

**Faith Baptist Church**  
**Lesson 557 – What Was Adam’s Sin**

**THEME:**

**STORY:**

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 3:1-11

**LESSON:**

There's an old teaching going around universities today, seeking to stir up within the human heart any kernel of confusing, hoping to dissuade young, impressionable minds from following after the truth.

We are warned to disdain from 'Doubtful Disputations'. What sort of 'Disputing' leads invariably to doubt? Aren't we supposed to study to show ourselves approved?

**Q:** "If God made man a sinner, that is, with a sinful nature, it would be nothing short of cruel and unreasonable for Him to punish us."

The resulting philosophies are to that either '*the Bible is preposterous, think on it no further.*'  
... or '*God was somehow in error, and thus was obligated to pay for the sin debt to cover His own mistakes.*'

The burden of 'responsibility' for sin surely rests somewhere.

**Romans 5**

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

To attempt to pin the responsibility for sin squarely on God is nothing more than to reveal human nature in its truest colors. It is an attempt to balance guilt with blame.

Let's take a look at the account with a renewed interest, for sleeping in Genesis 3 is a simple but startling secret.

**Genesis 3**

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, *Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, *We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:*

3 *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.*

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, *Ye shall not surely die:*

5 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.**

6 And when the woman **saw** that the tree was good for food, and that it was **pleasant** to the **eyes**, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7 And the **eyes of them both were opened**, and they **knew** that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, *Where art thou?*

10 And he said, *I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.*

11 And he said, **Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?**

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

## 1.) What was Adam's sin?

There has been much conjecture of Adam's sin. Ask any child, and they will quickly point out, it was DISOBEDIENCE. True, but what was it, exactly, that they disobeyed?

If you think they simply ate from a tree that they weren't supposed to eat from, you may as well put it along side of '*They drank from a can of pop that didn't belong to them.*'

However, to take this superficial stance and run with it, one could be tempted to portray God as a unreasonable authority making a big deal about a rather trivial act.

## If God really meant for the tree not to be eaten of, why'd He make it have fruit?

(LOTS of other trees are useful and beautiful, and don't have edible fruit.)

Disobedience is disobedience, but I would wager that the KEY to understanding Adam's downfall is to look in the case satan was making with Eve.

### Genesis 3

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, *Ye shall not surely die:*

5 *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.*

6 And when the woman **saw** that the tree was good for food, and that it was **pleasant** to the **eyes**, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7 And the **eyes of them both were opened**, and they **knew** that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

**EYES – AhYin** - Eye is likened to a fountain in a landscape, it is the ‘Centerpiece of Conceit’. It is the ‘Color of Consideration’. Sight, in its essence is, quite literally, ‘Look to Know.’

Proverbs has MUCH to say about our ‘Conceit’ or “That which is conceived/imagined/the image formed in the mind.”

### Proverbs 26

12 Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him.

You can have eyes that look outward, but what you SEE and what you BEHOLD makes your eye the CENTERPIECE of CONCEIT.

**KNOWING – YawDah** – Recognition – To ascertain by seeing; acknowledge; to take knowledge

**SAW – RawAw** – Advise Self, Behold and Consider

The sin was not about eating half as much as it was about seizing the power to decide what is “Good” and what is “Evil.”

### REBELLION IN ITS *PUREST FORM*

**THIS** is the great-great granddaddy sin that plagues all humanity. It came from our forefather Adam and is rooted in the human heart far deeper than the desire to drink what doesn't belong to us.

As insulting and humiliating as it may at first appear, we have no right to decide what is ‘ok’ and right and what is wrong. Why not? Because that has ALREADY been established and foredetermined by God Almighty from the foundation of the world.

At once we must get past this fettered idea that God indiscriminately decides which fun we are allowed to have access to.

It is not in-discretionary! It is not arbitrary laws and inconsequential commandments. It is God’s Laws are a direct reflection of His character. All of Creation exists and benefits as a direct result of the Character of God.

Satan fell like lightning when, in his conceit, he envisioned himself in the stead of God. Mankind plunged into rebellion when, in his conceit, he beheld the belief that he, himself, could access the power of ‘knowing’ good and evil for himself... no God to tell him.

#### A KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL, totally apart from God

The earth was destroyed once before when mankind grew to the state of doing that which was right in their own EYES.

**ILL** – Perhaps one of the most heartbreaking things to observe is watching society around us daily making headway to ordaining or sanctioning some new sin as ‘alternatively chosen’ and ‘socially acceptable.’

**CONSIDER THIS ‘FORERUNNER SIN’** - When a man will not yield up his ability to decide for himself ‘Good’ from ‘Evil’, that man is not in a position to take advantage of saving grace.

Notice, I didn’t say:

**“Knowing ‘Right’ from ‘Wrong’** – That is discernment, and a function of the conscience. You need this and this is of God. This is the most basic function of judgment. Scripture doesn’t say that it was pertaining to the differentiating of Right FROM Wrong, but rather...

**‘Knowing ‘GOOD’ AND ‘EVIL’** ... determining for yourself, apart from whatever God has to say about it, what is going to be GOOD and RIGHTEOUS, and what is going to be EVIL and BAD... ... this is a function we are not equipped to make.

#### **CLOSING:**

Wednesday night, preacher taught an excellent Bible study on judgment. What a wonderful challenge to the Christian on discernment... I love how he put it, ‘We are to discern based upon God’s Word.’ God’s Word is perfectly adept at the dividing asunder of soul and spirit of a matter.

Why is it we make such a fuss over the Resurrection of our Lord?

- It heralds the sealing of our salvation
- As He rose again, our hope of Resurrection lies in Christ.

**John 14:1**, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me”