



GENESIS 1 & 2 : THE "PRE-FALL" WORLD

1. God was already eternally present before the beginning – “In the beginning God...”. (1:1)
2. The first spoken command of God in creation was “Let there be light” declaring that the light “was good” and separating light from darkness without declaring the darkness good or bad. (1:2)
3. 6 times in Genesis 1 it says, “And God saw that it was good.”
4. Only man (males and females in unity) were to be created “in the image of God”, given rule over all animals, and only after they were created does it say, “God saw...and behold, it was very good.” (1:31)
5. Man and woman were not created for solo acts, competition, or domination, but for supportive, helpful roles, ruling together.
6. God placed limits upon humans that corresponded to His best for them, which would require trusting Him. (2:16-17)
7. Humans were given, and still have, a free will to choose to trust and obey God or go our own way. (2:16-17)
8. What they were free to eat (“from every tree of the garden”) far surpassed the limitation of the forbidden tree (“the tree”). (2:16)
9. There are identified consequences to human choices – positive (“pleasant to the eye and good for food”) or negative (“you will surely die”) – depending on if a person chooses God’s way or something else.
10. It isn’t good for us to function alone (2:18) but in unity (2:24, Psalm 133) and community, where we best reflect the image of God (Ephesians 4:11-16), something Jesus specifically prayed for in John 17:20:23.
11. Humans were created innocent – “naked and unashamed”, capable of total transparency with others without in anyway being ashamed. (2:25)

SATAN'S ORIGIN, CHARACTER & OBSTRUCTING TRUTH BASED ON ISAIAH 14:12-15, EZEKIEL 28:13-19A, REVELATION 12:7-9, JOHN 8:42,44 NIV

1. Satan was created, is not God, but would be if he could.
2. His pride took him from a position of honor, to being God’s #1 enemy.

3. He was/is more crafty (shrewd, sensible) than any created beast of the field, but still compared to “created beasts” not God or humans.
4. “He was a murderer from the beginning.”
5. He doesn’t “hold to the truth, because there is no truth in him.”
6. “When he lies, he speaks his native language.”
7. “He is a liar and the father of lies” and, therefore, before him and without him lies didn’t and don’t exist.

4 STEPS TO THE FALL (GENESIS 3:1-5):

AT ANY POINT COULD HAVE STOPPED

The last glimpse of innocence:

Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame. Genesis 2:25, NIV

¹*Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.*

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

1. **Satan subtly, but sounding sensible, asks a simple question in a way to cause confusion about what God actually said.**

²*And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”*

2. **God’s actual words, permitting Adam and Eve to freely eat from “any tree” in the garden (2:18), is changed by adding to the restriction of “you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil” the words “neither shall you touch it**

⁴*But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.*

3. **What God has said is blatantly declared not to be true.**

⁵*For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”*

4. **Even though it was already God’s declared plan to “make man in our image, after our likeness” (Genesis 1:26), God’s character and motives for His command “not to eat” is reduced to God being worried that man would become like Him.**
(Genesis 1:26)

THE FALL: THE ORIGINAL SIN

GENESIS 2:9 COMPARED WITH 3:6

^{2:9}*The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*

^{3:6} *When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree [“...of the knowledge of good and evil”] was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.*

1. **Eve compared the fruit of “every tree” in the garden and saw them equivalent in every way, except adding the expectation that the “forbidden fruit” would gain her wisdom.**
2. **She not only took some and ate it, but also gave to Adam who without hesitation ate also.**
3. **If we remove God and His goodness, there is no standard of right and wrong leaving everyone to do “what is right in their own eyes.”**
4. **And if you believe a lie to be true then it seems sensible to do what seems right in our own eyes, which is consistent with Satan’s crafty character and at the heart of temptation.**

“You shall not do according to all that we are doing here today, everyone doing whatever is right in his own eyes...” Deuteronomy 12: 8

In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes. Judges 17:6, 25

THE MISTAKES THAT LED TO THE FALL & THAT WILL CAUSE US TO FALL

- Staying in the presence of the tempter and temptation.
- Acting independently, in essence leaving the safety of godly relationship.
- Those who know what God’s Word said and what is right remaining silent and uninvolved.
- Not working with one another to act in godly oneness to help each other resist temptation.

