

THE GENESIS CLASS

THE FALL OF MAN: THE EVENT THAT CHANGED ALL OF HISTORY

Review from Last Week

- The Tri-une Universe
 - God's "portrait" in His creation
 - Man as God's "image" — body, soul, spirit
- The Dominion Mandate
 - Man to "rule" and "have dominion" over all the earth
 - All of human enterprise with God's delegation and man's stewardship
 - Science to understand the earth
 - Technology to develop it
 - Commerce to utilize it
 - Education to transmit the knowledge
 - Humanities to glorify God, who made it possible
- God's Evaluation of all the Creation: "Very Good"
 - Perfect harmony
 - Perfect balance
 - Perfect relationships
 - Perfect responsibility
 - No sin
 - No death
- God's Rules for Humanity
 - Fill the earth with your children
 - Take charge of the earth and control it
 - Assume authority over all living creatures
 - Eat only plants and fruits of the earth
 - Authority to eat meat came after the Flood
 - Find and keep a life partner (opposite gender)
 - Don't eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
 - Essentially this forbade the knowledge of evil
 - This was the only restrictive order

Lucifer is the "Chief Angel" of God's Spiritual Creation

- He was one of the three **Archangels** (Ezekiel 28:13-17)
 - **Gabriel** – seems to be connected to the ministry of the Holy Spirit (Daniel 8:16; 9:21; Zacharias in Luke 1:19 and Mary in Luke 1:26)
 - **Michael** – seems to be connected to the ministry of the Son of God (Daniel 10:13,21; 12:1; Jude 1:9; Revelation 12:7)

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- **Lucifer** – seems to be connected to the ministry of God the Father
- He was created perfect in knowledge and beauty.
- He was the “anointed cherub that covers.”
- He was on “the holy mountain” and walked in the “stones of fire.”
- He chooses to rebel against God (Isaiah 14:12-15).
 - Angels created on 1st or 2nd Day (Job 38:7 and Psalm 104:4).
 - Lucifer is thrown out of heaven (Luke 10:18; Ezekiel 28:16-17).
 - War in Heaven (Revelation 12:7-9)
 - 1/3 angelic host followed in rebellion (Revelation 12:2-4, 9).
- He is recognized throughout Scriptures by three main titles.
 - The **Dragon** (Revelation 20:2; 12:3-9; Isaiah 27:1)
 - The **Devil** (Matthew 4:1-11; John 8:44; Ephesians 6:11; 1 Peter 5:8).
 - The **Adversary** [“Satan”] (Job 1 & 2; Zechariah 3:1-2; Luke 22:3, 31; Revelation 20:7).
- He entered the body of the **Serpent** (beautiful, clever “shining, upright”).
 - Not long ages: Eve not yet pregnant with Cain when Genesis 3 occurred.

Biblical Basics of Genesis 3

- God had set one “prohibition”
 - Eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
 - God had given clear warning against disobedience
 - “You shall surely die.”
- The “Serpent” deceived Eve (1 Timothy 2:14)
- Eve “bought in” to the lie of Satan (John 8:44)
- Adam consciously disobeyed God’s command.
 - He was “with” Eve (Genesis 3:6)
 - He was not “fooled” like Eve was (1 Timothy 2:14)

Biblically Speaking

And to Adam he said,
“...cursed is the ground because of you; ...
pain ... thorns and thistles ... the sweat of your face ...
till you return to the ground ...
for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”
Genesis 3:17-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man,
and death through sin, and so death spread to all men ...
death reigned through that one man...
as one trespass led to condemnation for all men.
Romans 5:12

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The Three-fold Test of Man – Genesis 3:1-6

Satan initiates “lie” and “murder” in the revelation of his worldwide and age-long strategy to deceive (John 8:44; Revelation 12:9).

