

# **Genesis 3:1-8 – Man’s Failure to Bring Glory to God**

Armstrong, Handfuls, Delitzsch, PASN, TSK, HebrewLexicon, Geneva, Henry, Pulpit, Calvin, Poole, Gill, JFB, INT, Sailhamer, Gaebelein, Brothers and Sisters in the Lord: **God gave man a wife, a job, wisdom, food, water, and beauty all around him!** But Adam thumbed his nose at God. He wanted more. **Now why would make Adam do such a wicked thing?** This is what you will hear about today!

Our headings are:

The **Fraud**

The **Fool**

The **Fall**

Our goals are: That you will **remember and regret the failure and fall of your first parent - Adam** and **will remember and revel in the success of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam, who repaired the damage caused by the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam.**

## **The Fraud**

1 Now the serpent was more **cunning** than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 "but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" 4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

### **1. No one knows how long Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden before they were tempted; the Bible does not say.**

It does not really matter. But who the serpent was and how he operated do matter- a lot. The **Bible teaches Satan entered the serpent-an ordinary snake-and spoke in Satan’s cunning way. Satan used a serpent because serpents were the most cunning of all the animals. Satan wanted the woman to think it was the snake who was speaking – not Satan!!!**

**Revelation 12:9** So the great dragon was cast out, **that serpent of old**, called the Devil **and Satan, who deceives the whole world**; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

**Scholars believe serpents were beautiful and possibly could fly.** Later serpents were cursed to crawl on their bellies. But the really ugly one here was the Devil. The Devil’s very name is one of deception - the slandering one. **He hid behind a snake.**

**John 8:44** "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and **does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him.** When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

### **2. The Devil - the fraud - showed great planning and deception, but it wasn’t a surprise!**

**2Corinthians 11:14** And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

**a. He waited until Eve was near the fruit... perhaps when she was looking at the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.**

**b. He planted seeds of doubt by saying: “Did God really say that?”** He wanted Eve to think maybe God did not really say that. “Maybe you misheard.” “Are you sure?”

**c. He did not tell Eve, “There is no God.”** She would have been easily rebuffed him. She daily met Jesus. Rather, he suggested God didn’t really mean what he said. And as she wondered whether she had heard God correctly, the Devil moved in for the kill.

**d. He then lied.** “It won’t hurt you if you eat the forbidden fruit!” “In fact, **you will gain much if you eat the fruit.**” This is one of the easiest ways of bringing down a man or woman into sin. **The Devil minimized sin as not so bad, he denied the reality of the dangers of sin,** and he suggested **advantages to committing a particular sin.**

**e. He then encouraged jealousy.** “God knows if you eat the fruit, you will be like he.” “God is jealous of you!”

### **3. Lessons:**

**a. Stay away from temptation.** All sins bring shame to the Savior and hinder you from your kingdom work for God’s glory.

**Proverbs 4:14** Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. 15 Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on.

And Devil didn’t go with horns and a pitchfork to Adam; he knows how to be an angel of light.

**b. The Devil would love to get into a dialog with you.** Don’t dialog with him. He will win. He has been using these arguments for thousands of years.

**Ephesians 6:11** **Put on the whole armor of God,** that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

**c. The Devil loves to prey on easily deceived women.** TV preachers pursue women during the day. Jehovah’s Witnesses love to go when women are alone at home. Sappy soap operas are during the day. This is why covenant headship is so important. Lead your wives.

**2Timothy 3: 5** having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of this sort are **those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins,** led away by various lusts,

d. The only way you can combat the Devil is to have a life totally devoted to Christ, depending daily on his Word and Spirit.  
You will know how much he loves you and you will run from sin.

## The Fool

6 So when the woman saw that the **tree was good for food**, that it was **pleasant to the eyes**, and a tree **desirable to make one wise**, she took of its fruit and ate. She also **gave to her husband** with her, **and he ate**.

### 1. When I say “man is a fool” I don’t use it in the way like we use it today, intending to say that man is stupid.

I use “fool” in the biblical sense, meaning that man has rejected God.

Psalm 53:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

### 2. Now it is obvious Eve should have thought there was something wrong when a serpent started talking to her!

She could have talked to her husband or to Jesus in the evening, **but because of the arguments of the Devil, Eve forgot or ignored the promises of God to her and Adam**. God had given Adam and Eve much liberty, each other, possessions, and tasty and delicious fruits to eat. But she wanted more.

### 3. So Eve engaged the Devil, and dialoged with him to see if God gave them everything that was good for them.

And she fell for the Devil’s argument about her perceived need.

### 4. Having listened to the 2 short speeches of the Devil, the woman responded!

a. Eve **doubted God**. She did not believe God would provide everything she needed to work for God’s glory...and that God was holding back that which was good for her – fruit and wisdom

b. Eve’s **doubt led to discontent** - discontented with God and what she had.

c. To get more food and more wisdom, Eve had to **get autonomy**. So Eve denied God (became an atheist) and listened to a “bankrupt person.” She listened to the Devil. She moved from being a **servant of God**, to a **skeptic of God**, to a **full-blown atheist**.

d. She **judged by appearance, believing the fruit was good for food**. So Eve picked the fruit and ate. Her life was summarized in the words of James.

James 1:15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

### 5. Eve then involved her husband in her sin.

Instead of being a helper to her husband, she was a hurter to her husband.

And the other temporary atheist – the fool-ate too. He did not rebuke her like a good husband should.

## 6. Lessons:

a. Eve’s atheistic spirit is present today, as it was throughout history! Apostle Paul warned:

Galatians 1:6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 **But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.**

b. Believing a lie does not make it a truth, no matter how strongly you believe it. Go to God’s Word for the truth. Adultery is sinful. Stealing is wrong. The Sabbath cannot disappear. Abortion is murder. There are 2 genders. Inflation is theft. Man didn’t come from slime. Marriage is between man and woman only.

c. Watch out for half-truths from the Devil. Care for others, but don’t steal from the rich to give to the poor. Also, having the urge to commit a sin does not justify committing that sin. These are half-truths!

d. Be careful that jealousy of God does not drive your actions. God doesn’t withhold good from you. He will always do what is good and give what is good to you.

## The Fall

7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig

leaves together and made themselves coverings. 8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

**1. Man lost true fellowship with other mankind; the husband-wife bond was broken.**

Shame came over man. They had to start to hide their nakedness. Lust grew. This is why they then had to wear clothes. **They broke true intimacy. This “nakedness” is now different from the Chapter 2:25.**

This nakedness expressed judgment and shame. (Deuteronomy 28:48) So Adam and Eve became aware, after they sinned, they were under the judgment of God.

**This also meant Adam’s covenant headship was damaged and an independent streak took over.**

With covenant headship damaged, **covenant blessings couldn’t come to Adam’s wife or children.**

**2. Because of this sin, Adam lost fellowship and harmony with God and had to hide himself from the Lord Jesus who met with them every evening.**

His conscience was opened. The gold had become dim.

**And as the covenant head, he is held more responsible for this sin as he was the covenant head.** How could God blame him more if there were no covenant headship?

**3. Lessons:**

**a. The sinful conscience always flees from God.** It is **not normal** to “fess” up. Man instinctively hides. Watch a child! That’s exactly what a child does.

**b. Only the work of Christ can reconcile you to God.** So those who are not reconciled are suffering under the curse of Adam and Eve’s sin. **This is why evangelism is so critical.** There is no hope without Christ’s obedience and his suffering for your sins.

**1Corinthians 15: 21** For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

**Acts 4:12** "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

**c. Only the work of Christ can reconcile a man to a woman.** This is no good marriage without Christ. Christ must be the head of a covenant marriage for the marriage to thrive and God’s kingdom to come.

**Conclusion:**

**Eve listened to the fraud.** She became a fool when she forgot God. She looked at the forbidden fruit and lusted. She doubted God’s Word. She believed the Tempter’s lie. She ate the forbidden fruit. She gave it to Adam and he ate. Instead of gaining knowledge and becoming like God, **they lost everything.** They lost peace with each other, they lost the presence of Christ, and they lost God’s protection and provision. Work became hard. Their souls suffered the most, coming under eternal condemnation to hell.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

**1. God is never far from you – his redeemed child. Yes, he sees your sin...but he also succors you in times of temptations.** When you are tempted, he will never allow you to be tempted above what you are able to bear, but will provide a way of escape for you.

**2. So when you sin, and you will, don’t cover your sins. When you are tempted to sin, ask your Father for strength.** Adam brought sin and death; Jesus brought success and life.

**3. Be a conduit, as a redeemed covenant keeper, of blessings to your children.**

**4. Warn those playing the deadly game of living apart from God.** Urge them to repent and receive forgiveness.

Finally, though Adam and Eve brought death by disobedience (something put to your account), yet Christ brought life and liberty from **his obedience and death for you.** Accept it.