

Genesis Chapter 3

V: 1 “*Serpent*” - while all the various animals have been given names, we’re not told what any of them are until the serpent. The Hebrew word “nahash” (G-5175) is used interchangeably for an actual snake or serpent, and also for the Tempter, the Devil.

- Is Satan really a serpent? Or is that just the form he took upon himself that day?

2 Corinthians 11:14 “And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”

- The serpent is known by many names and titles; Lucifer, Satan, Devil, Tempter, Accuser, Adversary, Dragon.

Revelation 20:2 “He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;”

- Lucifer: in Hebrew literally means “ the shining one.”
- There were at least three persons present:
 1. Serpent
 2. Woman
 3. God: they are talking about God, what He said – and God is omnipresent.
- This truth would later be recorded in the Psalms:

Psalms 139:7-8 “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? ⁸If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.”

Jesus assured us:

Matthew 28:20 “... lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- The issue isn’t God coming or going, whether He “appears” to be there or not.
- The issue is our awareness of His presence – because He is always there.
- Seeing who is there, it seems obvious to note who is not there, or not mentioned and that is Adam.
- Where is Adam, why isn’t he there? Is he simply silent?
- Is he not paying attention to where his wife is?
- Did Eve wonder off and left him un-awares?
- Is she where she shouldn’t be, near the forbidden tree?
- Given what takes place there must have been some proximity.
- All speculative questions with no real answers on this side of heaven.

“The serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field.”

“*Cunning*” (H-6175) “arum” - crafty, shrewd, sensible - this can be used in either a positive or negative way. In this case it’s in the negative sense.

“Which the LORD God had made...”. No question there, just an assumption of fact.

- Satan poses the very first question described in the Bible.
- The very first recorded statement of Satan is to question the Word of God?

“Has God indeed said...?”

- As Satan questions God’s Word, he is at that moment casting doubt on God’s Word.
- Notice that as Satan does so he mis-quotes the word of God – making God’s word appear to be un-reasonable or even unfair.

“...you shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

- God had given every tree of the garden to man for food, including the tree of life – every tree except for one specific tree, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, our God is not in any way unreasonable.

Genesis 1:16-17 “¹⁶... Of every tree of the garden you may feely eat; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat...”

V: 2-3 Engaging in conversation with the Serpent is the first mistake – giving ear to the enemy.

Psalm 1:1 “¹Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way or sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;”

Ephesians 4:27 “nor give place to the devil.”

Mark 4:24 “Take heed what you hear...”. Be careful who you listen to.

James 4:7 “... resist the Devil and he will flee from you.”

- The woman gets the first part of it right – *“we may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden.”*

- But the second part of what she says is not accurate; 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.*”
- The fact that she attributes this extra caution to God is where the error is. I would say that it would have been good practice not to touch it, not toying with temptation.
- If she had said “and my husband says I can’t touch it either” that would be different – the fact is that this is not what God said – even though it was probably not a bad idea.

2 Timothy 2:15 “Study / be diligent to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not be ashamed, rightly dividing / handling the Word of Truth.”

- Knowing God’s word well enough to quote it accurately – taking care not to misrepresent God.
- As Moses would attest, God is very aware of how we represent Him – and the accuracy of our words.

Exodus 17:6/ Numbers 20:10-12 strike, speak, hear now ye rebels.

V: 4 “*You will not surely die.*” – directly contradicting God’s word.

Genesis 2:17 “for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

- What have we seen thus far? Satan’s strategy:
 1. **Question the Word of God.**
 2. **Casting doubt on the Word of God.**
 3. **Mis-quote the Word of God.**
 4. **Contradict the Word of God.**

Ecclesiastes 1:9 “That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.”

- The enemy uses the same tactics to this day, the attack is always against God’s Word.

Questioning God’s Word: Did God really say?

1. “You can’t really believe the Bible because it’s just a collection of old wives tales, and traditions.”

