

GENESIS 3:2-19

*In verse one of chapter 3, we learned that Satan questioned what God said: "Yea, hath God said". This was to create doubt, which leads to unbelief.

A. Genesis 3:2-3 - And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: Gen. 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

1. Eve responds to assure the serpent he was wrong. She tells him they could eat of all the trees except one. But in her response, it shows that the devil's doubt had penetrated her thinking. Eve adds to what God said by saying, "neither shall ye touch it". She actually added "neither shall ye touch it" and subtracted-left out, "freely" (2:16).

**God had not forbidden them to eat from all the trees (except one). Also, He had not forbidden them to touch the fruit of the one tree.

2. It is always dangerous to add to, or to subtract from, God's Word (KJV).

Deuteronomy 4:2 - Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Proverbs 30:5-6 - Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Pro. 30:6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Revelation 2:18-19 - And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet *are* like fine brass; Rev. 2:19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last *to be* more than the first.

Example: Dynamic Equivalence

B. Genesis 3:4-5 - And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: Gen. 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

1. Here, Satan flat-out lies by denying what God said, "thou shalt surely die". Satan says: "Ye shall not surely die". (2:16-17) Satan lies and says that is not true. Satan takes it from doubt to untruth by calling God a liar!
2. Satan, in verse 5, gives Eve a false explanation of why what God said is not true. The temptation was that they could be their own god and then they could decide what is good or evil themselves. She is putting herself over God's infallible Word if she listens to Satan - which she does!

C. Genesis 3:6 - And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

1. Eve looked at the fruit and it looked nice and appealing to her. She considers that this fruit from the forbidden tree could give her something she didn't have....godness! Eve was deceived and did eat.
2. [good for food] - lust of the flesh [pleasant to the eyes] - lust of the eyes
[to make one wise] - pride of life

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

- a. **Evidently Eve believed that eating the forbidden fruit would give her more wisdom. She allowed her mind to **fan**tasize on how good it would be to be so smart. At that moment, God's Word went out the window. Her **feelings** and **emotions** made the decision to be disobedient and eat the fruit.

I Timothy 2:12-14 - But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 1Tim. 2:13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 1Tim. 2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

- b. Perhaps she was thinking that soon she would be liberated from **re**straints. Soon she could decide for herself between good and evil, and soon she would be as wise as God!

But we know that soon her choice would become her **chain.

3. "and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat".

- a. Adam may have been watching the whole time that the serpent was lying to Eve and tempting her to sin. Tragically, Adam did not try to step in and **warn** Eve of God's instruction again.
- b. Now Eve becomes the **sed**ucer of Adam (sinners hate to sin alone). She gives [also to her husband]. Eve's greatest argument that it was okay was the fact that she had eaten of the fruit and was still **alive**. She hadn't died!

Dr. Sightler said: "Adam would rather have died with his new bride than to be **alone again."

- c. Notice the difference in their sin.

- (1) Eve's sin - She fell, thinking she was doing something positive that perhaps could help. Eve was **de**ceived into sinning.
- (2) Adam's sin - It was with his eyes wide open. He **willingly**, **de**liberately, inexcusably chose to sin and eat the fruit.

Genesis 1:26-28 - And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. Gen. 1:27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. Gen. 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

God had given Adam dominion over all the earth. Adam was the leader, **representative, and earth's title deed **pro**teCTOR. This is the reason why God does not put the blame on the woman, but on the man (first).

I Corinthians 15:21-22 - For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead. 1Cor. 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Romans 5:12, 17, 19 - Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: Rom. 5:17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) Rom. 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

D. Genesis 3:7 - And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

1. Sin had changed them, but not into gods! Before, they were innocent; but now, they have a guilty conscience. They were polluted, corrupted, and ashamed. They were now guilty sinners with a **darkened** worldview. Their spiritual light had gone **out** when they fell.

Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. They now realize they are naked and that made them feel wrong - ashamed and **exposed**. So, they put **fig** leaves together to cover up.

