

Genesis 3

Day 1

The Temptation of Eve. Read Genesis 3:1-5

1. Who disguised himself as a serpent? (See Revelation 20:2) What characteristic was given to “the serpent”? 3:1

FYI: “Satan had been originally ‘created’ (see Ezekiel 28:14,15) as the highest of all angels, the anointed cherub covering the very throne of God in heaven.”
- The Defender’s Study Bible

Subtil/crafty Strong’s OT:6175 `aruwm; cunning (usually in a bad sense): KJV - crafty, prudent, subtil

2. How do you think Satan’s suggestion “*Did God really say*” may have affected Eve? 3:1a *What doubt regarding God’s character was he planting in her mind?*
 - How did the serpent change God’s words in 2:16,17? 3:1b *What was he implying about God’s generosity, provisions? How is this attack on God’s Word related to everything that has gone on before?*

FYI: “*hath God said.* The root of all sin is **doubting** God’s Word...Satan merely implanted a slight doubt concerning God’s veracity and His sovereign goodness. The approach so successful in this case has provided the pattern for his temptations ever since.”
- The Defender’s Study Bible

You must not eat from any tree “That was a complete distortion and travesty of God’s word. God’s generosity was perverted by Satan’s question to suggest divine stinginess!”
- R. Kent Hughes (67)

3. Compare the following:

The Lord’s Commands	Eve’s Words
2:16 The LORD God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely;	3:2 The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;
2:17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”	3:3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, “You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.”

- How did Eve subtly change God’s words from 2:16? 3:2 What words did she leave out?
 - What was she doing? Ephesians 4:27 What should she have done? James 4:7
4. In 3:3. what did Eve **add** - and **subtract** from God’s words in 2:17? What reasons do you see for her doing that?

FYI: “These are the very sins God warned about after His written Word was finally completed (Revelation 22:18,19). Doubting God’s Word, augmenting, then diluting, and finally rejecting God’s Word—this was Satan’s temptation and Eve’s sin, and this is the common sequence of apostasy even today.”
- The Defender’s Study Bible

“Eve, in a breath, at once diminished, added to, and softened God’s word. Her revisionist approach to the holy word of God put her in harm’s way. And it likewise does so today.”
- R. Kent Hughes (68)

5. How did Satan change God's words from 2:17? 3:4 How would his earlier suggestion have prepared Eve to believe in this **denial** of God's word?

Digging Deeper

What did Moses say about God's word? Deuteronomy 32:47a

FYI: You shall not surely die "This is an in-your-face to God. It is the serpent's word versus God's word – an absurd juxtaposition. Note, too, that the doctrine of divine judgment is the very first doctrine to be denied. Satan attacked it from the beginning."
- R. Kent Hughes (68)

6. What was true and what was false about Satan's next statement? 3:5 (Compare 2 Peter 2:18,19) *Although Satan's lies to Eve may seem simple and obvious, what does this say about how appealing, deceptive and powerful lies can be?*

FYI: "In Satan's direct challenge, he tries to get Eve to doubt the *goodness of God*. If God lies to her, how can He be good?...He tries to get Eve to doubt the *badness of sin*. If this fruit is something good for her, why doesn't God want her to have it?. Satan wants us to see sin as something good that a bad God doesn't want us to have. His main lie to us is 'sin is not bad, and God is not good.' Satan and the flesh will present a thousand reasons to show how good it would be to disobey His command.' (Barnhouse)"
- David Guzik

"God was cast in an ugly light. According to the serpent, the threat of death was nothing more than a scare tactic to keep Adam and Eve in their place God was repressive, and obviously jealous that they might ascend too high. What an incredible attack in light of the fact that the thousand 'goods' of creation, not to mention the gift of each other and their rulership of the earth as well, came from God. Such a blatant slur on God's character! But Eve was believing it."
- R. Kent Hughes (69)

7. Summarize what Satan insinuated about God in 3:1, 4 and 5.

FYI: "These are the very sins God warned about after His written Word was finally completed (Revelation 22:18,19). Doubting God's Word, augmenting, then diluting, and finally rejecting God's Word—this was Satan's temptation and Eve's sin, and this is the common sequence of apostasy even today."
- The Defender's Study Bible

"One of Satan's oldest lies, as alluring today as then, is this: *God is holding out you*. Satan reveals two more classic lies. This first is that sin carried no consequences: **You will not die** (3:4). The second is that humans can become equal to God (3:5). The irony is that God intended for us to be like Him, sharing in His reign and ruling over His world. But Satan tempted Adam and Eve to try to take God's place."
- The Tony Evans Study Bible (5)

"You shall be as gods as soon as one begins to deny God's Word or to question His sovereign goodness, he is really setting himself up as his own god. He is deciding for himself the standards of truth and righteousness. This had been the subtle implication of Satan's probing all along; and now that Eve was properly softened to the idea, the overt assertion of imminent divinity and omniscience was more than she could resist."
- Henry Morris (112)

8. When Satan tempted Jesus with these same desires (*to use His power to satisfy His needs and exalt His position*) how did Jesus respond? Luke 4:4,8,12 How does that compare with what Eve did with God's Word?

Digging Deeper

How did Adam and Eve's temptation (*in a beautiful garden, abundant food, perfect relationships, tame animals...*) compare to the conditions that Jesus experienced? Luke 4:1,2; Mark 1:13

FYI: "The eternal Word of God resisted temptation by turning to the written Word of God...Jesus, through massive dependence on God's Word, triumphed over the tempter...Jesus rested everything on God's good word and on the good God of the Word."
- R. Kent Hughes (73)

9. Underline the titles and descriptions of Satan in the following.

- Matthew 4:1-3 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." NIV
- John 12:30-31 Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. NIV
- 2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. NIV
- Ephesians 2:2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. NIV
- 1 John 5:18-19 We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. NIV
- Revelation 12:9-10 The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. NIV

Digging Deeper

From 2 Corinthians 11:3, what concern did Paul have?

What is one of Satan's best disguises? 2 Corinthians 11:14-15

10. Underline how we are to take a stand against evil forces.

- Ephesians 6:12-13 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. NAS
- James 4:7 Submit therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you. NAS
- 1 Peter 5:8-9 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

11. Underline the assurances we have from God about the battle we face.

- II Thess. 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except something common to mankind; and God is faithful, so He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it. NAS
- I John 4:3,4 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. NAS

Applying the Word: Have you ever struggled with the lie, "Did God really say..."? Have you ever seen any of these lies (making God stingy, harsh, repressive, jealous...) employed by others? How have you seen doubt in God's Word spread in our culture, schools, the media, movies, etc.?

Day 2

Adam and Eve Fall. Read Genesis 3:6-13

12. In what three ways did the fruit appeal to Eve? 3:6 Where was her main focus? Where was she failing to focus?

- What does 1 John 2:16 say about the source of these desires?

FYI: *desirable to make one wise* "This is the great enticement – wisdom apart from God's word: The prospect of God-like moral autonomy."
- R. Kent Hughes (70)

13. After eating the fruit, what was the first thing Eve did? 3:6b Why do you think she did this? Do you think Adam was directly "with her" and witnessed the temptation?

- Why do you think Adam ate the fruit? *Who was deceived and who wasn't?* (See 1 Timothy 2:14; Romans 5:17)

FYI: "As Kenneth Matthews points out; 'The woman listens to the serpent, the man listens to the woman, and no one listens to God.'"
- R. Kent Hughes (65)

14. How did Adam and Eve immediately feel about themselves? 3:7

- How did they feel about God? 3:8 How ridiculous were their attempts to cover up their sin? (Contrast Psalm 139:2,7,8)

FYI: "The manifestation of death was emotional, spiritual, relational, environmental, and ultimately physical...When they heard God approaching ***they hid from the Lord God***' (3:8) The spiritual relationship that nourished them and should have brought them their greatest joy and become a terror to them." - The Tony Evans Study Bible (5,6)

15. Although Adam and Eve didn't immediately die *physically*, what kind of *death* occurred? What happened to all mankind? Ephesians 2:1; Romans 5:12

16. Since God is all-knowing, why do you think He asked them where they were? 3:9 *What tone do you hear in God's question as he was seeking them?*

FYI: "God sought – they hid- and God found...The initial question was not an indictment...There was no hint of accusation, God nudged Adam to come to his senses. The process was graced."
- R. Kent Hughes (78)

17. What emotions did Adam express? What action had he taken? 3:10 *Do you see any admission of wrongdoing in Adam's reply?*

18. Again, since God already knew the answers, what response do you think He was seeking by His questions in 3:11?

19. What excuse did Adam give? Whom did he blame? 3:12 Whom was he holding ultimately responsible? (Contrast James 1:13-15)

- How does this attitude compare to Adam's joy when he first saw Eve (2:23,24)? What had happened to their *relationship*?
- What had happened to Adam's *relationship* with the Lord?

FYI: "Adam...accused God...In doing this Adam was like Satan, who had argued that a better God would not withhold anything from His people. Here Adam implied that a better God would not have given him Eve. Implicit blasphemy."
- R. Kent Hughes (79)

20. Whom did Eve blame? 3:13 Although Adam and Eve's answers were honest, what attitude would you say was missing in their responses?

21. Underline ways to deal with temptation.

- Psalm 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. NIV
- Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. NIV
- Matthew 26:41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." NIV
- Galatians 5:16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. NIV
- 2 Timothy 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. NIV
- Ps 25:15 My eyes are ever on the LORD, for only he will release my feet from the snare. NIV
- Psalm 101:3 I will set before my eyes no vile thing. NIV

Applying the Word: *To whom or what do you sometimes shift the **blame** (one of our "favorite fig leaves") for your behaviors? Where do you see the struggle to "be like God" in your own thinking and behavior? Why?*

Day 3

Judgement. Read Genesis 3:14-19

22. What curse did the Lord pronounce on Satan? 3:14 (Compare the use of the phrase “eating dust” in Micah 7:17.)

- What is implied about a curse on other animals in 3:14? *What does that say about any fossil record containing dead animals prior to this time?*

FYI: “All of animate creation would be banished from the fertility and harmony of the garden, but the serpent was cursed ‘above all’ the rest of the animals. His exile was permanent and inviolable – eternal...Eating dust variously signifies abject humiliation in Scripture. (Psalm 72:9).”
- R. Kent Hughes (85)

“The emphasis lies in the snake’s ‘eating dust,’ an expression that elsewhere carries the meaning of ‘total defeat’ (cf. Isaiah 65:25; Micah 7:17).”
- The Expositor’s Bible Commentary

23. What kind of blow would be dealt to Satan and by whom? 3:15 (See John 12:31; 16:11; Rev. 20:2,10)

- What kind of blow would be inflicted on the “seed” of the woman? 3:15b (Who is the *seed*? Galatians 3:16, 4:4) *What does the difference between a blow to the **head** versus **heel** indicate?*

FYI: Bruise thy head “This prophecy was fulfilled in the first instance at the cross, but will culminate when the triumphant Christ casts Satan into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).”
- The Defender’s Study Bible

Early church writers referred to 3:15 as the *proevangelium* or “first gospel.”

24. How were the blessings of child bearing and marriage affected by the Fall? 3:16

FYI: “In the beginning, when the man and the woman were created, childbirth was at the center of the blessing that their Creator had bestowed on them (1:28). Now, after the Fall, childbirth is again to be the means through which the snake would be defeated and the blessing restored. In the pain of the birth of every child, there was to be a reminder of the hope that lay in God’s promise. Birth pangs are not merely a reminder of the futility of the Fall; they are as well a sign of an impending joy.”
- Expositor’s Bible Commentary

“Paradise was lost. Yet there was grace. God’s curse upon Satan meant that His own Son would one day become a curse for us...God’s judgments would fall on the very center of the women’s existence. But in those judgments there was grace. Nothing would satisfy her but God.”
- R. Kent Hughes (88)

25. Why was Adam judged? 3:17 How had Adam and Eve’s **rule** over creation been spoiled?

FYI: “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife: It wasn’t just as if Adam took Eve’s advice. He chose to be with Eve instead of obeying God. There is a sense in which *idolatry of Eve* was an aspect of Adam’s disobedience against God.”
- David Guzik

26. What else was cursed in 3:17,18a and how? *What do you think may have even happened to things such as bacteria, viruses or microorganisms in the soil? (Compare Matthew 27:29a)*