MANY CHANGES RESULT FROM THE FALL: REMAIN PATTERNS TO THIS DAY

⁷ *Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ⁸ And 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. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” Genesis 3:7-12*

1. **Innocence is lost with humans struggling with handling nakedness in godly ways physically (with our bodies) or with honest transparency (living genuinely with integrity).**
2. **Humans work together to try and cover what they mistakenly see as the “evidence” of their sin – their nakedness – when in fact it was the feeble attempt to cover their nakedness that reflected their guilt.**
3. **Human relationship with God changed from one of “walking in the cool of the day” to for the first time being fearful.**
4. **The created beings hide together from the Creator trying to use creation as a cover – the first misuse & abuse of the created world.**
5. **Neither human makes any effort to go to God in response to their sin in order to take responsibility and confess the truth of what they had done.**
6. **Neither answers God’s direct personalized question that was intended for them to take personal ownership, responsibility and confess their own specific sin.**
7. **Both project blame onto someone else, rather than to admit they each individually chose to disobey and eat of the fruit they were commanded not to – period.**
8. **Relationship with God is broken and paradise on this present earth is lost forever.**

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

¹ *Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”*

⁴ *But he answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.””*

⁵ *Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you,” and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.””*

⁷ *Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”*

⁸ *Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”*

¹⁰ *Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.””*

¹¹ Then the devil left him [“...for a more opportune time...” Luke 4:13], and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

HOW THE TEMPTATIONS OF ADAM & EVE AND JESUS WERE SIMILAR

1. Both happened on earth.
2. Both happened to people in human bodies.
3. Both directly involved Satan.
4. Both times Satan misused God's Word to try to convince both Adam and Eve and Jesus to violate God's Word.
5. Both involved a conversation with Satan and Satan was the first to speak.
6. Both involved appetites of the flesh (fruit/bread), things desirable to the eyes, and to pride.
7. Both took place when things were going very well.
8. Both touched on who they were— Adam and Eve created in the image of God; Jesus had just been identified as “My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)
9. Both resulted in suffering.
10. Both had a supernatural solution – God shed blood to make temporary make coverings for Adam and Eve while Jesus shed His own blood to cover all sins, past, present, and future, forever.
11. Neither ended Satan's strategy to undermine God and lead humans astray.

¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time. **Mark 1:13**

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour, 1 Peter 5:8

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. **1 John 2:15-17**

DIFFERENCES OF THE 2 TEMPTATIONS

1. Adam and Eve were in a beautiful environment and everything imaginable for food and pleasure and had each other to lean on for support. Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, totally alone, and after 40 days of not eating.
2. Satan appeared to Adam and Eve in a strange manner (a speaking animal) without identifying himself which would be very confusing. Satan was clearly identifiable to Jesus. There was no pretense of being anyone different than who he was.
3. Adam and Eve were ambushed by Satan - suddenly and unexpectedly. Jesus, through the Spirit, appointed a

specific time for the temptation and made Satan wait 40 days before Jesus would subject himself to Satan.

4. Adam and Eve would not have known who Satan was since there is no introduction of who he was, why he was there, or where he came from. Jesus knew Satan personally because He created Him and cast him and a hoard of angelic followers out of heaven because of Satan's rebellion.
5. Eve tried to reason with Satan using a misrepresentation of what God said, while Adam remained silenced. Jesus directly addressed Satan's temptation with the word of God and accurately applied truth to every Satanic distortion.
6. Adam and Eve's response hurt everyone. Jesus hurt no one except Himself but opened the door to great confidence that we do not need to be overcome with temptation.

THE PRESENT CONFLICT: THE REALITY OF LIVING IN THE GAP BETWEEN GENESIS 3 & REVELATION 21 & 22

A single act of disobedience multiplies into every kind of evil with God regretting He made humans, his heart is deeply troubled, and sadly declares judgment on His beloved creation.

⁵ The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the Lord said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.”

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. Genesis 6:5-8

²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools... **Romans 1:20-22**

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they

not only do them but give approval to those who practice them. Romans 1:28-32

¹⁹ *And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.” John 3:19-21*

APPLYING THE LESSONS OF GENESIS 3

- 1. God knows where we are in our lives - the good and the bad, what we are responsible for, and what others are responsible for in the hurts and damage they have caused us.**
- 2. He is pursuing God even when we hide in fear of Him.**
- 3. We can't cover up anything because everything is visible to God.**
- 4. He wants us to come out of hiding and covering up and blaming to face, honestly admit, and take responsibility for where we are.**

- 5. He wants to replace our human solutions for our issues with His divine answers based in the authority of God's truth - His written Word, the Bible.**

²¹ *And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. Genesis 3:21*

“...without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.” Hebrews 9:22b ¹⁷

¹⁷ *Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. I Corinthians 3:17-18*

¹⁷ *And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. Isaiah 32:17*

¹⁵ *For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength...” Isaiah 30:15*

AT LEAST ONE WAY THIS WEEK I WILL TRY TO PUT LESSON #2 INTO PRACTICE IS:

Weekly Going Deeper Study Guide

For Lesson #2: A Choice that Hurt Us All - Perfection Lost

- Before beginning each day simply ask God to help you see things that He would have you to see.**
- When finished, pray again asking for the faith and the courage to follow His lead in areas He speaks to you about.**

DAY 1-3

1. Without rushing, read through this week's lesson each day.
2. Paraphrase in 2 or 3 sentences what in your mind is the main message you get out of this lesson.

DAY 4

1. Carefully read and meditate on each of the scriptures in this week's lesson.
2. Identify the one that stands out the most to you and rewrite it in your own words.

HERE IS WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN GROUP AS TO HOW PUTTING LESSON #2 INTO PRACTICE WENT: