

The Fall of Man

Genesis 3:1-24

Key Verse: 3:15

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

* Adam and Eve disobeyed God (1-7)

1. Read verse 1. How is the serpent described? Who does it represent? (Rev 12:7-9) What is characteristic of his nature? (3:1, Jn 8:44)
2. Read verse 1 again. How did he twist the meaning of God's word? (compare 2:16,17 with 3:1,4,5) In what respect did he lie? How did he remove the absolute from God's word?
3. Read verses 2- 3. How did the woman answer him? Do you think Adam would respond to the serpent differently? Read Verses 6-7. Why did she yield to temptation? What can we learn here about how to overcome temptation? (See Mt 4:1-11)
4. Why did she give some to her husband? What was the immediate result of their eating the forbidden fruit? (7) What do you think this means?

* God confronts Adam and Eve (8-24)

5. Read verses 8-10. What did they do when they heard God coming? How did God confront Adam with his sin? What might Adam have done in response? What excuses did they make? What does this reveal about sin's effect on relationships?
6. Read verse 14. How did God curse the serpent? Read verse 15. How does God's promise give hope to mankind?
7. Read verse 16. How is her punishment related to her blessing? Read verses 17-18 How is his punishment related to his blessing? How is man's punishment related to his mission? [How can the curse be removed, woman set free and man's mission restored? (Jn 3:18; Mk 16:15)]
8. Read verse 21. How did God show his love for fallen man? Read verses 22-24. Why did God drive them from the Garden? Why did he not destroy the garden? What hope does this give? What is the significance of the tree of life? (Rev 22:2,14,19)