



The New Life in Christ

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature..." II Corinthians 5:17
Course III, Lesson 4

THE FALL OF MAN

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 2:7-17
Genesis 3:1-19

Key Verse:

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin" Romans 5:12

In Lesson 2 we learned that Adam was created in the image of God. As he came forth from the hand of his Creator, Adam was sinless. His nature was pure. He did not even have a tendency to sin. However, it was possible for Adam to sin because he had a free will. He was free to choose to obey God or to disobey Him.

God knew that Adam needed a wife, so He caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam. While he slept, God took a rib from Adam's side and with it formed a wife for him. Adam named her Eve, which means "mother of all living."

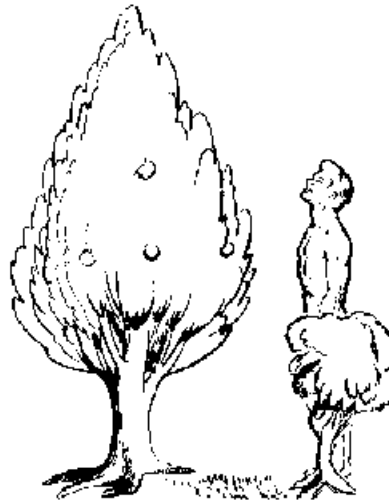
God blessed Adam and Eve and said to them,

"Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it" Genesis 1:28

God placed them in a beautiful garden called "the Garden of Eden." It was Adam's duty to care for the garden.

There were many different kinds of trees in the garden, but two trees were different from all the

others. One of these was named "the tree of life," and the other, "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil."



Adam in the garden

Adam and Eve were permitted to eat freely of every tree in the garden except one - "the tree of knowledge of good and evil." God specifically commanded them not to eat of this tree and warned them,

*"... in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."
Genesis 2:17*

Adam and Eve were happy in the Garden of Eden and, perhaps, lived this way for some time. One thing that they especially enjoyed was the wonderful fellowship they had with God, their Creator. In the cool of the evening, God would come and visit with them. But one day, a terrible thing happened!

Satan, in the form of a serpent, entered the garden and began talking with Eve. He asked the question.

"Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Genesis 3:1



Satan tempting Eve

This seemed to be a harmless question but Satan had an evil plan. His plan was to deceive Eve into disobeying God.

How Satan Deceived Eve. Eve replied,

"We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." Genesis 3:2,3

Satan's next statement was a bold lie. He said,

*"Ye shall not surely die:
For God doth know that in
the day ye eat thereof, then
your eyes shall be opened,
and ye shall be as gods,
knowing good and evil."
Genesis 3:4,5*

Not only did Satan contradict God, but he also suggested that God was holding back something good from Adam and Eve. Satan told Eve that, by eating this fruit, she and her husband would be as gods.

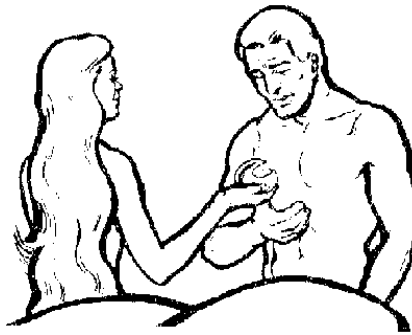
Eve had to make a decision. God had said, "Thou shalt surely die." Satan now said, "Ye shall not surely die." Eve had to choose whom she would believe - God or Satan. Eve looked at the fruit and thought about what Satan had said. Then she made her choice. She took the fruit and ate it. Eve chose to believe Satan!

How Satan Caused Adam to Sin.

Satan's plan to deceive Eve had been successful. She actually believed Satan! She was deceived into believing a lie. Why was Eve deceived? Because she did not believe God's word. We, too, will be deceived if we do not believe what God has said.

But this was not the end of Satan's evil plan. Satan also planned to cause Adam to sin. This time, however, Satan did not speak directly to Adam. Instead, he depended on Eve to cause Adam to disobey God. Eve offered the fruit to her husband. No doubt, she told him what the serpent had said about the great power to be bestowed upon them by eating the fruit.

Now, Adam had to make a choice. He knew what God had said. God had plainly told him that the result of eating the fruit would be death -- not power. Was Adam deceived by what Satan had told Eve? No, he was not. He knew better. Nevertheless, he took the fruit and ate it. Adam had sinned!



Eve handing the fruit to Adam

What was Adam's sin? His sin was disobedience. He disobeyed a direct command of God. He chose his own will instead of choosing God's will. In so doing, Adam rebelled against his Creator and followed Satan, the first great rebel.

What Happened When Adam Sinned?

The immediate result of Adam's disobedience was death! But what kind of death was it? It was spiritual death. We know that Adam's body did not die at once. He lived for hundreds of years after his act of disobedience, but he died spiritually that very day.

In the Bible, death always means separation. We all know what physical death is. It is the separation of the spirit from the body. But what is spiritual death? Spiritual death is the separation of God's Spirit from man's spirit. To be cut off from the life of God is to be dead spiritually. This is what happened to Adam and Eve when they sinned against God. Their spirits were cut off from God's Spirit. They died spiritually.

The first thing Adam and Eve noticed after they had sinned was that they were naked. The Bible says,

*"... and they knew that they
were naked; and they sewed
fig leaves together, and
made themselves aprons."
Genesis 3:7*



Adam and Eve clothed in leaves'

Why had not Adam and Eve needed clothing before? Because they had been clothed with the light of God's glory. Now that sin had entered their lives, they were separated from God, and God's glory had left them. Adam and Eve were sinners!

God Pronounces Judgment on Adam and Eve

That same day, in the cool of the evening, God came seeking Adam and Eve, but they no longer wanted to see God. Instead, they felt guilty and hid themselves among the trees of the garden. But no one can really hide from God.

A righteous God could not overlook their sin. He could not pretend that nothing had happened. God called Adam and Eve to come to Him. Then He pronounced His judgment upon them. They would have to leave the beautiful Garden of Eden. Hereafter, Adam would have to work hard to get



Adam and Eve driven from the garden

his food from the ground. Eve would be subject to her husband and would bear children in sorrow and in pain. Even the ground itself would be cursed because of their sin.

What God Promised to Man

To the serpent who had been used by Satan to deceive Eve, God said,

*"... upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life."
Genesis 3:14*

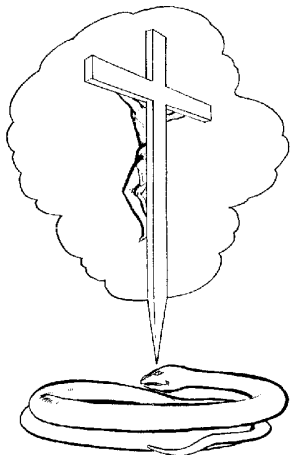
God turned to Satan himself and said,

*"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed"
Genesis: 3:15*

Then God gave the first promise concerning a coming Saviour,

*"... It (the coming Saviour) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel."
Genesis 3:15*

God's first man, Adam, had been defeated by Satan. Here God gives the promise of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, who would defeat Satan.



God's judgment upon Satan

How God Provided for Man

Because God is a holy God, He cannot allow sin in His presence. Adam and Eve had sinned; therefore, they had to leave the Garden of Eden. Sin always separates man from God. But God had a plan. One day He would send His only begotten Son into the world to die for man's sin. By His death on the cross, the Lord Jesus

would make it possible for man to be forgiven of his sin and to come back into fellowship with God.

Meanwhile, God made a provision for Adam and Eve. He clothed them with coats of skins. The Bible says,

*"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."
Genesis 3:21*

God had to kill innocent animals to make a covering for two people who had sinned.



Hand of God slaying the lambs

In killing innocent animals to make the coats of skins for Adam and Eve, God taught them that

*"... without shedding of blood is no remission (forgiveness of sins)."
Hebrews 9:22*

God had provided the way for Adam and Eve and their descendants to come back into fellowship with Him. From that time until Jesus would come as the Saviour, people were to offer innocent lambs as a sacrifice for sins. God accepted these animal sacrifices because those who offered them were looking forward by faith to the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.



Man's ruin in sin came because Adam chose his own will instead of choosing God's will.