2. It was written by men.
3. It's full of contradictions.
4. "Oh it's a good guideline in some things, it has good morals, but you can't take it literally."
 - **Misrepresenting God's Word:** every tree...?
 1. "Well, you know that David and Jonathan were lovers – so the Bible approves of homosexuality."
 2. "Money is the root of all evil!"
 3. "God helps those who help themselves."
 - **Contradicting God's Word:** "you will not surely die..."
 1. "I know what the Bible says, but if two people are really in love..."
 2. "Yes, but – you have to understand, in that culture, at that time..."
 3. "Millions and millions of years ago..."

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

Proverbs 28:26 "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool,..."

Psalms 119:105 "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

- God's Word is timeless, and God's Word is true – all of it.

2 Timothy 3:16 "For all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

- **Doctrine = teaching.**
- **Reproof = revealing sin, identifying sin.** (vs: Rebuke)
- **Correction = repentance, change of direction, course.**
- **Instruction = education, information on how things should be done.**

Warren Wiersbe version:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 "¹⁶For all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, (what's right) for reproof, (what's not right) for correction, (how to get right) for instruction (how to stay right) in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Jesus said:

John 8:31-32 "... If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. ³²And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

- Free from the power of sin.
- Free from the lies of the enemy.
- When you know the truth, you will recognize the lie when it is presented.

(Turn to:)

Psalm 19:7-11 “⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, Yeah, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. ¹¹Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.”

- Contradicting God’s Word is sin:

Proverbs 13:13 “He who despises the Word will be destroyed, but he who fears the commandment will be rewarded.”

- To despise God’s Word would be to reject it, ignore it, or to twist it to make it of no effect.

Isaiah 66:5 “Hear the Word of the LORD, you who tremble at God’s Word:”

V: 5 “*For God knows...*” – falsely representing God. God knows no such thing!

- The temptation being offered is that she will be like God, equal with God.

Isaiah 44:6 “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and His Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.”

- What Satan is tempting Eve with is not an original thought; it’s been done before:

Isaiah 14:12-15 “How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! ¹³For you said in your heart: “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.” ¹⁵Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.”

“Knowing good from evil.”

- God doesn’t want us to know both, He only wanted us to know good.

Romans 16:19b “... but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.”

- Becoming like God: Hinduism, New Age movement, Mormonism.
 1. You will not die – re-incarnation.
 2. Your eyes will be opened – enlightenment.
 3. You'll be a god – blasphemy.

V: 6 *“So when the woman saw...”*

1. Good for food.
2. Pleasant to the eyes.
3. Desirable to make one wise.

(Turn to)

1 John 2:15-17 *“¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”*

¹⁶For all that is in the world:

“The lust of the flesh”, (Good for food).

“The lust of the eyes”, (Pleasant to the eyes).

“And the pride of life” (Desirable to make one wise).

“Is not of the Father but is of the world.”

“She took of it's fruit and ate.”

- So often, we want things that we just shouldn't have. ☹

James 4:3 *“You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may consume it upon your lusts.”(KJV)*

1 Corinthians 10:13 *“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”*

Hebrews 4:15 *“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”*

- The 2nd Adam – Jesus was tempted as well, yet without sin.
- How did He do it?
 1. He was led by the Spirit.
 2. He relied upon the Word of God.

Luke Ch. 4 Temptation of Jesus. (Turn to)

- Jesus being filled with the Spirit, led by the Spirit into the wilderness and fasted, ate nothing for 40 days.

At the end of that:

1Luke 4:3 “And the devil said to Him, If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” - *appealing to the lust of the flesh.*

Jesus' response:

Luke 4:4 “But Jesus answered him, saying, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”

2Luke 4:5-7 “Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶And the devil said to Him, all this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. ⁷Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.” – *appealing to the lust of the eyes.*

Later Jesus would pray:

Matthew 26:42 “... O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

- Satan is in essence saying – “let it pass”, you don't need to go to the cross.
- This is one of Satan's attempts to circumvent the cross – “just worship me and I'll give it to you – You don't need to go to the cross, you can have it now. Same difference right?”

Jesus' response:

Luke 4:8 “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.”

3Luke 4:9-11 “Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “if You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written: “He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you, (in all Your ways) ¹¹and in their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.” – *Appealing to the pride of life.*

- The crowds of people at the Temple would see this obvious miracle and recognize Jesus as the Holy One sent from God – again circumventing both the cross and God's word.