*Some say this was the first self-made religion. They tried of **them**selves to cover their shame and guilt. Only God can do that!

Isaiah 64:6 - But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels.

E. Genesis 3:8 - And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

1. Dr. Ham, and others, believe this was the first "theophany" in the Bible. This is when God appears in **human** form. There are a number of instances of this in scripture (Gen. 18:1-3, Gen. 3:24-30, and Judges 13:3-6).
2. *We do not know how long Adam and Eve were in the garden before they sinned. I personally believe it was a **short** period. Dr. Ham: "If they waited very long, they would have sinned against God by not being fruitful. They didn't conceive a child until **after** being removed from the garden. Remember, they had perfect bodies and it wouldn't have taken long for Eve to conceive. So the time between creation and the fall must have been short."

Note: Adam and Eve, even though they had sinned, had overlooked (or had not learned yet) an amazing truth...that even in their sin, God **loved** them! Us? Romans 5:8

F. Genesis 3:9 - And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou?

1. As Adam and Eve were trying to **hide** themselves from God (which shows their alienation/separation and running from God now), God asks this startling question, "Where art thou?"

*This isn't because God did not know where Adam was. It was a call to Adam to stand up and **admit** that he had done wrong. It was for Adam's sake, who was responsible as earth's representative, to **repent**.

2. We also see that it is **God** Who seeks man and not man who seeks God. God wanted Adam to see his guilt by his act of rebellion. But God also wanted Adam to see the need of the only One who could help him...the **One** he was hiding from!

Perhaps his hiding was **proof that he did know that because of his sin, he would die!

G. Genesis 3:10-11 - And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself. Gen. 3:11 And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

1. Adam's answer showed that his reason for fear lay in himself, not in God. Adam (between the lines) says he felt terrible, ashamed, guilty, and was hiding because he didn't want God to find out what he had done. He was afraid of coming judgment and was trying to **avoid** that.
2. God did not want generalities, but wanted Adam to say - "I **have** sinned; I've disobeyed you; I've eaten the forbidden fruit." He wanted Adam to **own** up to his sin.

Psalm 51:3-4 - For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin *is* ever before me. Psalm 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done *this* evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, *and* be clear when thou judgest.

H. Genesis 3:12-13 - And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. Gen. 3:13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

1. Wow! Adam blamed God and the woman for **his** sin. How bad was that, to blame his Creator for his sin and even to blame his wife? Remember, Adam was the one given the instruction to not eat from this one tree and he stood by while his wife ate and did **nothing**! Unlike Eve, he was **not** deceived.
2. Strictly speaking, Eve told the truth - but the facts did not **acquit** her from guilt. Yes, the serpent deceived her. But, she willfully and **self**ishly disobeyed God's clear commandment.

So both claimed they were guilty, but were just **victims. But God sees through it all. His reply to sin was a threefold curse. He judges the serpent, the woman, and then the man.

I. Genesis 3:14-15 - And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: Gen. 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

1. God speaks directly to the serpent and Satan and pronounces their judgment.
 - a. The serpent, as an animal, was cursed above all others in the animal kingdom. He was cursed not because of direct involvement on his part, but rather for the serpent to be a continued **re**minder to man of the instrument of his **fall** and of the **up**coming destruction of Satan himself.
 - b. When the curse fell on the serpent, it fell upon all that Adam had dominion over. This included **all** creation.

Romans 8:20-22 - For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope, Rom. 8:21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Rom. 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

- c. The curse to the serpent says, "upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:" This was a **hum**iliating judgment to now have to crawl and to use its tongue to find and eat prey on the ground.

*Notice **even** in the Millennium: Isaiah 65:25 - [The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust *shall be* the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.]

2. In verse 15, God turns His focus on Satan. Satan, when Adam and Eve sinned, probably thought he had won the **allegiance** of the first couple, thus of all their descendents to come. Since they were now fallen like him, they would be allies with the demonic forces to help dethrone God.