FYI: Thorns Strong's OT:6975 *qos*; " a thorn, a thornbush...It refers to an undesirable, inedible shrub that became part of God's curse on the ground...The word is used in similes to designate an undesirable thing (2 Sam. 23:6) and to represent enemies of the psalmist in some passages (Ps. 18:12). – The Complete Word Study Dictionary O.T.
 "The word may include all kinds of noxious insects, &c., as well as poisonous weeds." – The Companion Bible

27. What phrases describe the state of creation in Romans 8:20,21,22? What end result will God bring about? 8:21 (See also 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 22:1-5)

28. List the phrases that describe the consequences that Adam would bear regarding his work on earth. 3:17,18,19a What does this say about the "rule" over the earth that they lost? *Ironically, how does the blessing and then the curse of the ground give a picture of Adam's submission and then rebellion to God?*

Food for Thought: "[God] did not create death in the direct sense, but rather withdrew that extension of His power which had maintained a 'steady state' of life and order, thus allowing all things gradually to disintegrate toward disorder and death...Thus the entire creation was made 'subject to vanity.' (Romans 8:20) The earth began to 'wear out as a garment' and ultimately 'shall perish.' (Hebrews 1:10-12)
 Instead of all things being 'made' - that is, organized into complex systems – as they were in Creation Week, they are now being 'unmade,' becoming disorganized and simple. Instead of life and growth, there comes decay and death; instead of evolution, there is degeneration.
 This, then, is the true origin of the strange law of disorder and decay, the universally applicable, all-important Second Law of Thermodynamics...Man is a sinner and has brought God's curse on the earth." – Henry Morris
 "In an instant the original couple passed from life to death, from sinlessness to sin, from harmony to alienation, from trust to distrust, from ease to dis-ease. It did not take a day. It happened in a millisecond!" – R. Kent Hughes (76)

29. What other consequence would Adam and Eve ultimately experience? 3:19b (Cross-ref. 2:17) *How drastically would you say the world changed from the "very good" world of Genesis 1 and 2?*

FYI: 3:19 dust thou art. "The Curse thus applies to man and woman, to the animals and to the physical elements, God's whole creation. ...There could have been no death in the world before man brought sin into the world. Thus, the fossils in the earth's crust cannot be a record of the evolution of life leading up to man but must be a record of death after man. In the evolutionary scenario, struggle and death in the animal kingdom eventually, after a billion years, brought man into the world. The truth is, however, that man brought death into his whole dominion by his sin."
 – The Defender's Study Bible

"With sin came the Second Law of Thermodynamics. From that time on, entropy, or disorder, would be constantly increasing. Everything in the universe after that time would be decaying, running down, rusting, wearing out - without exception. Isaiah 51:6 describes what we fully understand, '... the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies.'"
 - Jim Winebrener

"The concept of evolution...is exactly the opposite of the universally proved scientific principle of increasing entropy [disorder] . This theory is nevertheless believed to be the most fundamental principle of nature by almost the entire intellectual establishment!"
 - The Defender's Study Bible

" **Video:** "The Foundations Series - Death, The Enemy" Watch (0:00 – 25:00)
 || <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17P3DjFm36c&list=PLREn5Fhe5i5xB>
 " FokfE8 qT11mwGl2qvAf&index=2



Applying the Word: *How does this historical account of man's fall explain the need for Christ, the reason for His death, and the hope and life He gives?*

Day 4

Exile from the Garden. Read Genesis 3:20-24

30. From the name Adam gives to his wife, what would you say about his faith and hope? 3:20
What promise was he trusting would be fulfilled? (Note: From where do all "races" originate?)

FYI: Eve OT:2332 *khav-vaw*; life-giver; Chavvah (or Eve), the first woman:
 "living, making alive" – The Complete Word Study Dictionary OT

31. After Adam's statement of faith, what did God do for Adam and Eve? 3:21

- What did this show about sin? Hebrews 9:22
- How does this explain the necessity of Christ's death on the cross? Hebrews 9:27-28

32. What would you say about the consequences of sin from Genesis 3?
Sin touches all of life...

33. What sacrificial system did the Israelites follow? 1 Chronicles 6:49

- What purpose did this serve? Leviticus 17:11
- Why were these sacrifices insufficient? Hebrews 10:1-4
- How adequate was Christ's sacrifice? John 1:29; Hebrews 10:10; 1 John 1:7
- What did Christ do to death? Hebrews 2:14,15

"Adam and Eve were clothed with a garment that was purchased with the life of another. We are clothed with a garment of righteousness that was purchased with the life of another, Jesus Christ." - David Guzik

34. Why did the Lord banish mankind from the garden? 3:22,23 (Compare Revelation 2:7; 22:2)
What do you picture happening if man had been allowed to “live forever”?