Jesus' response:

Luke 4:12 “And Jesus answered and said to him, It has been said, you shall not tempt the Lord your God.”

James 4:7 “Therefore submit to God. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you.”

- Jesus resisted the enemy, told him to leave, and he did.
- This drives home the need to memorize as much of God's Word as you can.

Psalm 119:11 “Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

- Last week we stopped in the middle of V: 6 focusing on the tactics of the enemy.

The tactics of the Devil seemed to be synopsized in:

1 John 2:15-17 “¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

“^{6b}... she took of its fruit and ate.”

- She took an action that originated in her heart, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life all resulting in one action.

James 1:15 “Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”

- As she ate that fruit she made a choice; she chose to listen to the Devil and to her own heart, her own understanding, all in direct disobedience to God's Word.

Proverbs 3:5-7 “⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. ⁷Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil.”

- We either receive God's Word in obedience, or we reject it which is manifest in our disobedience.
- Man had been warned what the consequences would be if he failed to keep God's Word, the enemy had contradicted that. Now Eve was partaking of that forbidden fruit having rejected God's Word and having received and believed the enemy's counsel over the Word of God.

Proverbs 30:5 “Every Word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.”

Proverbs 8:32 “Now therefor, listen to me, my children, for blessed are those who keep My ways.”

But:

Proverbs 8:36 “But he who sins against Me wrongs his own soul; all those who hate me love death.”

“^{6c}She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

- All this time it appears that Adam was with Eve, observing, but not entering into the discussion, not supporting, not defending – not praying.
- There are sins of commission - things that we do that are sinful, things that we do but shouldn't. There are also sins of omission - things that we fail to do, things that we should do but don't. Adam should have intervened.

Later, Paul teaching on marriage:

Ephesians 5:21-26 “²¹Submitting to one another in the fear of God. ²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word.”

- God doesn't intend for a man to subjugate or domineer over his wife - this does however describe his responsibility to love and care for his wife, taking on the responsibility of a shepherd looking out for the wellbeing of his wife, both physically and most importantly, spiritually. Adam didn't do that.
- Later on, who takes the heat, the blame for bringing sin into the world? Adam.

Romans 5:12 “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

- Eve was an extension of Adam, he was her covering and he was held accountable for her actions because he didn't oppose what she was doing, in fact he joined in.

Numbers 30 - Oaths by men, wives, and daughters.

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

- There are times when we should not just stand by and watch bad things happen, which is exactly what Adam did, he stood there and watched, didn't warn or stop Eve.
 1. Adam let the serpent talk without rebuke.
 2. Adam let Eve take the fruit and eat it.
 3. Adam took of the fruit from Eve and ate it also.

Ephesians 4:27 “Nor give place to the devil”

James 4:7 “Therefore submit to God. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you.”

- Later, Adam would make excuses to God, essentially trying to blame his wife. Blame shifting.
- Wrongo dongo! – (Loosely translated) Hebrew for what a bunch of whooey!

“^{6c}She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

- Adam was at a point of decision – to obey God, or to follow his wife.

Matthew 10:37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”

Matthew 19:29 “And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

- The issue wasn’t so much following his wife; the issue was not obeying God’s Word. This issue was about making any other choice other than to follow God. – Nothing else is justifiable.

Proverbs 1:10 “My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.” (Even if it’s...)

- Eve was deceived, but Adam made a conscious choice.

1 Timothy 2:13-14 “For Adam was formed first, then Eve. ¹⁴And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”

- Adam made a conscience choice to disregard what God had spoken.
- Adam disregarded the Word of God, committing willful sin.
- Loving his wife more than God - knowing that the consequence of his sin would be his own death.
- Adam had never seen death, nothing had ever died.

Romans 5:12 “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

- Sin entered the world through one man, that man was Adam. Why was Adam held accountable here and not Eve? She’s the one who ate first.
- They both suffered repercussions, but Adam was held accountable for his wife’s actions because he had the ability and duty to intervene.

