

Do You Know That You Need God?

Let's return to the story that we were studying together last time (Genesis 1-3). Remember God had made man and had given him some things to do and one thing not to do. Let's see how well man showed his love and obedience to God.

The first sin

Besides the man and woman, we now learn that there was someone else in the beautiful Garden with them. Look at Genesis 3:1.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

Who was this other creature? (Revelation 12:9; 20:2)

The serpent; Satan

The Bible describes the serpent as crafty or sneaky. Other verses in the Bible teach us how Satan used his tricks and ended up getting kicked out of heaven (Isaiah 14:12-15).

What did the serpent try to get the woman to do?

He tried to get the woman to question whether or not God had the right to demand that she obey Him.

Did the serpent try to convince Eve of anything else? (Genesis 3:5)

Yes, he tried to make her believe that disobeying God will actually make her seem wise and will bring her a good life.

Eventually the woman gave in, ate the fruit, took it to her husband, and he disobeyed God, too.

The penalty for sin

Did the serpent's promise come true? No.

What happened because Adam and Eve sinned? (Genesis 3:7, 22-24)

There was a new and unnatural distance between the man and his wife (cf., 2:22-24). We see this by their immediate sense of shame (3:7). Adam would later verbalize the distance he was feeling ("the woman You gave me," 3:12).

Were there any other results? (Genesis 3:8-12)

There was a new and unnatural distance between man and God. Now the voice of God alarms them (3:9; this is what they had disobeyed), they tried to hide from God instead of doing work for Him (3:8), and Adam even blamed God for what went wrong (3:12).

After God penalized Adam and Eve, did they have any hope they could ever be right with God again?

Apart from God, no.

What did God do? (Genesis 3:14-19)

God demanded a penalty for their sin. Not only would they begin to die, but they suffered other results as well (3:14-19).

The relationship man had with God was broken because man had disobeyed God. The problem was impossible for man to fix.

What was the punishment for man's sin? (Genesis 2:17)

He would begin to die physically and spiritually.

In the middle of the punishment, God also provided hope for Adam and Eve. Look at Genesis 3:15.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.

Who is God talking to in this verse? the serpent

Notice how the verse ends. What does God say will happen?

God says the serpent's head would be bruised (crushed), and that the serpent would bruise the seed of the woman.

After the first sin, God made a promise that provided hope for man. How that promise was fulfilled will be the subject of our next study.

Memory Verse

The person who sins will die. Ezekiel 18:20

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