

## Lesson 11 Genesis 3:1-5

### Genesis for Families

*Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of 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 hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

The Bible does not present this as a myth but as historical fact. Since the Bible does not give us details of what all things were like before the fall in the perfection God created all things before the fall we can only guess. I think we will miss what perfection is actually about in the darkness of our now sin darkened minds. Eve does not seem to be surprised when an animal began speaking to her. Does this indicate man could communicate with animals before the fall? No it does not since at this point Eve would not have known there was such a thing as evil and would not have feared anything since all of creation was under the supervision of man.

Was this a literal serpent? Yes, but it most likely was not as we know serpents today. There is some evidence that serpents at one time had legs in present day biology. We will see in the curse that God will curse the serpent to crawl on its belly. This makes no sense if the serpent already existed with no legs and crawled on its belly. Man looks at the evidence that serpents once had legs and jumps into the error of evolution since this is at least a point to argue that serpents evolved from another form. They do not take into account the powerful word of God in the curse. Let God be true and all men liars! I do not apologize for the word of God and I can assure you God does not need our help in defending His word. The things of God are only made known through the Holy spirit working within the believer and to argue with those who pay no attention to God's word is of no value to us. The Bible says we should not argue with fools because others seeing us might not know the difference between them and us. Once more for the students in secular schools where this is taught as the truth, learn what they demand and feed back their answers to them in examinations. In your heart hide God's truth and make it your own.

In this story we see two important things concerning God's word. First Eve didn't really know God's word and added to it. God did not say do not touch the tree but to not eat the fruit of the tree. Second, we see the devil try and deny what God said was the truth. In other words Satan cast doubt on what God said. We are warned in the Bible that we should not add to (Eve's error) or take away from (Satan's lie) God's word. I chose error for Eve's action because she did it in ignorance and without ulterior motive that we can discern from the Bible. The serpent sinned because he knew the difference and was deliberately trying to get Eve to not obey God (sin). We can avoid the error Eve made by knowing God's word and obeying it despite all temptations of the world around us.

## Application

God's word in places does not conform to what we may know from the world around us today. What existed before the fall changed with the curse and will not be recovered until the end of the world when God removes the curse. Paul says that all of creation waits for this great day when the children of God are completely revealed and the curse is lifted. We live by every word of God and are not to take lightly what God has said. The Bible is our only rule for living our lives and what we should do with the life God has given to us. This is most often worded, "The Bible is our only rule for faith and practice." Where doubt exists, believe God above all the knowledge and so-called science of man.

## Questions

- How can this be a literal story that really happened?
- What error concerning God's word does Eve make?
- What sin does the serpent commit?
- Why was it only error for Eve to add to God's word at this place and sin for the serpent to take away from God's word?
- How can we avoid the error of Eve?