- The Bible describes death in spiritual terms; which is eternal separation from God – spiritual death.
1. **Physical death:** when the body completely stops working.
 2. **Spiritual death:** Alive physically, but dead spiritually.
 3. **Eternal death:** Dead physically, and dead spiritually, eternally separated from God.
- Sadly they would experience spiritual death, as they died spiritually as opposed to physically.

V: 7 Cause & effect. They ate the forbidden fruit and 4 things happened:

1. **They each died spiritually. God's Word was proven true.**

Genesis 2:17 "... for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

2. **The eyes of both of them were opened.**
3. **They knew that they were naked.**
4. **They tried to cover themselves up.**

- We can only really understand what has taken place in light of what our Lord has taught us in the New Testament.

Galatians 5:16 "I say then: walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

- Their eyes were opened, but not in a good way.
 - They went from seeing in the Spirit to now seeing by sight, in the flesh.
 - They now had knowledge of sin and shame, realizing they were naked they tried to cover themselves up.
- God had told them that "*in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*"
 - And they did.
- God created man in His image, as an inferior trinity – body, soul, and Spirit.
1. He gave man a physical body with which he could work, and fulfill the purposes of God.
 2. He gave man the ability to think and reason to exercise his mind – his soul.
 3. God breathed life into man, the very Spirit of God, giving man life in the Spirit.
- The death that man died was death in the Spirit, no longer seeing in the Spirit, no longer operating in the Spirit.

- As the spirit of man died, there came an immediate awareness of the physical realm – man saw that he was naked.
- Because God is a Superior Trinity consisting of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – it was in the realm of the Spirit that man had communion or fellowship with God.
- Now that man was dead spiritually, fellowship with God was broken – and man like Satan was now in a fallen state.

This is why Jesus would later tell us:

John 3:5-7 “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, you must be born again.”

“^{7b}*They knew that they were naked;*”

- Self-realization, it went from being all about God, to being all about self. Jesus tells us to make it all about Him.

Matthew 6:33 “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.”

- The 1st sin begets the 1st conspiracy: Eden gate – truly the 1st cover up.
- They tried to do what no man can; that is to cover their own sin.
- When it says that they sewed fig leaves together we think in terms of the fig leaves we see today – which given their relatively small size would actually fit in with our culture today.
- The fig leaves in the ante-deluvian world - the world before the flood - were probably much much larger – and probably did a fair job of covering up.

Adam & Even started out clothed in God's light, in His glory...

Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,...”

- They are no longer innocent or righteous, innocence forsaken.

Psalms 104:1-2 “¹Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great: You are clothed in honor and majesty, ²who cover Yourself with light as with a garment,...”

- Having lost all of that, being exposed as they are, they now seek to clothe themselves, in a sense in their own righteousness.

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;...”

V: 8 “*They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden.*”

John 4:24 “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and truth.”

- Does God have footsteps that we can hear? Does He crash through the jungle like a giant dinosaur, crushing the trees and brush as He moves?

Vv:10 “... I heard Your voice in the garden...”

Psalm 29:3-4 “³The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is over many waters. ⁴The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.”

Revelation 1:15 “... His voice as the sound of many waters.”

- What would they have heard?

Zephaniah 3:17 “The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”

“^{8a}*They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden...*”

Isaiah 5:1 “Let me now sing to my Well-beloved a son of my Beloved...”

- This is stated in such a casual way that this must have been a normal practice or occurrence, later Enoch would walk with God also.
- They just covered themselves with fig leaves, why are they hiding? What are they hiding?
- They could cover their bodies, but they couldn't cover their sin.
- In their fallen state they could not stand in the presence of a Holy and a Righteous God.

Habakkuk 1:13 “You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look upon iniquity.”

Isaiah 6:5 “So I said, woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts.”

1. Sadly, this is the symbolic beginning of religion. Man attempting to cover his own guilt and sin by good works is what religion is all about. (Isaiah 64:4 self-righteousness)
2. Every false religion begins with finite man on earth reaching out to an infinite God in heaven on their own terms.
3. Finite man on earth trying to work his way to heaven.
4. The only way to connect with God is through a faith based relationship with our creator, who in love condescends, and reaches down to pick us up, and bring us to Heaven.

