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# Genesis: The Epic Story of Beginnings

Lesson Nine • Genesis 3:1-7

## Paradise Lost: The Fall

### The Garden of Eden

Life with God is GOOD as long as we live under the rule of God.

*And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." Genesis 2:16-17*

*And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. Genesis 2:25*

*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 coverings. Genesis 3:7*

### Paradise Lost: The Fall into Sin

## 1. Beware: the Strategy of Satan Is DECEPTIVE!

#### Beware of Satan's Strategy

- When Satan approaches, He appears in DISGUISE in his person and purpose.

*Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. Genesis 3:1*

*So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. Revelation 12:9*

*And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. 2Cor. 11:14*

- When Satan approaches, He DISTORTS God's Word so we will DOUBT God's goodness.

#### Dialogue Leading to Doubt & Disobedience

*Serpent Speaks: And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" Genesis 3:1*

*Eve Responds: And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" Gen. 3:2-3*

*Serpent Speaks Again: Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4-5*

- When Satan approaches, His goal is for us to REBEL against God and His rule by asserting our autonomy.

*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. Genesis 3:6*

## 2. Beware: the Tragedy of Sin Is DESTRUCTIVE!

#### The Danger of Self-Pity

- When you feel deprived by God and doubt the goodness of God, sin won't seem so SINFUL.

#### The Descent of Sin

- Eve was actively DECEIVED by Satan when she sinned whereas Adam was passively DEFIANT against God when he sinned.

*She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Genesis 3:6*

*And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. 1Timothy 2:14*

#### The Discovery of Shame

- Adam and Eve discovered the shame of sin and tried to COVER it.

*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 coverings. Genesis 3:7*

### Defeated by Temptation and Sin? Know the Promise of the Gospel!

Jesus can pardon your sins and give you the power to overcome temptation.

*He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. 1Peter 2:24-25*

*No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. 1Corinthians 10:13*