

The Doctrine of Man - Part 7

The Fall of Man



What was the nature of the temptation preceding the fall of man?

A. The tempter.

Gen 3:1 NLT:

The Man and Woman Sin

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?”

B. The tactics.

1 Cor 2:11 NLT:

11 No one can know a person’s thoughts except that person’s own spirit, and no one can know God’s thoughts except God’s own Spirit.

Satan begins by doubting the Word of God.

Gen 3:1b NLT:

One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

Note the woman’s response.

Gen 3:2-3 NLT:

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.’”

2. Satan ends by denying the Word of God.

Gen 3:4-5 NLT:

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.”

In these verses Eve commits two fatal mistakes.

She adds to God’s Word (God did not say, “Neither shall ye touch it”), and then she takes from God’s Word (she omitted the original command, “Thou shalt surely die”).

B. What are the effects of the fall of man?

Were the effects of Adam’s fall merely confined to himself, or do they continue somehow to make themselves known in the lives of twenty-first century man?

1. The liberal position.

This position holds that, as the entire story is simply a silly Hebrew legend, there can, of course, be absolutely no effect whatsoever.

2. The Pelagian position.

Pelagius was a fifth-century British monk who taught that Adam's sin affected only himself, for God imputes to men only those sins that they personally and consciously perform. Pelagius said the only effect of Adam's sin on posterity was that of a bad example. **The doctrine of Pelagianism was condemned by the Council of Carthage in AD 418.**

3. The Arminian position.

Arminius (1560–1609) was a professor who lived and taught in Holland. This theory teaches that, while Adam's sin definitely weakened the will of his posterity to remain sinless, it did not, nevertheless, destroy the possibility.

4. The Augustinian position.

Augustine was one of the greatest of the early church fathers. He taught that because of the unity of the human-race in Adam, man's sin therefore is imputed to his posterity. Thus, corrupted nature begets corrupted nature.

This final view is the only position that is amply supported by the Scriptures.

Rom 5:12 NLT:

Adam and Christ Contrasted

12 When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

Rom. 5:18-19 NLT:

18 Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone.

19 Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.

1 Cor 15:22 NLT:

22 Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.



At this point it should be said that in the New Testament the apostle Paul often distinguishes between “sin” and “sins.”

According to Paul:

Sin is the root of man's problems and a reference to his corrupted nature which he received from Adam. **Sins** are the fruit of man's problems and a reference to those actions resulting from his corrupted nature.

It is vital to understand this distinction, for God will not deal with man favorably concerning his sins until he allows God to treat his sin nature.

Man sins (commits individual transgressions) because he is a sinner and therefore does not become a sinner because he sins.

Thus, modernism is content to treat the boils on the skin of mankind (his sins), but the real disease is in the bloodstream (his sin nature).

Paul summarizes all this in a single verse, which should be literally translated:

“For all have sinned [past tense, in Adam], and are [present time, in daily experience] falling short of God’s glory”:

Rom 3:23 KJV:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

From all this man therefore concludes that Adam’s individual transgression resulted in a sin nature for him, but with mankind it is the other way around—his sin nature results in individual transgressions.



C. What was the nature of the transgression causing the fall of man?

Two passages of Scripture will sufficiently address this question, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament.

1. Genesis 3:6 NLT:

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.

2. 1 Timothy 2:13-14 NLT:

13 For God made Adam first, and afterward he made Eve.

14 And it was not Adam who was deceived by Satan. The woman was deceived, and sin was the result.

D. Who was judged after the fall of man?

1. The parties involved—At this point the righteous Judge sets up his court in Eden and indicts the serpent, Satan, Adam and Eve, and Mother Nature.

2. The punishment involved.

Upon the serpent.

Gen 3:14 KJV:

14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat

all the days of thy life: Isaiah indicates that this judgment will continue to be binding upon the serpent even during the Millennium.

Isa 65:25 NLT:

25 The wolf and the lamb will feed together.

The lion will eat hay like a cow.

But the snakes will eat dust.

In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain.

I, the LORD, have spoken!”

Upon Satan.

In essence, Satan would suffer a crushing and fatal head wound.

Gen 3:15 NLT:

15 And I will cause hostility between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring.

He will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

Upon Adam and Eve.

A. Corporately.

(1) Physical death.

This involves the separation of the soul from the body.

Gen 5:5 NLT:

5 Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.

