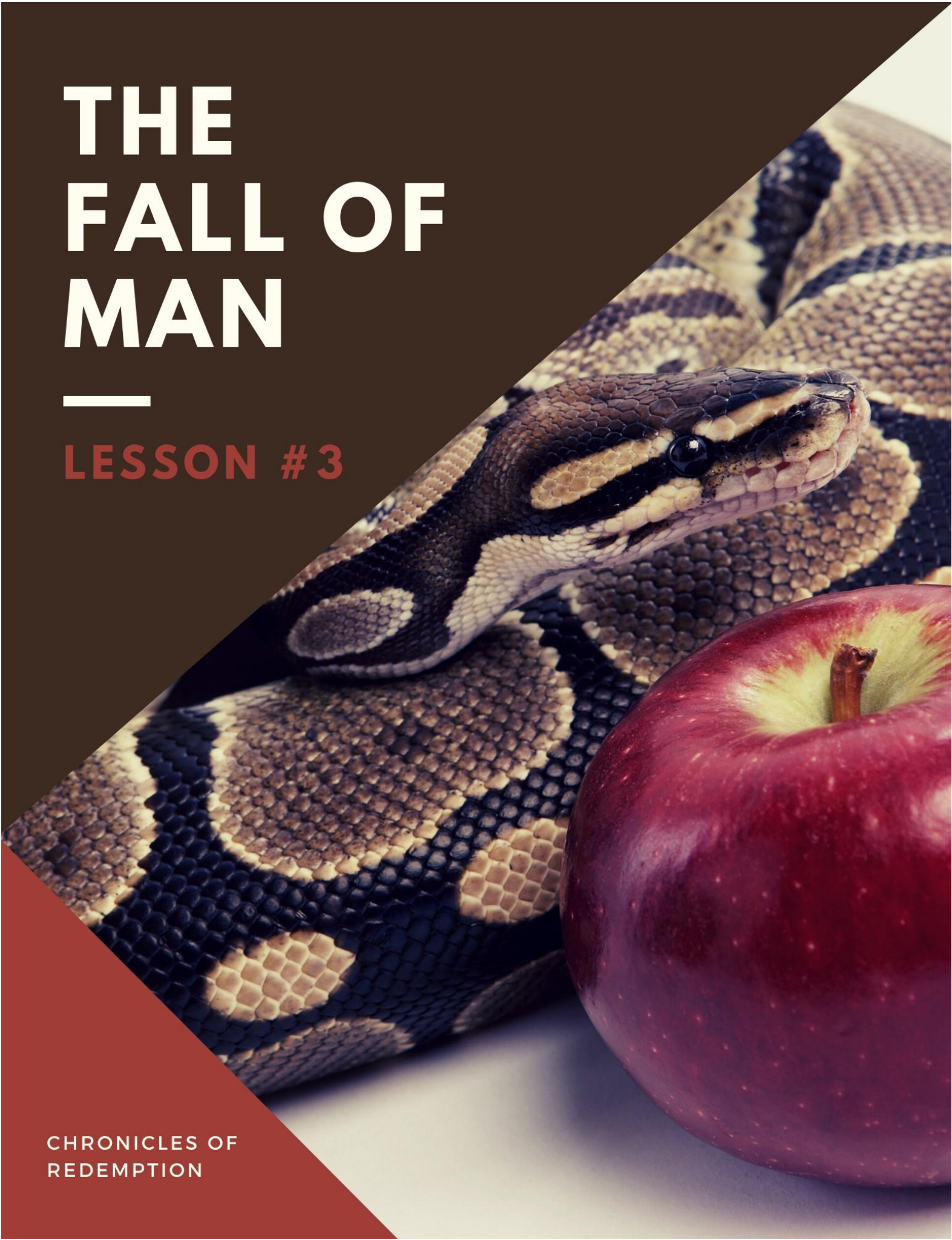


THE FALL OF MAN

LESSON #3

CHRONICLES OF
REDEMPTION



The Fall of Man

Genesis 3:1-24

THEMES



God is:

- All-knowing (omniscient)—seeing into the _____ of man.
- Sovereign—having the _____ to question, command, and judge man.
- Holy—unable to _____ sin and will always judge sin.
- Gracious—He sought man in the garden and initiated _____ with him.
- The Source of truth—what He _____ will happen, will take place.



