that they must be cast out of the Garden of Eden so that they would not be able to eat from the “tree of life”. See the notes from the previous lesson - v. 9. Note: Sin always separates humankind from God, unless it is forgiven (Romans 5:12-21; 6:23; James 1:14-15).

- Last, God placed cherubim to guard the entrance which was located on the east side of the garden. Only through the redemption provided through Jesus (Romans 3:21-26) can we have access to the tree of life – when Jesus returns for those who are victorious overcomers (*nike* - pres act part verb - Revelation 2:7)!

Note: Preparing chronological notes like this can help a person learn the story so it can be told.

Reminder: A good study Bible (NIV Study or Life Application) can greatly help you with most questions.

**Extra:** The motifs in chapter 3—death, toil, sweat, thorns, the tree, the struggle, and the seed—all were later traced to Christ. He is the other Adam, who became the curse, who sweat great drops of blood in bitter agony, who wore a crown of thorns, who was hanged on a tree until He was dead, and who was placed in the dust of death.

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<sup>1</sup>Walvoord, John F. ; Zuck, Roy B. ; Dallas Theological Seminary: The Bible Knowledge Commentary : An Exposition of the Scriptures. Wheaton, IL : Victor Books, 1983-c1985, S. 1:32