*Satan was now the god of this **world** (II Cor. 4:4). But notice God's judgment:

- a. Eve and her descendents would not be Satan's ally, but all would be **hostile** toward him [between thy seed and her seed].

Examples:

John 8:44 - Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Ephesians 2:2-3 - Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Eph. 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

- b. As a matter of record, it will be through her seed that God promised to send the Redeemer, Who will ultimately **defeat** Satan and win the victory.

*This is the Lord's **first** promise of the Savior.

- c. This proclaims the upcoming conflict of the **ages**. It will be Satan's unbelieving wicked followers versus those brought into a right relationship with God through **faith**.

Matthew 13:37-40 - He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; Matt. 13:38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked *one*; Matt. 13:39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. Matt. 13:40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

I John 3:8-10 - He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 1Jn 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 1Jn 3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

Galatians 3:26 - For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

- d. The primary seed of the serpent is the son of perdition, the **antichrist**.

II Thessalonians 2:3 - Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Revelation 13:2 - And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

**The primary seed of Eve is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 3:23, 38 - And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was *the son* of Heli, Luke 3:38 Which was *the son* of Enos, which was *the son* of Seth, which was *the son* of Adam, which was *the son* of God.

- e. Satan will attack Jesus Christ and **bruise** His heel.

Isaiah 53:5 - But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

But Jesus Christ will **crush Satan's head - defeating him by way of the **cross**.

Colossians 2:14-15 - Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; Col. 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Revelation 1:18 - *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

- J.

<u>Genesis 3:16</u> - Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire <i>shall be</i> to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

1. Now God focuses on the woman, Eve. On top of being a fallen sinner now and under the curse, "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow". This is a fact of **history**. The woman has mostly been inferior to man, unequal, male-dominated, and a subjugated person. She has always been under the mercy of men in control, suffering many **diffi**culties.

2. [and thy conception;] She will have great **pain** and suffering in childbirth.

Psalm 48:6 - Fear took hold upon them there, *and* pain, as of a woman in travail.

I Timothy 2:15 - Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

*This is to be a reminder of the **fall**.

3. [thy desire shall be to they husband, and he shall rule over thee.]

- a. God says to Eve, "You took the lead in sin, now he will **lead** over you."

- b. Being sinful by nature, one is automatically selfish. In **all**, there is a desire to control or dominate. In a marriage, often the wife is against her husband's leadership, rather than allowing him to be the head of the home as **God** commands. This is **part** of the curse that makes it difficult for the woman.

We understand that the man is not always leading correctly and that makes it even more difficult for the woman. The only way to solve their dilemma is for both the woman and the man to **yield to God's authority.

Ephesians 5:21, 24-25 - Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Eph. 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing. Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

K. Genesis 3:17-19 - And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life; Gen. 3:18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; Gen. 3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

1. Now God focuses on the man (Adam). Adam **knew** God's commandment, God held him accountable and the full force of the curse fell upon him. Up to this point, Adam's work had been a joy and a success. But now his ability he had to miracle-grow would be taken **from** him. From now on, his work to produce crops would take hard labor and sweat. Even then, he would have to work through the thistles and sorrow of a cursed ground.
2. Now earth would experience **decay** and **death**. Flowers would fade, grass wither, trees lose their leaves. Things would disintegrate and animals eventually would die. Now the ground would become reluctant to yield its food, making it an intense **struggle** to produce. Now the animals, having less food, would gradually become **carni**vorous in their appetites toward other animals.
3. Even in judgment, God shows His **mercy**. It is better that suffering, pain, and death accompany sin - than for rebellion to be permitted to thrive unchecked in a death**less** society!

Without death, mankind would have multiplied, having wickedness without **limit, and the same with the animals (2nd law of thermodynamics).

4. So man's curse is sorrow, pain and suffering, sweat and tears, then finally death. So when man sinned:
 - a. He **began** to die physically.
 - b. He **immediately** died spiritually in his relationship with God.
 - c. He will be in **hell** one day for his sins - with Satan.

Matthew 25:41 - Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: