



# A Study of the Book of GENESIS



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## WEEK FOUR

### *The Fall (Genesis 3)*

#### INTRODUCTION

Addressing the problem of sin in a way that is faithful to Scripture is a difficult task but necessary for several reasons.

- **Sin Is Sin Because It Is \_\_\_\_\_ GOD.**
  - Psalm 51:4
  
- **Sin Relates Directly to Our Understanding of \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - 1 John 1:7-10
  
- **Sin Is Linked to Our Understanding of \_\_\_\_\_.**

#### GENESIS 3: THE ORIGIN OF SIN IN HUMANITY

We have very little definitive information concerning the actual beginning of sin in creation (for we know that it ultimately began with the fall of Satan). We do know that the ultimate cause of sin, as related to humanity, lies in God's choice to make us free creatures capable of communion with God. The gift of liberty is also a terrible weight. We can choose hell, destruction, and separation from God – or all that is good. God does allow people to make such choices. To be a human being is an awesome responsibility, for we have the frightful gift and responsibility of freedom. Though we cannot fully explain why sin began, we are told how it began among humans. That is recorded in Genesis 3, an important chapter in human history and an important chapter for understanding sin. Several factors in this chapter call for some attention.

### ***The Serpent***

- Revelation 12:9 – The serpent was the instrument of Satan, for whom deception is a key characteristic (Revelation 20:3).
  
- 2 Corinthians 11:14
- Matthew 16:23
- Genesis 3:15

### ***The Temptation***

- **V. 1: Satan’s Question.** What is the significance of the wording of this question?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **Vv. 2-3: Eve’s Response.** When comparing God’s command to Adam in Genesis 2:15-17 and Eve’s response to the serpent in Genesis 3:1-3, what are the differences that may have contributed to Eve’s giving in to the serpent’s deception?.

What are some possible reasons why Eve misquoted God?

What was Adam’s failure in this discussion? (vs. 6)

- **Vv. 4-5: Satan's Deception.** Satan directly challenged the authority and character of God. The serpent said God lied and lied maliciously to keep them from something good. God is painted as the enemy, Satan as their friend.

How did he twist God's command to use it against Him and convince Eve that he was right?

Why did God give them the restriction? Why did He even create such a tree if He did not want them to partake of it?

- **V. 6: The 1-2-3 Knockout.** 1 John 2:16 introduces three main areas of temptation humanity faces. It is in these three areas that Eve fell in the garden.

<b>THREE MAIN AREAS OF TEMPTATION</b>		
<b>1 John 2:16</b>	<b>Genesis 3:6 –</b>	<b>Luke 4 –</b>

- **The Greatest Temptation.** Compare Genesis 2:8-9 with Genesis 3:6.

What characteristic(s) of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil are common among all the trees in the garden?

What characteristic(s) are unique to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

This is the only benefit Eve saw in the eating of this tree instead of the others and, therefore, her only incentive for eating it. What major common trait does the sin of Adam and Eve have with the original sin of Satan?

## *The Consequences of the Fall*

There are five major consequences of the fall of Adam.

1) \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (3:7-10).

➤ John 3:19-20

2) Distortions in \_\_\_\_\_ (3:8-19).

- **God-Man Relationship:**
  
- **Husband-Wife Relationship:**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- **Human-Creation Relationship:**

3) Knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (3:22).

4) \_\_\_\_\_ (3:20-24).

- Genesis 2:17
- Revelation 2:11
- Revelation 20:14-15
- Revelation 22:1-3

5) Perpetual \_\_\_\_\_ of the Fall.

➤ Romans 5:12-19

<u>Before the Fall</u>	<u>After the Fall</u>	<u>In Heaven</u>
The Time of Innocence	The Time of Responsibility	The Time of Full Salvation
Essential Humanity	Existential Humanity	Eschatological Humanity
Genesis 1-2	Genesis 3 - Revelation 19	Revelation 20-22

To what extent guilt accompanies that sinful nature is a matter of some differences. But evangelical Christians largely agree that one of the results of original sin is \_\_\_\_\_, which means *a person will never choose to trust Christ apart from the divine intervention*. There is freedom of will in the sense that there is no coercion exercised on the will. It simply acts in accordance with its nature. But human nature, being corrupt, never chooses for God but is rather at hostility toward God (Romans 8:6-8).