Satan:

Satan is the enemy of God and man. He opposes the truth by lying while seducing others to believe his lies. He is _____ to the core of his being.



Man:

Man was tested, and displayed a _____ and independent heart toward God, leaving him helpless and separated from his Creator.



Sin:

Sin is any act or intent in disobeying God's revealed _____. It results in death. All the pain, sorrow, and suffering in the world has its source in the first sin of Adam and Eve. The resulting consequence of sin is observable in every generation.



Redemption:

God alone can restore the destroyed relationship caused by sin. He promised to send a _____ to deliver man from the condemnation of sin and the power of Satan. This deliverance was illustrated by God, Who provided coverings for Adam and Eve.

INTRODUCTION

NOTES:

This critical passage records the entrance of sin into the human race. Though occurring at the beginning of time, it set into motion consequences which have spanned millennia, reaching even to the present day. A proper understanding of this foundational truth is crucial if we are to grasp the reality of the human condition before God, and understand the evils which have since plagued the human race.

Evil originated in the heart of _____ (Ezek. 28:15), but it did not take long before the heavens and earth, which God originally called *good* (Gen. 1:31), to become corrupt as well. It began in Eden, the beautiful garden created by God. There, He provided for Man's every need. Nothing marred Man's harmonious relationship with God or with one another. It was the perfect environment, but not for long.

1

The Deception



Read Genesis 3:1-5



Identity of the serpent


The serpent in Eden is identified elsewhere as _____, the archangel who rebelled against God (Rev. 12:9; 20:2). *Satan* means _____ as he is an enemy of God, God's people, and all that is right (Zech. 3:1; Acts 13:10; Rev. 12:9-12). He is called the tempter, the father of lies, and a murderer from the beginning (Matt 4:3; John 8:44; 1 Thess. 3:5). Satan spoke to the



- ***“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field...” (3:1).***

Satan appeared to the woman as a messenger of _____ (2 Cor. 11:14), but this charade was only a mask for his scheming, deceptive nature (Acts 13:10).

_____ woman from within the body of a snake. Her response revealed neither fear nor disgust, implying that the snake was a beautiful creature.



John 8:44

“... There is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks, he speaks from a deceitful _____ nature; _____ of lies.”

With cunning lies and half-truths, Satan deceived Adam’s wife by _____ calling good _____ and evil _____. His ambition was, and _____ continues to be, to ensnare people by taking them captive to do his _____ will (2 Tim. 2:26), just as he did with the fallen angels (Rev. 12:4).



Seduction by the serpent

The purpose of Satan’s deception was clearly to lure the couple away from their dependent trust on the Lord.

- ***“And he said to the woman...” (3:1).***

Satan targeted the _____ who was more vulnerable because she had been created to be Adam’s helper and to live within the sphere of his loving protection and under his leadership (cf. Gen 2:18; _____ 1 Cor. 11:3, 8-9).

- ***“Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat...?’” (3:1).***

By drawing attention to the one _____ God placed on the couple, Satan cast doubt on God’s kindness and love towards them by subtly accusing Him of withholding good.

- ***“You will not surely die” (3:4).***

Lured away by desire for the fruit, Eve sinned by believing the lie of Satan over the truth of God. The New Testament further reveals that Eve was _____, thinking she had done right, but Adam disobeyed _____ (2 Cor. 11:3; 1Tim. 2:14). **Both were held accountable.** Their sin involved two issues...