John 14:6 “Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except through Me.”

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.”

“^{8b}Adam and his wife hid themselves, from the presence of the LORD God.”

Psalms 139:7-8 “⁷Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? ⁸If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.”

- If they thought that they could hide from God, it's only because they really didn't know God. Or perhaps their judgment was clouded by their sin.
- God is omniscient, He knows all things. God is omnipresent, He is everywhere. Yet they thought they could hide from Him.

V: 9 God is the initiator, God is the one who initiates a relationship with sinful man:

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Romans 5:8 “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

- Man did not and does not in the flesh seek out God; he's trying to hide.

Romans 3:10-11 “There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.”

- God “called” to Adam as opposed to “spoke” to Adam.
- “Called” implies distance, not being in His direct presence as it would be if God has “said” to Adam, or was “speaking” to Adam.

Isaiah 59:1-2 “¹Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. ²But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”

- Called (H-7121). qara', kaw-raw', also translated as “cried out to”.

“*Where are you?*” What tone? Anger, grief, sorrow?

- The tone of a broken hearted Father.
- God knew exactly where Adam was, He was simply helping Adam to see where he was – what his condition was.
- God was bringing Adam to a place of truth

Psalms 51:6 “Behold, You require truth in the inward parts,…”

- It is important to stop here and make sure that in this book of beginnings that we have a right concept of God. Too many have a wrong concept of God – that He is angry, and He is not.
 1. God is love.
 2. God initiates His love toward us.
 3. He wants us to be saved.
 4. He wants us to be with Him and to have fellowship with Him forever.
- This is the broken heart of a loving Father – He’s not condemning us, is not lashing out or even punishing us.

1 John 4:10 “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

“*Where are you?*”

- This question validates two things:
 1. Man was lost.
 2. That God had come to seek that which was lost.

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

V: 10 With sin, came death, and fear – the opposite of faith, and finally shame.

1 John 4:18 “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”

- Faith and fear are generally mutually exclusive terms, both cannot exist at the same time.
- This is the 1st mention of the idea of fear, being afraid, even though the word “fear” won’t be mentioned for a few more chapters. This fearful behavior is the result of the fall, it is one of the consequences of sin.
- God didn’t intend for man to be fearful, later one of the most often repeated commands in the Bible actually is to “fear not.”

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and a sound mind.”

- Downward spiral of consequences, fall out if you will – where will it end?^(At the cross)
- Can we really hide from God? Can we really hide our sin?

Numbers 32:23 “... take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out.”

- Adam heard God’s voice, he heard the word of God – and it caused fear.

1 John 4:15-19 “Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹We love Him because He first loved us.”

- Adam and Eve are just now entering into this process, a glorious process of learning the depth and breadth of God’s love for us – Love so strong, so intense, that He would sacrifice all that He has and all that He is for us.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Romans 8:32 “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

- What good thing would He hold back?

- God's Word is a revealer of sin, and in the child of God it brings conviction – awareness of sin – and it draws us to the natural conclusion; our need for repentance.

Hebrews 4:12 “The Word of God is quick and powerful ^(alive), and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Romans 3:20 “Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

Galatians 3:24 “Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

- God's word is intended to bring us to a right conclusion:

Jeremiah 29:11 “I know the thoughts that I think towards you says the Lord, thoughts for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. (to bring you to an expected end. KJV)

V: 11 Pointed questions: to which God already knows the answers.

- God is drawing Adam out, not only out of the bushes, but out of his deception, false pretenses, out of his delusions – just as He does with each of us!
- God is giving Adam an opportunity to confess and repent; the only Biblical solution for sin.

Psalms 51:6 “Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts...”

1 John 1:8-9 “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

- Confession and repentance is the only way to break the grip of sin in our lives, otherwise it will have a strong hold upon us.
- Even though God knows the truth, He is not accusing – He is asking: God is giving Adam an opportunity to admit to and to confess to His sin.

V: 12 There are only two responses to sin:

1. **Repentance:** Taking responsibility for our actions, admitting we're wrong, confessing it, and moving in the opposite direction.
2. **Rationalization:** Not accepting responsibility, re-directing blame away from ourselves either to others or to circumstances.

- He says the woman You gave... she gave...

1st Adam blames God for giving him the woman.

2nd Adam blames the woman, for giving to him.

- Trying to pass the buck, blame shifting, not accepting responsibility for his choice.
- It's not his fault – it's his environment: He was in a perfect place, paradise.
- It's not his fault – it's his parents fault, they didn't nurture him enough: God blessed Adam and gave him everything he needed.
- God doesn't "scold" Adam, He simply lets Adam's own words sink in, lets him think about what he just said.

Proverbs 28:13 "He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."

V: 13 God now turns to address Eve.

- Eve follows her husbands lead, pass the buck. The serpent. ("It's above my pay grade...")
- No repentance for either of them.

2 Corinthians 11:3 "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."

Testimony: Ron (Couch): saved from Mormonism, married a Christian woman. Became an Christian apologist regarding cult of Mormonism: wife began to question Christianity / Mormon doctrine due to exposure – Ron saw the danger and rid himself of the materials to protect his wife.

Darryl (Fong): reading "Why The Bible Has Failed Us" – giving ear to the enemy.

Ephesians 4:27 "Neither give place to the devil."

Romans 16:19 "For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil."

- Eve / us was deceived, we have to guard against being deceived - the only way to do that is to stick with God's Word.

Psalms 119:9 "How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your Word."

Psalm 119:11 “Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

Psalm 119:165 “Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble.”

2 Timothy 2:15 “Study to show yourself approved of God, a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.”

V: 14 God doesn't ask Satan any questions.

1. God already knows.
2. There is no chance of getting the truth from Satan.
3. There is no possibility of his redemption or salvation. (He's seen & rejected the glory of God.)

John 8:44 “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.”

“*cursed*” – 1st use, applied directly to Satan, to the ground, but not to man.

- To curse is to pronounce evil upon, mis-fortune, doom.
- (NT) Anathema: to condemn to damnation.

The serpent is forever “un-clean.”

Leviticus 20:25 “You shall therefore distinguish between clean animals and unclean, between unclean birds and clean, and you shall not make yourselves abominable by beast or by bird, or by any kind of living thing that creeps on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean.”

- Man is redeemable. Angels, as far as we know, are not.

Hebrews 6:4-6 “For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the good Word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”

Romans 8:20 “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;”

- Creation has suffered because of man's bad choices because creation was under the dominion of man.

V: 15 One of the practical outcomes of the fall is that women and snakes would become enemies.

- Like Eve and the Serpent, when people base their relationship on sin, they too inevitably become enemies.
- 1st Messianic prophecy: your seed, the enemy – and her seed – the “seed” of the woman.
- Woman don't have “seed” per se, that is normally the man's contribution.
- “*Her seed*” speaks of the virgin birth.

Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you sign: behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

- The angel Gabriel came to Mary and told her that she had found favor with God and would bear a son, who would be called the Son of the Highest. Mary, who had never known a man, wondered how this could be, and the angel explained the method God would use to bring to pass the birth of the child.
- Your seed, the Devil, and her seed, the seed of the woman:

1 John 3:8-10 “8He who sins is of the devil,^(devil's seed) for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested,^(seed of the woman) that He might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed^(seed of the woman, Jesus, Holy Spirit) remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. ¹⁰In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.”

- Who is the serpent's seed? **2 Thessalonians 2:3** The antichrist is called the “son of perdition.” Those who do not practice righteousness are the seed of the Devil.
- The seed of the woman is Jesus Christ.

“He shall bruise your head...”

Psalm 2:7-9 “I will declare the decree: the Lord has said to me, You are My Son, today I have begotten You. ⁸Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth Your possession. ⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.”

- All the enemies plans were crushed on the cross of Jesus – victory!

“... *and you shall bruise His heel.*”

Isaiah 53:4-5 “Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. ⁵But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

V:16 God is working in the same order chronologically – Satan fell first, then the woman, then Adam.

- God is not so much “cursing” Eve, or even judging her.
- God is declaring the natural inevitable consequences of sin.

Consequences:

Galatians 6:7-8 “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸for he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

“*Greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception*” (H-6093) “issabon” labor, pain, sorrow, toil.

“*In pain you shall bring forth children*” (H-6089). 'etseb, painful toil; sorrow.

- All this adds up to pain and toil in child birth. Then, on top of that.

Second part:

“*Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.*”

- The woman was put under the rule of man. And women have been fighting this ever since. Even in all the liberty they have attained the “liberated woman” doesn’t seem to be all that happy.
- Like the woman at the well, men too for that matter - will only find their contentment, peace, and fulfillment in a right relationship with God.

V:17 Adam heeded / obeyed the voice of his wife over the Word of God.

Genesis 16 - Abraham / Sarah / Hagar... another example...

- Does this mean that men shouldn’t listen to their wives? No.
- First thing is to consider what she, or anyone else is saying / counseling - is it consistent with the Word of God?

James 3:17 “But wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy, and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.”

James 1:5 “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who give to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

Isaiah 30:21 “You shall hear a word behind you saying, this is the way, walk in it when you turn to the right hand or when you turn to the left.”

“Cursed is the ground for your sake.”

- The whole laying it off on God and on Eve doesn't seem to be getting much play here....

Prayer of Jabez:

1 Chronicles 4:9-10 “Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, because I bore him in pain. ¹⁰And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain! So God granted him what he requested.”

- Our actions, our sins impact others.

“cursed” – applied directly to Satan, cattle, every beast of the field, to the ground, but not to man (everything under his dominion) – man is redeemable!

- To pronounce evil upon, mis-fortune, doom.
- Anathema: to condemn to damnation.

“in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.”

- God's plan is that we would work for our food all the days of our lives.
- Man is intended to work.
- I'm not seeing a retirement plan here. 900 or so years down the road for Adam.
- Children were the retirement plan.

Exodus 20:12 5th Commandment - honor your father and your mother.

V: 18-19 Thorns, are a symbol of the fallen world, of the curse.

Matthew 27:27-29 “Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. ²⁸And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹When they had twisted a crown of thorns,

they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!”

- Thorns are actually a continual curse, not just a one off situation:

Job 31:40 “Then let thistles grow instead of wheat, and weeds instead of barley.”

Proverbs 22:5 “Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse; he who guards his soul will be far from them.”

- The 2nd Adam was to bear the sins of the 1st Adam, and all the results thereof.

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

- Thorns, thistles, sweat & toil – until we die.
- Does anyone see retirement in this scenario?

“In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground...”

Ephesians 4:28 “Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”

1 Thessalonians 4:11 “That you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commended you.”

2 Thessalonians 3:10 “For even when we were with you, we commanded you this; if anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.”

“For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

Solomon, speaking of death:

Ecclesiastes 12:7 “Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.”

Job 34:15 “All flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.”

2 Corinthians 5:1-5 “¹For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, ³if indeed having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. ⁴For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because

we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”

V: 20 Adam resumes what he was doing before the fall, naming God's creatures.

- Adam = Ish woman = isha wife = same, isha (issah)
- “Eve” (H-2332) “haw-wah” - life giving, “the giver of life”
- No longer just “Isha” – woman, Eve, “giver of life”.
- Adam speaks this new name by faith, as yet no children had been born. Written by Moses in a historical sense.
- Adam understood what God meant in verse 15, he now realizes that from her will come his savior.
- He looked forward to the fulfillment of God's word, and to his own salvation.

V: 21 God clothes Adam & Eve.

Matthew 6:25-32 Jesus describes that God knows what our needs are. He uses the birds of the air and the lilies of the field as His examples of God taking care of His creation, declaring “²⁹... **Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**”

- Even in their / our sinful state, our loving God takes care of us.
- Initially they had sought to clothe themselves, but in God's eyes this was deemed inadequate so He takes it upon Himself to clothe them.
- Initially they were clothed in light but that light died when the spirit within them died or was withdrawn.
- They had sensed their shame, their need, and tried to cover themselves. God saw their need and covered them appropriately. God didn't want them running around naked and I believe He still doesn't. God values modesty.
- This covering is not only a gracious gift from God, it is a metaphor for our salvation that we cannot provide a righteous covering for ourselves, by His grace God does that for us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest any man should boast.**”

Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, ...”

