

SESSION 3

ADAM AND HIS WIFE DISOBEYED GOD

Adam and his wife were in the beautiful garden of Eden that God had made for them. Adam and his wife enjoyed being together there. They were free to enjoy all of the beautiful things in the garden that God had made for them. There were many different and very good things to eat. They were doing the work God had given them to do. They were taking care of the earth and the living things that God had made. God was with them, helping them and being with them. He wanted them to know him and to love him.

There was someone else in the garden too. God's story tells us that there was a serpent²⁷ that spoke to Eve. Serpent is another name for snake.



GENESIS 3:1

¹ The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

This serpent was not just an animal like the other snakes. It was really another person who had made himself look like a snake. He made himself look like a snake so that he could trick²⁸ Adam and his wife. In other places in the Bible we can read about who this person is. The Bible tells us who he is and where he came from. We will look at those other places in the Bible now, so that you will

27. **serpent** - a snake

28. **trick** - a clever act to make someone do something you want them to do

HIS STORY: THE RESCUE

know who this person is and why he wanted to trick Adam and his wife. Then, we will return to the story of what happened to Adam and his wife in the garden.

The Book of Job, which comes later in the Bible, tells about the time that God spoke to a man called Job. Job was alive many years after Adam was alive. God talked to Job about the time when he made the earth.



JOB 38:4-7

⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

Tell me, if you know so much.

⁵ Who determined its dimensions
and stretched out the surveying line?

⁶ What supports its foundations,
and who laid its cornerstone

⁷ as the morning stars sang together
and all the angels shouted for joy?

He said that when he created the earth *all the angels shouted for joy*. These angels were there at the beginning of time when God made the earth. Who were these angels? God had not made people yet. These angels were spirit beings. We know from the Bible that they don't have bodies like ours – they are spirits. There are other places in the Bible where it says that angels talked to people and that people saw them in bodies like human bodies. So we know that some angels can be seen in a human shape so that people can see them. We will read some of those stories later.

Just like everything else, the angels were created by God. He made them before he made the earth. We know this because God said the angels were there when he created the heavens and the earth. We know that they were perfect when God made them, because everything that God makes is perfect. The Bible says that there were a huge number of these spirit beings. It says that God gave them work to do and that he gave them great power to do his work. God made them to be his servants²⁹ and messengers.³⁰ So, at the beginning of time there were a huge number of spirit beings there with God. They were very powerful but not as powerful as God, because God had made them.

The Bible says that the greatest of these servant angel beings was called Lucifer. The name Lucifer means ‘Morning Star.’ He was perfect when God made him. God gave him great authority³¹ and power. He was the greatest of all the beings that God had made. He was the closest in power to God himself. But he was not as powerful as God, because God had made him.

The Bible tells us about Lucifer in the Book of Ezekiel. This book tells us about a message sent from God to a man who was a king. He was the king of a place called Tyre. In his message to the King, God talks about Lucifer. The King of Tyre acted just like Lucifer did and so God wanted to tell

29. **servant** - a person who does work for someone else

30. **messenger** - a person who tells things to people for someone else

31. **authority** - the power or right to give orders and to have other people obey those orders

him about what had happened to Lucifer. We can read what God said about Lucifer in the Book of Ezekiel.



EZEKIEL 28:12-19

¹² “Son of man, sing this funeral song for the king of Tyre. Give him this message from the Sovereign Lord:

“You were the model of perfection,
full of wisdom and exquisite in beauty.

¹³ You were in Eden,
the garden of God.

Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone—
red carnelian, pale-green peridot, white moonstone,
blue-green beryl, onyx, green jasper,
blue lapis lazuli, turquoise, and emerald—
all beautifully crafted for you
and set in the finest gold.

They were given to you
on the day you were created.

¹⁴ I ordained and anointed you
as the mighty angelic guardian.
You had access to the holy mountain of God
and walked among the stones of fire.

¹⁵ “You were blameless in all you did
from the day you were created
until the day evil was found in you.

¹⁶ Your rich commerce led you to violence,
and you sinned.

So I banished you in disgrace
from the mountain of God.
I expelled you, O mighty guardian,
from your place among the stones of fire.

¹⁷ Your heart was filled with pride
because of all your beauty.
Your wisdom was corrupted
by your love of splendor.
So I threw you to the ground
and exposed you to the curious gaze of kings.

¹⁸ You defiled your sanctuaries
with your many sins and your dishonest trade.
So I brought fire out from within you,
and it consumed you.

I reduced you to ashes on the ground
in the sight of all who were watching.

¹⁹ All who knew you are appalled at your fate.
You have come to a terrible end,
and you will exist no more.”

HIS STORY: THE RESCUE

God said that Lucifer was perfect when he was created. God made him perfect and gave him great power and authority. God said that Lucifer was very wise, very powerful and very beautiful. His clothing was made of gold and beautiful stones. God said that Lucifer had very important work to do. Lucifer was free to be with God whenever he wanted. God gave him all of these things: beauty, power, wisdom, freedom, perfection and authority. God made him the wonderful and powerful angel that he was.

Then God tells us what Lucifer did. He tells us that Lucifer turned against God. God said that Lucifer sinned³² and became evil. Lucifer began to think about how beautiful he was and how powerful he was. He forgot that he was not as powerful as God. He forgot that everything that he had had came from God. Lucifer started to think that he was better than God.

We can read about some of the things that Lucifer was thinking. One of God's human messengers was called Isaiah. He wrote down the thoughts and words of God and his book is in the Bible. He wrote down some of the things that God said about Lucifer and what he thought.



ISAIAH 14:13,14

¹³ For you said to yourself,
'I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God's stars.
I will preside on the mountain of the gods
far away in the north.
¹⁴ I will climb to the highest heavens
and be like the Most High.'

Like Adam and his wife, God made Lucifer free to decide things and to choose things. Lucifer chose to go against God. He wanted to be the one who ruled all other things. He wanted to take the place of God. The Bible says that many other angels followed Lucifer and also turned against God.

God knows everything. So God knew that Lucifer was going to turn against him. God is the true ruler over everything. Lucifer could not take the place of God. Lucifer's plan would not work. Isaiah wrote the words of God when God said what he would do with Lucifer.



ISAIAH 14:15

¹⁵ Instead, you will be brought down to the place of the dead, down to its lowest depths.

Lucifer was the head of all the spirit beings that God had made. But he turned against God, so God put him out of the high place he was in. God said he would put Lucifer and the other angels who followed him *down to the place of the dead*. God says in the Bible that he would put Lucifer into this very bad place, a place of death. This is a place of punishment³³ for Lucifer and all the other angels who followed him. This place is sometimes called Hell.

32. **sin** - means to go against what God has said, to disobey God

33. **punishment** - something bad done to someone because they did a wrong thing

SESSION 3 : ADAM AND HIS WIFE

From this point on in God's story, Lucifer is called Satan. Satan means 'enemy.' The other angels that followed Lucifer are called demons, devils, unclean spirits or evil spirits.

Satan and his followers are the enemies of God. They have worked against God from the beginning. They are still working against God today. Satan still wants to take the place of God.

Now that we have read about who Satan is, we can go back to the story of Adam and his wife in the garden. Satan hated Adam and the woman that God had made for him. God had given these human beings the work of taking care of the earth and all the living things. Satan wanted that place for himself, so he hated Adam and the woman.

Satan was there in the Garden. He had made himself look like a snake so Adam and his wife would not know who he really was. He was watching and waiting. He made a plan to try to make Adam and his wife eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He wanted them to eat the fruit and to die. God said they would die if they ate that fruit, so Satan wanted them to eat it.

We will go back to Genesis again and read what Satan said to the woman in the garden.



GENESIS 3:1

¹ The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

Satan made himself look like a snake. The Bible says that the snake *was the shrewdest of all the wild animals*. That means he was the most clever one. Satan always tries to trick people by making himself look like something good. God always tells the truth, but Satan always tells lies and tries to trick people.

Satan asked the woman a question; "*Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?*" Satan was trying to get her to think bad things about God. He wanted her to think that God was not giving them every good thing that they needed. Satan wanted the woman to start to think about things for herself. He did not want her to listen to God. He wanted her to think that she should start making her own decisions.

We can read all that Satan said to the woman when he spoke to her in the garden.



GENESIS 3:2-5

² "Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied.

³ "It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'"

⁴ "You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵ "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."

HIS STORY: THE RESCUE

The woman answered Satan's question. She said that they could eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But she said that there was one tree whose fruit they were not allowed to eat. She said that if they ate that fruit or even touched it that they would die. But this is not what God had said. God said if they ate the fruit they would die. He did not say they would die if they touched it. The woman had changed what God had said.

Satan lied to the woman and told her that they would not die if they ate the fruit from that tree. He said that if they ate that fruit they would know all about what is good and what is evil. He said that God didn't want them to know that because then they would be like God. Satan lied to the woman to make her turn against God.

God wanted the best for Adam and his wife. God wanted them to go to him to ask about anything that they needed to know. He wanted them to do that because he loved them. It was not the best thing for them to start to make decisions on their own without asking God for his help.

God made Adam and his wife so that they were free to make their own choices. We can read now about the choice that they made. Would they listen to God, or would they listen to Satan?



GENESIS 3:6

⁶ The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.

Adam and his wife both ate the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They both made the choice to disobey³⁴ God. They looked at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They knew that God had said they should not eat the fruit from this tree. But they looked at it and it was beautiful and the fruit looked very good to eat. The woman wanted the knowledge and wisdom that the fruit would give her if she ate it. So she ate some of the fruit. Then she gave some to Adam. Adam knew it was the fruit that God had told them not to eat. But Adam ate some too.

34. **disobey** - not obey; not do what someone says to do



1. Why did Satan want to trick Adam and his wife?
2. God made Adam and Eve so that they could listen to him. Why do you think that God also gave them the freedom to not listen to him?
3. What did Satan say to trick Adam and his wife?



This lesson has been adapted from the book *His Story: The Rescue, The Bible message from Genesis to Christ in easy English* (ISBN: 978-0-9944270-4-5)

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