1 ***They violated the revealed will of God:*** God told them not to eat, and they ate, directly disobeying God's Word to them. Simply defined, sin is any act or intent in disobeying God's revealed _____. This casting off of God's authority is also called lawlessness (1 John 3:4).

2 ***They obeyed Satan by believing his lies:*** By choice, Adam and Eve believed the lie of Satan, following him in disobedience. They did not act in true independence though, for they merely substituted allegiances by obeying Satan rather than God. It is important to understand that God did NOT create man with the capacity for complete independence or autonomy. He either humbly _____ to the will of the Creator-God, or he _____ against Him and falls under the rule of Satan, either by intention or default.

3 The Effects Of Sin



Read Genesis 3:7-13



Death

As God had warned, "...In the day you eat from it you shall surely die" (Gen. 2:17), the immediate impact of the couple's sin was death (Rom. 6:23). The biblical meaning of death is _____. The Bible teaches three distinct types of death:

1 ***Spiritual death*** is a separation of the human soul from _____ (Isa. 59:2).

2 ***Physical death*** is a separation of the human soul from its physical _____ (Gen. 39:19).

3 ***Eternal death*** is an eternal or everlasting separation of the human soul from God in _____. This is also called the *second death* (cf. Rev. 20:14).

When Adam and Eve sinned, they violated God's _____, an essential attribute of His character.

When God is called holy in the Bible, it means that He is set apart from all else—beyond every created thing (Isa. 6:3; Luke 1:49). *Holy* also means pure *and without* _____. As light cannot mix with darkness, so the holy God cannot tolerate sin (cf. 2 Cor. 6:14; 1 John 1:5).



Habakkuk 1:12-13

“...O Lord my God, my Holy One... You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness...”

So although Adam and his wife were still physically alive, they were estranged from God, for they had offended Him. They had experienced _____—a separation from God, their Source of life. Their lives changed drastically from that moment on.



Guilt

- ***“Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked...” (3:7).*** Before eating from the tree which God had forbidden, Adam and Eve were naked and unashamed. But immediately after their disobedience, they felt vulnerable and disgraced. Their eyes were indeed opened, but only to their nakedness. Concern for their outward nakedness was symptomatic of an inner spiritual problem—that of a guilty _____. Adam and Eve knew that they had disobeyed the clear command of their Creator-God.

- ***“...And they...made themselves loin coverings” (3:7).***

Although God had always lovingly supplied all their needs, now the couple jointly neglected to turn to Him. Instead, they came up with their own idea to cover their nakedness by making themselves coverings. But their efforts were futile because the fig leaves had no power to cleanse a guilty _____.



Alienation

- ***“... And the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God...” (3:8).***

Rather than humbly admitting their disobedience before God, the sinning couple hid from Him. The guilt of sin not only produced an overwhelming _____ of exposure, but also

affected the couple's ability to _____ clearly, for there is no place to hide from the all-seeing God (cf. Job 34:22; Prov. 15:3; Heb. 4:13).



Jeremiah 23:24

*“Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him?” declares the Lord.
‘Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?’ declares the Lord.”*



Irresponsibility

Adam responded to God's simple question by shifting the _____ away from himself and placing it first on the woman and ultimately on God Who gave him the woman. Eve blamed the _____. Though she had been truly deceived (1 Tim. 2:14), God still held her personally responsible for not obeying His command. God desired that Adam and Eve admit that they ate from the tree, taking _____ _____ for their actions. But they failed to turn from their disobedience.



4

The Judgment Of God



Read Genesis 3:14-19



On the serpent

Though all creation fell under the curse of God at the entrance of sin, the snake—whom _____ possessed when tempting Eve—was singularly judged. Humbled to live on its belly, the snake is still considered one of the most despised creatures on earth.

- ***“I will put enmity between...your seed and her seed...” (3:15).***

This refers to the hostility between Satan and his offspring—those people who live in disobedience to God (John 8:44; Eph. 2:2), and those of Eve’s descendants in God’s family.