FYI. 3:22 “The verse ends with a figure of speech (*Aposiopesis* = sudden silence)...emphasizing the result as being unspeakable.”
- The Companion Bible (8)

“As residents of the garden, they could have eaten from the tree of life and perpetuated their bodily existence indefinitely. Thus the garden would have become Hell on earth, populated with the undying dead – forever living and forever dead.”
- R. Kent Hughes (96)

“The tree of life represents immortal, eternal life, but also irretrievable loss, a cosmic nostalgia, a longing for something we remember but yet never had.”
- from Tim Keller’s sermon “The Wounded Spirit”

“Most people, if they had really learned to look into their own hearts, would know that they... want something that cannot be had in this world... There is always something we grasped at in that first moment of longing that just fades away in the reality. Our lifelong nostalgia, our longing to be reunited with something in the universe from which we now feel cut off, to be on the inside of some door which we have always seen from the outside, is no mere neurotic fancy, but the truest index of our real situation...”
- C. S Lewis

35. How was the entrance to the garden guarded and why? 3:24 *Why do you think the Lord didn’t destroy the garden?*

Digging Deeper

See the place of cherubim in the tabernacle. Exodus 25:17-22; 26:1,31

- What access do we have today to God’s presence? Eph. 2:5-7

FYI: “Placing a cherubim with a flaming sword at the entrance (3:24) was the kindest thing God could have done. If Adam and Eve had eaten of the tree of life in their sinful state, they would have been locked into that sinful state and its consequences forever.”
- The Tony Evans Study Bible (6)

“Access to the presence of God was lost in the garden and then was only possible for the priest who entered the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle and the temple [once a year]. But now it is possible through the person of Jesus Christ.”
- R. Kent Hughes (99)

36. Mark/color what Adam brought into the world and with a different marking/color indicate what Christ gave.

¹²Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

...¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

...¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

²⁰ The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:12-21 NIV

37. What contrasts are made between Christ and Adam in 1 Corinthians 15:45-49?

- What will ultimately happen to death? 1 Corinthians 15:24-26 (See also Isaiah 25:8; Revelation 20:14)

Applying the Word: *If you could change the world, what would you wish for? What is our hope? See Psalm 16:11*

For Further Study

Video: “The Truth About Death” with Bryan Osborne (5:59)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RY9ID-AA5P0>



Video: “Thinking Foundationally” Ken Ham (7:99)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfljHia7l-c>



Video: “The Doctrine of Death” with Dr. Terry Mortenson (11:48)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jClIwJOdC-Y>



Video: “The Foundations: Relevance of Genesis Part 2” (29:29) Ken Ham
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NAoW9y-qtL4&feature=emb_imp_woyt



Video: “Understanding Genesis” - Dr. Jason Lisle (1:01:37)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOZWMqWqpws>



“There is death in the world only because there is sin in the world. It is *this* great truth that causes evolutionists to stumble over God and His word...they simply cannot tolerate the record of man's Fall and God's Curse as the cause of suffering and death in the world...

A prominent anti-Christian philosopher, Michael Ruse, sees the problem better than most Christians. *‘Either humankind is in a state of original sin or it is not. If it is, then there was reason for Jesus to die on the cross. If it is not, Calvary has as much relevance as a gladiator's death in the Coliseum.’* In other words, by diluting or ignoring the effects of the Fall, one inevitably—though perhaps unintentionally—is undermining the very gospel itself.

Another humanist further stresses this aspect, even gloating over what such accommodations are accomplishing. *‘For if there was no Adam, there was no fall; and if there was no fall, there was no hell; and if there was no hell, there was no need of Jesus as Second Adam and Incarnate Savior, crucified and risen. As a result, the whole Biblical system of salvation collapses...Evolution thus becomes the most potent weapon for destroying the Christian faith.’* (Mattill, A. J.)

—The Fall, the Curse, and Evolution <https://www.icr.org/article/837/309>