Ps 90:10 NLT:

10 Seventy years are given to us!

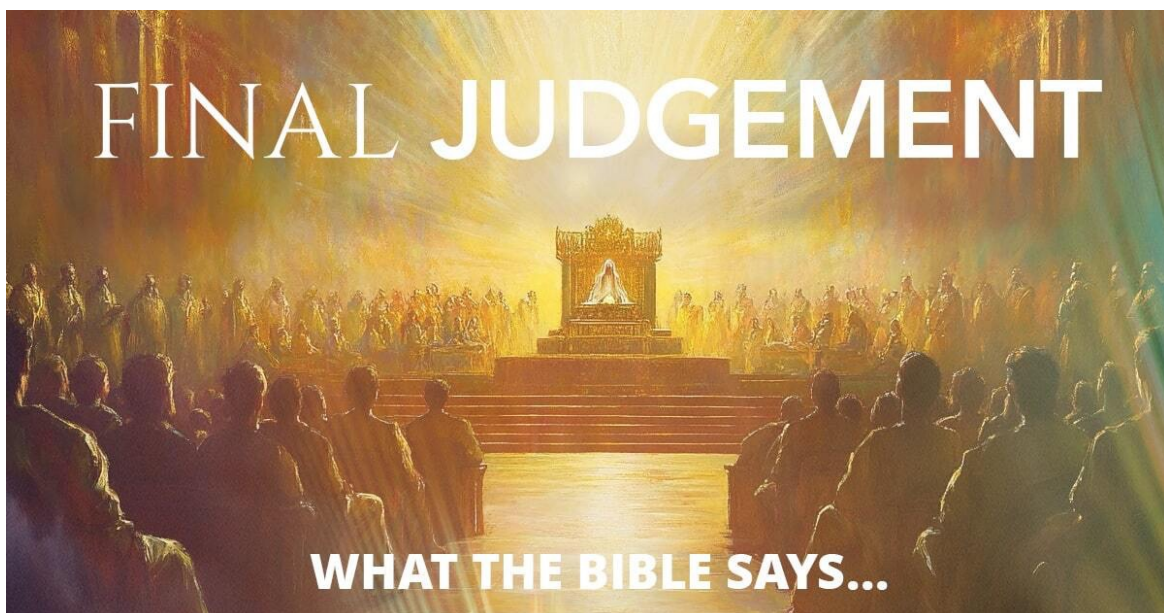
Some even live to eighty.

But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble;

soon they disappear, and we fly away.

(2) Spiritual death.

This involves the separation of the sinner from the Savior.



Matt 25:41 NLT:

41 “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.

Rev 21:8 NLT:

8 “But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

3. Individually.

(A) Adam, weary Labor.

Gen 3:17-19 NLT:

17 And to the man he said,

“Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree

whose fruit I commanded you not to eat,

the ground is cursed because of you.

All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.

18 It will grow thorns and thistles for you,

though you will eat of its grains.

19 By the sweat of your brow
will you have food to eat
until you return to the ground
from which you were made.
For you were made from dust,
and to dust you will return.”

(B) Eve.

Gen 3:16 NLT:

16 Then he said to the woman,
“I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy,
and in pain you will give birth.
And you will desire to control your husband,
but he will rule over you.”

Paul Enns describes the possible characteristics of this curse:

The woman would experience pain in childbirth.

The pain (Heb yizabon) in childbirth is similarly used of Adam’s toil (Gen 3:17).

Both would suffer in their respective roles.

The desire of the woman would be toward her husband.

This is a difficult phrase and may mean **(a)** sexual desire (**Song of Sol. 7:10**), **(b)** desire for security under her husband's authority, or **(c)** desire to rule over her husband (cf. Gen 4:7).

Song of Sol. 7:10 NLT:

10 I am my lover's,

and he claims me as his own.

Gen 4:7 NLT:

7 You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

A final aspect of the judgment upon the woman was that the husband would rule over her. (Moody Handbook of Theology, p. 309)



4. Upon nature itself.

Gen 3:17-18 NLT:

17 And to the man he said,

“Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree

whose fruit I commanded you not to eat,

the ground is cursed because of you.

All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.

18 It will grow thorns and thistles for you,

though you will eat of its grains.

Rom 8:19-22 NLT:

19 For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.

20 Against its will, all creation was subjected to God’s curse. But with eager hope,

21 the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God’s children in glorious freedom from death and decay.

22 For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

5. What were the immediate results of the fall of man?

A. Shame

Gen 3:7 NLT:

7 At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

B. Fear.

Gen 3:8 NLT:

8 When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees.

C. Excuses.

Gen 3:12-13 NLT:

12 The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

13 Then the LORD God asked the woman, "What have you done?"

"The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it."

How do we obtain the Forgiveness of our Sins?



How do we get right with God, regardless of our individual sins?

Just say this Prayer and all of your sins will be forgotten, and you will have Eternal life, with Christ Jesus, in Heaven:

Lord Jesus, I repent of all my sins, and I ask you to come into my life and be my Lord and Savior.

Friends, if you prayed that prayer, I believe that you are born again, and you have everlasting life, get in a good bible teaching church, and may you keep growing, in the Lord, and may HE use you to help save many souls for His Kingdom !

In, Jesus Mighty Name!

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed

