

INFINITE DEPTH: *REVISITING CLASSICS FROM GENESIS*

GENESIS 3

The Fall

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”³

⁴ “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

This chapter gives us the answer to the question, “Why are there bad experiences in this life?” (Why did my mom get cancer? Why did I have a miscarriage? Why me...?) Why is there evil in the world? Please reflect on this throughout tonight’s study and we’ll answer that question at the end.

Satan rebelled against God in a mutiny and lost. Since He was powerless to harm God...what was his next target? Go after God’s children!

Question #1 Moses wrote that the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals. What do the following passages show us about his cunning? 1. John 8:44 2. 1 Peter 5:8 3. Luke 4:5 4. Mark 5:9

Question 2. Notice that Eve’s sin didn’t start with an action. Satan ‘innocently’ challenges Eve to question God’s fairness. Do an autopsy of their and your falls into sin. Order these three words to trace how sin travels.

HAND

HEAD

HEART

Question #3 Share a time in your Christian walk when others tried to make you feel small for believing the facts of the Bible. Where do you see believers 'drift' in our culture? What is the cause?

Question #4 Eve was a bit of a drama queen as she exaggerated and added to God's expectations about the Tree. "We must not touch it" Why must it be essential that Scripture be respected and interpreted correctly? See Revelation 22:18-19.

Question #5 How was the exchange between Satan, Eve and the silent husband Adam the costliest conversation to all humanity? How has it cost you?

Question #6 At one time or another, we've all panicked that if we follow God's will, we will miss happiness or some great adventure. FOMO (fear of missing out) "I won't flourish or have joy if I follow God." Trace how Satan gets us to follow the same path he took and fell?
Rev. 12:7-9

In those moments when you have felt FOMO, please share what has helped you out of your temptation? What's the "one little word that can tell him?" Rev. 12:10-11

Question #7 God wanted His first children to enjoy paradise living beneath Him, not as equals with Him. He wants to be loved for Who He is...not for what we can get from Him. Why is this God one you can follow?

Question #8 Adam and Eve, our great, great, etc grandparents took Satan's bait, sinned, and introduced sin into the world. This introduced a downward spiral of death and decay throughout all milenia of human history. What a departure from paradise it must have been to learn their one son killed their other son! Check out our Romans 5:12-19 and Romans 8:18-23. What hope do we find in these words of Paul?

Question #9 You've heard people say "It's hard to find Gospel in the Old Testament. Prove otherwise from the words of Gen.3:8-9.

In Genesis 3, we see that, like naked Adam and Eve, we all want to hide. We hide from Him because His light reveals our disobedience. God doesn't ask "where are you?" because He confused about our location. He is calling... not to 'get back at you' but to bring you back. Bring your shame, your guilt, your baggage into the light of His grace.

Closing Q: What have we learned about the question, "Why do bad things happen to 'God's people'"(*Why is there evil in the world?*) ?

Closing Prayer – Make sure to take prayer requests for one another.