

# THE STORY OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN II: THE FALL (GENESIS 3:1-24)

- I. Introduction
  - A. Following creation, the fall is the next important episode in the story of the kingdom.
  - B. Three important things that happened between creation and the fall:
    - 1. God created the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:8)
    - 2. God put man to cultivate and protect the garden (Genesis 2:15)
    - 3. God gave instructions to our parents concerning the trees in the garden (Genesis 2:9, 16).
- II. Genesis 3:1-24: The Fall of Man
  - A. Introduction to the serpent (3:1)
  - B. The temptation of Eve (3:1-5)
  - C. Disobedience and nakedness (3:6-7)
  - D. Confrontation and judgment (3:8-19)
- III. The Lesson: Take God's Word Seriously
  - A. Main Point: ***We must revere God's Word.***
  - B. What does it mean to honor God's Word? We honor God's Word when we give to God's Word the same passionate desire and soul-consuming allegiance that our parents gave to the forbidden fruit in Genesis 3:6.
  - C. How you know if you revere God's Word:
    - 1. Is the sight of a Bible pleasant to our eyes?
    - 2. Do you desire the Bible to make you wise?
    - 3. Do you "eat" the Bible often?
    - 4. Do you give the Bible away?

## Questions for Further Discussion

- 1. What is "the fall"?
- 2. What did the tree of the knowledge of good and evil represent and why was it forbidden for mankind?
- 3. What is the significance of Genesis 3:6? How does it show the seriousness of the first sin? (Hint: Compare with Genesis 1)
- 4. Why did our first parents suddenly realize that they were naked (Genesis 3:7)? What explanation was given in the sermon for this shocking experience?
- 5. What were some of the other consequences of the fall (Genesis 3:9-24)?
- 6. Based on Genesis 3:6, how do we know that we love God's Word?
- 7. How does the attitude of loving to be our own gods show up today?

## A Prayer before Reading and Studying the Holy Word of God

*Heavenly Father, I give praise and thanks to you for your holy and royal Word. I embrace your Word. I swear allegiance to your Word and I give my absolute loyalty to your Word. Your Word is eternal food and so I now eat your Word. Your Word is eternal drink and so I now drink in your Word. Your Word is eternal clothing and I now clothe myself in your Word. I devote my mind, and my desires, and my affections, and my flesh and blood to your Holy Word. Your Word is my thought, my speech, and my deed, and so I think your Word, speak your Word, and perform your Word. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.*