PRAYER: Father, I thank You for being the kind of God that You are - a holy God who will not overlook sin. I thank You for making a way for me to come into your presence through the blood of your Son.

DEFINITIONS

Contradict - to resist or oppose by arguing. Satan opposed or contradicted God's word when he tempted Eve.

Enmity - hatred.

Provision - the supply of a need. Adam and Eve had sinned; their sins needed to be covered. God provided for this need; He supplied the skins of innocent animals to cover them.

Fellowship - association with another; enjoying another's company.

Remission - forgiveness of sins. Christ died on the cross and shed His blood so that we can have remission of sins, that is, forgiveness of sins.

The Beginning of False Worship



Cain offering fruit of the ground

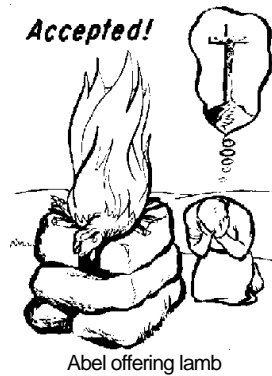
Adam had two sons whose names were Cain and Abel. They had been taught the true way in which to worship God. They knew God's

requirement of offering innocent lamb as a sacrifice for their sins.

Both sons brought their offerings to the Lord. Cain brought the fruit of the ground for his offering, for he was a farmer. But God rejected his offering. Abel tended sheep. He brought a lamb as his offering and God accepted his offering.

Why only Abel's Offering Was Accepted by God

It is important to know why God accepted Abel's offering but rejected Cain's offering. It was not because Abel lived a better life than Cain. Both Cain and Abel were sinners.



God accepted Abel's offering because he offered a lamb, which was a type of Christ, the Lamb of God. Abel confessed that he was a sinner and brought a lamb as an offering for his sins. By faith Abel was looking forward to the coming of God's Son who would die for the sins of the world.

God did not accept Cain's offering because he came in his own way instead of God's way. Cain thought that forgiveness of sins could be won by his own efforts.

Since the time of Cain and Abel, there have always been those who have come to God as sinners trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ and those who have tried to come to God in their own way. But God has not and never will accept anyone outside of Christ. We can say that all false worship began with Cain.

Remember to:
Read the Scripture Reading
Memorize the Key Verse

QUESTIONS PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Turn to the Question Page and fill in the answers for this lesson before going on to the next lesson.
2. When you have studied the lessons and have completed the Question Page, carefully detach the question page.
3. Print your name and address in the space provided at the bottom of the Question Page. Also, print your name and return address in the top left corner of the return envelope.
4. Fold the Question Page(s) and return them to the correspondence school. Place a First Class stamp on the envelope and make sure the correspondence school name and address is printed on the return envelope before mailing it back with your question pages.

Don't forget to write in your name and return address.

Send in your ANSWER SHEETS ONLY!

Please study the lesson carefully before filling in the answers

QUESTIONS

1. As created by God, was Adam sinless? _____ Did he have any tendency to sin? _____ Was it possible for him to sin? _____.
2. God commanded Adam and Eve not to eat of the tree of the _____
_____.
3. Satan's plan was to _____.
4. Was Eve deceived by Satan? _____ Why? Because _____.
5. Did Satan talk directly to Adam? _____. Satan depended on _____ to cause Adam to _____.
6. Was Adam deceived by what Satan had told Eve? _____. Adam's sin was the sin of _____
_____. He chose _____ instead of choosing _____.
In so doing, Adam followed _____.
7. What was the immediate result of Adam's disobedience? _____. But what kind of death was it?
_____.
8. Physical death is the separation of the _____ from the _____.
Spiritual death is the separation of _____ from _____.
9. Because God is a _____ God, He cannot _____.
After Adam and Eve sinned, God clothed them with _____.
10. "Without _____ is no _____ (_____
_____)." God accepted the sacrifices of animals because those who offered them were looking forward
by faith to the coming of _____.

Please Print Check answers carefully before mailing

You must return answer sheet before you get next lesson.

Name _____

Age _____ (Check if adult _____) Grade _____ School _____

Parent's name _____

Mailing address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send in your answer sheet only!

