

FAITH SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

January 3, 2009

The First Sin

Focal Passage: Genesis 3

Cross References: Genesis 2:15-17; 1 John 2:15-17; Luke 4:1-13; Hebrews 9:27; 1 Corinthians 10:13

Central Idea: Satan tempted; man sinned; God punished, but also provided.

Lesson Idea: Satan still uses the same temptations to tempt mankind, but we are responsible to resist sin and obey God.

Additional Idea: God provides grace to cover our sin and limit its consequences.

Historical Context: God's creation was perfect and provided everything Adam and Eve needed to sustain their lives. He placed just one prohibition on them, and they chose to disobey. Sin always carries consequences that are devastating to mankind. Apart from God's grace, we would have no hope.

Read the Bible Through

Highlights of the Week:

Gen 1: The Creation

Gen 2: The First Marriage

Gen 3: The Fall

Gen 6: Noah's Ark

Gen 12: Call of Abraham

Bible in a Year Daily Readings

January 2009

Jan 1 Genesis 1 - 4

Jan 2 Genesis 5 - 8

Jan 3 Genesis 9 - 12

Jan 4 Genesis 13 - 17

Jan 5 Genesis 18 - 20

Jan 6 Genesis 21 - 23

Jan 7 Genesis 24 - 25

Jan 8 Genesis 26 - 28

Jan 9 Genesis 29 - 31

Jan 10 Genesis 32 - 35

Jan 11 Genesis 36 - 38

Jan 12 Genesis 39 - 41

Jan 13 Genesis 42 - 43

Jan 14 Genesis 44 - 46

Jan 15 Genesis 47 - 50

Jan 16 Exodus 1 - 4

Jan 17 Exodus 5 - 7

Jan 18 Exodus 8 - 10

Jan 19 Exodus 11 - 13

Jan 20 Exodus 14 - 16

Jan 21 Exodus 17 - 20

Jan 22 Exodus 21 - 23

Jan 23 Exodus 24 - 27

Jan 24 Exodus 28 - 30

Jan 25 Exodus 31 - 34

Jan 26 Exodus 35 - 37

Jan 27 Exodus 38 - 40

Jan 28 Leviticus 1 - 4

Jan 29 Leviticus 5 - 7

Jan 30 Leviticus 8 - 10

Jan 31 Leviticus 11 - 13

Genesis 3:1-5 The Temptation

3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 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."

This is the first we hear about the serpent who turns out to be a physical embodiment of Satan. His first approach was to cause the woman to doubt God and His commands.

QUESTIONS:

Why did Satan begin by asking about what God “really” said?

How does Satan get people to doubt God’s commands in our times?

In verse 3 what does Eve add to the command God gave in Gen 2:15-17? Is it significant that she added to the command?

In verse 4 Satan moved from questioning what God said to contradicting Him completely.

What are some things today that God says are wrong, but Satan has convinced people they are okay?

What is the temptation that Satan uses in verse 5? Why would wanting to be “like God” be an evil thing here?

Genesis 3:6-7 The Sin

6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree 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. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

QUESTIONS

In vs. 6, what three things about the fruit enticed the woman to eat it?

Read 1 John 2:15-17. How does this passage parallel to the three things that enticed Eve?

How would you define those three things according to 1 John 2: *“the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life”* (KJV) or *“the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does”* (NIV)?

Read Luke 4:1-13. How does Satan tempt Jesus with the same basic desires? How does Jesus fight those temptations?

What can we learn from Jesus about how to overcome our desires for sin?

What are some specific temptations people face today and some Scriptures people could remember to help them overcome the temptations?

Where was Adam when the serpent was tempting Eve?

Why didn't Adam speak up during Eve's conversation with Satan?

What happened after they ate of the fruit?

Genesis 3:8-19 Consequences

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

QUESTIONS

The sin resulted in Adam and Eve feeling like they had to hide from God--they had lost their personal fellowship with God. Sin always damages our relationship with God.

If God knows all things, why did He ask Adam, "Where are you?"

What did Adam and Eve each do when God asked them about their sin?

Why do people blame others when they sin?

What were the consequences of their sin?

In Gen 2:17 God said that the punishment for disobeying would be death. In Gen 3:4 Satan said they would not die. How does Gen 3:19 show that God's declaration was correct?

Genesis 3:20-24 Grace

20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

21 The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. 22 And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." 23 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. 24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

QUESTIONS

In vs. 21 what did God do for Adam and Eve and why?

Some see God's act of providing garments of skin as a foreshadowing of the need for blood sacrifice to cover sins. See Hebrews 9:27. Who provided the ultimate covering for our sinfulness?

Why is God banishing man from the Garden of Eden an act of grace?

APPLICATION

Satan still uses the same forms of temptation and sin brings bad consequences. What can you take from today's lesson that will help you avoid sin this week?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. What does God promise about temptation and how we can avoid it?

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