Wedding feast of the Lamb - Revelation / Wedding feast of the king:

Matthew 22:1-14 (T/T) Our own clothes / righteousness is not good enough.

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;...”

- The fig leaves could not cover their sin, or their bodies, so God makes a covering of animal skins.
- The animals that died so this to happen; in a sense died a substitutionary death to provide a temporary covering – a kophar.

Hebrews 9:22 “And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”

- While the animals provided a “kophar” - a temporary covering. (even today clothes wear out over time.) Jesus that “Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world” would become our propitiation, our permanent covering.

Romans 3:24-26 “²⁴Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” (1 John 2:2, 4:10)

- I’ve mused about the fall, and wondered about how and when Adam & Eve got saved. I think it was right there in front of me the whole time.
- When God clothed them, they had to accept and receive the sacrifice that God made on their behalf, even if it was temporary until Jesus would later pay the price for their sin and ours.

V: 22 Being made in the image of God, having become like God in knowing the distinction between good and evil, man has been corrupted.

- They already knew good, God is so good! All of the creation that was around them was good, the only thing that wasn’t good at some point was when man realized that he needed a “help meet” so God fixed that and brought Eve into the picture.

- I think that as God let Adam see his need, then met that need - it gave Adam a sense of appreciation and he loved Eve. But up to that point all they had seen or known was good, now sadly evil is added into the mix and they know both good and evil. God's intent was that we would only know good.
- When Adam and Eve rebelled from God's Word; they died spiritually, and they began the process of physical death, slightly, gradually their bodies became subject to the law of death – something that we are all too familiar with today.
- It took Adam 930 years to succumb to this process. That same process is now working at an accelerated pace in each of our bodies.
- Today the average life span in the US is 79.5 yrs. Globally it's 72 yrs. Back in the 1800's the average was around 40 yrs. Ponce de Leon in his search for the fountain of youth would've been pleased to have gotten another 40 years.
- Imagine if the body continued to malfunction and fall apart – but never die. It would be a living hell, a miserable existence, a terrible fate.
- It was God's mercy to ensure that this would not happen, so God prevented access to the tree of life.
- As our bodies fall apart and die right out from under us – we too long for paradise! God uses aging to motivate us, to consider eternity, to prayer, and to looking forward to being with Him!

1 Corinthians 15:54-55 “So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”

V: 23-24 Expelled. Sent out to work.

- Why did God have to use a flaming sword? At this point man has proven un-trustworthy and rebellious.
- Why can't we control our heart beat or our breathing? Same reason; we're not trustworthy.

Isaiah 53:6 “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way;...”

Jeremiah 10:23 “O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.”

- God knows that we would die if left to our own devices, so he controls the most vital functions. I'm glad that He does!
- God "sent" him out of the garden, then He "drove out the man" – I wouldn't have wanted to go either.

Effect of sin:

Spiritual death - Curse: pronouncement of evil. - Enmity / contentions. - Sorrow
Pain - Toil, sweat - Eviction / separation, up-rooted - Physical death

- As Adam and Eve were leaving the garden, and looking back – what did they see?
- Cherubim; "im" = plural
- Two angels, bloody animal carcasses at their feet.
- A vision of "[The Mercy Seat of God.](#)"

Exodus 25:17-22 2 cherubim - at the two ends of the mercy seat – representing the presence of God; *"²²And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat,"*

John 20:12 *"And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain."*

- A flaming sword, turning every which way:

Jeremiah 23:29 *"Is not My word like a fire? Says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces."*

Hebrews 4:12 *"The Word of God is quick and powerful (alive), and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."*

John 1:14 *"And the Word became flesh, and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."*

Psalms 104:4 *"Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire."*

Genesis 22:8 *"And Abraham said, "my son, God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt offering."*

Revelation 19:13 *"He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word or God."*

- This chapter starts out with the Serpent, but it ends with a picture of Jesus!