A Gracious Promise:

“He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel” (3:15)

is a prophetic allusion to One of Eve’s descendants—a male Offspring—Who would gain the ultimate

victory by crushing the power of Satan forever. Here the matchless grace of God is demonstrated:



On the woman

- ***“In pain you shall bring forth children...” (3:16).***

The judgment here is not _____ itself, for God had commanded the man and woman to reproduce prior to their sin. Rather, the judgment was that childbirth would now include the previously unknown sensation of _____.

- ***“Yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you...” (3:16).***

Eating the fruit, Eve led Adam in disobedience, and Adam willingly followed. This _____ of the marriage roles was in direct contradiction to God’s design for marriage. The struggle a woman experiences in her desire for authority over her husband is a continuing aspect of God’s judgment on the woman and has plagued relationships ever since.



On the man

- ***“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife...” (3:17).***

In Adam’s admission to eating the forbidden fruit he cleverly implicated both Eve and God in his sinful act. God declared Adam had *listened to* (Hebrew *obeyed*) the voice of his wife, clearly reversing his God-given role as the _____ in the relationship.

- ***“Cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it...” (3:17).***

Even the _____ suffered because of man’s sin (Rom. 8:20). Though still beautiful, nature is stained under the curse of God and has become less fertile, and subject to corruption and death. The bountiful provision of food in Eden was no longer available to Adam. Instead he must _____ to maintain his physical existence.

- ***“...To dust you shall return...” (3:18).***

God had warned Adam that if he ate the forbidden fruit he would die. Remember that the three distinct facets of death—spiritual, physical, and eternal—each carry the meaning of *separation*. Adam _____ experienced spiritual death when he sinned. But he would also experience _____ death as well.



Ezekiel 18:4

“Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine. The soul who sins will die.”

The Word of God is _____. What God says will happen does take place. Contrary to Satan’s lie that Adam and Eve would be *like God* and divine, man is earth-bound and mortal. ***The original sin of Adam and Eve is the root cause of death on earth, for through Adam sin and death have spread to every generation, affecting the entire human race.***

The cemeteries of the world are a silent witness to the integrity of God’s Word.



Romans 5:12

“Therefore just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

5

Merciful Provisions



Read Genesis 3:20-24



A Merciful Covering

- **“Now the man called his wife’s name Eve...” (3:20).**

Eve means _____ or *life-giver*. In spite of the harsh reality of death, Eve’s name is a reflection of Adam’s faith in God’s Word that life would continue. Eve would indeed *produce a Seed*—One Who would rescue mankind from bondage (cf. 3:15).

- **“And the LORD God made garments of skins...and clothed them” (3:21).**

Clearly the effort of the first couple to clothe themselves with fig leaves was insufficient, or God would not have re-clothed them. If physical nakedness had been the problem, fig leaves would have done well. But they needed restored _____ with God which had been marred by the guilt of sin. And here they were helpless. Only God could provide an adequate covering. This merciful act of God records the first physical death—that of an innocent animal, and is but a dim foreshadow of the future _____ Who would one day remove the condemnation of sin (Heb. 9:22).



Questions

1. What is the identity of the serpent?

2. What is meant when the serpent is described as *more cunning than any beast of the field*?

3. How did the serpent tempt Eve?

4. What lie did Eve believe?

5. What is the definition of sin? Why is it offensive to God?

6. What are the immediate and far-reaching implications of the first couple's sin?

7. What is the meaning and cause of death?

8. How is it that Adam and Eve remained physically alive after eating from the forbidden tree, when God clearly said they would die?

9. What did Adam and Eve do immediately after committing their sin?



Questions

10. Why did God reject their attempt to cover themselves?

11. Whom did God hold responsible for the sin committed?

12. What future hope did God give in the midst of His judgment?

13. What were two ways God displayed His mercy and love to the man and woman?
