

Why was the First Sin so Bad

Introduction

- The Summer Breakout for this month will cover many topics but today's will be on topics we see from Immanuel's Statement of Faith (SoF). You can find this on our website:
immanuelbible.church/visit/what-we-teach
- Our topic today comes from the section on Sin. In fact, its from the very first item in that section about Adam and Eve
- Most of us have not studied this section very much and the reason is that we prefer God's redemption not God's judgement

Introduction

- The “First Sin” that we will be discussing is the sin of Adam or mankind. Satan is involved with this so let’s look at sin in general. Before we get those sins let me tell you how I do this
- Besides my Logos software and the commentaries that I have in it, I rely heavily on a free resource know as Constable’s Notes. Dr. Constable was/is a professor at Dallas Seminary and has pastored several churches in the Dallas area. His notes can be found at: <https://planobiblechapel.org/constable-notes-html/>

The Sinfulness of Sin

- The Angelic Proof: one angel sinned against God and a vast company of angels followed and there is not a ray of hope for them in all eternity.
- The Human Proof: one individual sinned (a sin that has been laughed at for ages by men) and the result is that all of humanity has endured physical suffering and death ever since, and the vast majority of humanity will spend eternity in punishment as a result.
- The Divine Proof: The Son of God, Himself suffered to an infinite degree and died on the cross because of sin and He would have done it, if the first human sin was the only sin ever committed.

The First Sin

- Adam and Eve committed the first sin in Genesis 3

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ” ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

The First Sin

- God's Judgment in Genesis 3

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the Lord God to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

The First Sin

- God's Judgment in Genesis 3 Continues

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” ¹⁶ To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, he shall rule over you.” ¹⁷ And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

The First Sin

- God's provisions in Genesis 3

²⁰The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. ²²Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" ²³therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

1. Eve is being tempted by Satan (2 Cor 11:3; Rev 12:9) and this is the first of this occurrence in the garden but it wouldn't be the last for Adam and Eve's descendants. **Sin** and **Temptation** goes on today

2. Satan is also **questioning the validity of God's word** and lying about it but unfortunately, others including their descendants will do the same thing

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.2-3 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ”

1. v.2-3, Eve adds to God’s word and some think that this is a **form of legalism** which we have all seen in our day (Constable)
2. v.2-3, We don’t see God telling Eve this like he did Adam in 2:17 but we have to assume Adam told her – something. The Garden was perfect and without any issues until this event

The Bad things: Where They Began

v.4-5 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

1. v.4, Satan **directly counters God’s word**. Unfortunately, he still does that today and we see it especially in some theologians
2. v.5, Satan tells her she can be like God when she eats the fruit of this tree! **Satan implies that God has not told the truth** and he is still telling people that today

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

1. v.6, both eat and **Sin**. 1 Tim 2:14 says that Eve was deceived but Adam was not therefore Adam, as the father of the human race gets the credit for sin, Rom 5:12.
2. Dr. Constable says that all types of temptation are in this verse: the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes** and the **pride of life** (being wise apart from God's will)
3. Since Adam was with Eve in this event, **he reneged on his role of husband**

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.7-8 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

1. v.7, **sin brings shame** as we can see from 2:25 where “they were naked and not ashamed” and therefore the fig leaves. We generally always want to **hide our shame**
2. v.8, this **shame brings separation** from God and others and this verse shows that Adam and Eve were hiding from God who had come to visit them!

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.9-11, But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

1. In v.10, **sin always brings fear**. Rom 3:23 says “**the wages of sin is death**” and God will tell Adam about his death in v.19
2. In v.11, the only way they could know good and evil was eat the fruit of the tree they were told never to eat. **Man always does the wrong thing when he sins**

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.12-13, The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

1. v.12-13, In both of these verses they are blaming someone/thing for their sin. **We always give someone or something the blame for our sin**

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v. 14-16, The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” ¹⁶ To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.”

1. v.14, Because of man’s sin the **animals are cursed along with the ground** (in v.17)
2. v.15, gives hope, like God always does, to the human race. This is not a bad thing but God’s provision that was planned from the beginning
3. v.16, **multiplied pain in childbirth** and her desires will be contrary to her husband’s and he will be head of the family

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.17-19, And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

1. v.17-18, we are not to listen to anyone on life’s important issues but God (and His Word) and our work on earth will be hard as the **ground is cursed**

2. v.19, Adam is now told of his death. **Sin has resulted in death** and will continue until Christ returns

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v.20-21, The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

1. v.20, Eve's new position was not absent from all the judgements we are seeing
2. v.21, God made clothes to cover their shame. Many have said this was the beginning of the animal sacrifices (Constable)

The Bad Things: Where They Began

v. 23-24 therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

1. v.23-24, there will be no more perfect place on earth until the new world comes at the end of this age when God makes a “new heaven and new earth”, Rev 21:1

List of the Bad Things

- Sin and temptation
- Questioning the validity of God's word
- Adding to God's word – legalism
- Countering God's word
- Unbelief
- Deception
- Lust of the flesh and eyes; the pride of life
- Husbands and wives divided
- Shame
- Separation
- Fear
- Death
- Choosing the wrong things
- Blaming something/someone
- Animals are cursed
- Multiplied pain in childbirth
- Work will be hard because of the cursed ground