1. Attempt to make DOUBT with the word of God: “Has God said...?” (3:1)
2. Statement of DENIAL of the word of God: “You will not die...!” (3:4)
3. Accusation of DENEGRATION of God Himself: “God knows...” (3:5)

Eve’s Response – A Classic Pattern of the Deceived

- She misapplied or misunderstood God’s Word (3:3).
 - Subtracted – “freely eat”...”all” the trees.
 - Added – “neither shall you touch it.”
 - Interpreted – “Lest (might) you die” from “ye shall surely die.”
- She failed to rebuke or question the Serpent.
- She failed to seek counsel or assert obedience.
 - She should have rejected this lie.
 - All was now clear: believe the serpent or believe God.
- She acts out her decision in the classic pattern for giving in to temptation.
 - Attractive physically – “good for food”
 - She had all other fruits.
 - She did not need it (not even hungry).
 - Attractive esthetically – “pleasant to the eyes”
 - She lived in the most beautiful garden.
 - She enjoyed perfection daily!
 - Attractive mentally – “desired to make wise”
 - She had perfect knowledge of GOOD.
 - She and Adam had daily fellowship with God – what more could they want!
 - 1 John 2; Galatians 5; Colossians 3
 - She reasoned from the flesh (Romans 8:5-8).
 - She loved “the things of the world” (1 John 2:15-17).
 - She wanted a companion to mimic her choice (Genesis 3:6; Romans 1:32; 1 Corinthians 15:33).

Adam’s Response: Deliberate, Wicked, Inexcusable

- He was **not** deceived (1 Timothy 2:14).
- He is the cause of sin and death in the world (Romans 5:12, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:22).

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God Initiated the Attempt to Reclaim Them – Genesis 3:8-11

- God was looking for them
 - They hid.
 - They made aprons of leaves (Isaiah 64:6).
 - They had guilt and fear (Isaiah 59:1-2, 12-13).
- God called for them
 - They kept silent.
- God gave them opportunity to confess
 - They gave excuses.
 - Adam: “The woman you gave me....”
 - Eve: “The serpent beguiled me....”
 -

God Pronounces Judgment – Genesis 3:14-19

- The **Serpent** becomes the age-long enemy of man.
 - It is cursed above all other animals.
 - It is to crawl on it belly and “eat” dust.
 - It is to have constant enmity against mankind.
 - It is to injure the seed of the woman, but will receive mortal injury from the woman’s seed (3:15).
 - NOTE: Many Bible scholars refer to this as the “first gospel,” interpreting the “seed of the woman” to be Christ. This concept is certainly borne out in the message of the Gospel, but this curse may also only refer to the age-long physical battle between mankind and serpents.
- The **Woman** now is altered in her relationship with man.
 - The “shame” of nakedness now dominates (Genesis 3:7; Exodus 32:25; Revelation 3:18).
 - The woman will have “greatly multiplied sorrow” [Hebrew: ITSTABOWN...”worrysomeness”] and an increase in her childbearing “toil.”
 - The woman will also “long” [Hebrew: ETSEB] for her husband, and her husband will “have power” [Hebrew: MASHAL] over her.
- The **Man** has a new relationship to the earth and its environment is forever altered.
 - The “ground” (Lit: “earth”, ”elements”) became cursed because of Adam’s sin (Romans 8:20-22; Hebrews 1:10-12; 1 Peter 1:24).
 - The curse on man was fourfold:
 - **Sorrow**, resulting from continual disappointment and futility.
 - **Pain and Suffering**, signified by the “thorns” which hinder man in his efforts to provide a living.
 - **Sweat and Tears** from intense struggle against a hostile environment.

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- **Physical Death** would eventually triumph over all man's efforts.

God Initiates the Redemptive Process

- God made coats of skins and clothed them.
 - An animal must have had to be killed to provide this.
 - God had rested from creating, so He would not have “created” skins; He “made” them.
 - Adam and Eve would have witnessed the killing.
 - An example of the “innocent sacrifice” would have been clearly instilled in Adam and Eve's mind.
- God prevented Adam and Eve from living in the Garden of Eden.
 - They were forced away from an “eternal life” in sin and decay.
 - They were forced into a condition that would constantly remind them of their disobedience and need for God's redemption.

The Battle for Your Mind

“I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning,
your minds may somehow be led away
from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”
2 Corinthians 11:3