

In this message we will observe four lessons from the life of Adam and Eve that we can make application to us today. 1) God is our creator. 2) God's commands are for our benefit. 3) Satan is our enemy. 4) Sin separates man from God. This account of Adam and Eve is recorded in Genesis 1-3. The AIM of this lesson is to notice events in the lives of Adam and Eve and learn not to repeat the mistakes that they made.

Genesis 3:20 *And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.* Adam and Eve were the first man and woman created by God and they lived in the Garden of Eden, a paradise created for them by God. God made Adam and Eve perfect, but with the ability to choose freely. They had everything they needed until Satan came to destroy it all. Eve was tempted and violated the one prohibition that God gave them. As a result, they were cast out of the Garden of Eden. Likewise, the story of Adam and Eve is our story as well. When we are born, we are perfect, but Satan's influence causes us to sin.

I. GOD IS OUR CREATOR. In Gen. 1:27 we learn that God created Adam and chapter 2:7 tells us that he was created out of the dust of the earth. Then skip down to vs 21-22 and read that Eve was created from one of Adam's ribs. Once created, God put them in a perfect habitation (Genesis 2:8-9) where they had plenty of food to eat and beautiful surroundings. They were together for personal companionship (Genesis 2:18). In addition, they had personal fellowship with God.

Being our creator means so much more than our manufacturer. God is more of an artist than an engineer. He sustains. **Colossians 1:17** *"And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."* Notice how Paul described in to those in Athens. *"God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;..."*

God also nourishes. **Acts 14:17** *"Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."* In short, God knows what is best for us, what is good for us, and what is bad for us. So we see God the creator.

II. GOD'S COMMANDS. God's commands are for our benefit. He gave some commands to Adam and Eve. **Genesis 2:15-17** *"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."*

Eve knew of this command as she repeated it to the Serpent in Genesis 3:2-3. ***“And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 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.”*** But I want you to notice where this tree is located. It’s in the “midst” of the garden; that’s the middle. Now the garden was a large area as four rivers are mentioned in 2:10. So going to the middle of the garden for this fruit could have taken a significant effort. It’s not like they were just passing by and there it was. Note too that nothing is said about an apple. The apple idea is completely man fabricated.

The command not to eat of the tree was not there to hurt Adam and Eve or to take something away from them out of a malicious spirit. The command was there for their benefit and protection as well as a test of obedience. As long as they were obedient to this command, they enjoyed the fellowship of God. Obedience to God’s commands brings life and fellowship, but obedience is always a matter of choice. John writes regarding God’s commands, ***“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”*** (1 John 5:3). John is telling us that God’s commands are not burdensome, troubling, too difficult to accomplish.

Obedience to God’s commands brings salvation. ***Hebrews 5:8-9 “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”*** Our obedience to God’s commands also allows us to enjoy the fellowship of God. ***1 John 1:7 “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”*** ***Hebrews 2:2-3a “For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?”***

Now on the flip side, disobedience to God’s commands brings death and separation. Disobedience to God’s commands brings grievous burdens. The life of the prodigal son illustrates this. ***Luke 15:16 “And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.”*** Disobedience will cause one to lose one’s soul forever. ***Hebrews 2:3a ... How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?”*** Those who are disobedient do not garner God’s fellowship, but God’s anger. ***Ephesians 5:6 “Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.”***

Consequences to sin. The serpent was plagued ***Genesis 3:14 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:

Genesis 3:16-19 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

(17) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; (18) Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; (19) In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

III. SATAN IS OUR ENEMY. Satan lies. He is the father of lies. *“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” (John 8:44).* So it’s no surprise to see him lie to Eve. Of the forbidden fruit God said, *“thou shalt surely die.”* Satan said, *“thou shalt not die.”*

He may have appeared friendly toward Eve. To say the least he had her attention. Satan has a way of appeal. **2 Corinthians 11:14** *“And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”* He did not come to Eve as an enemy, but as a friend, desiring her to be wise. Years later he did not come to tempt Jesus as an enemy, but as one who was allegedly looking out for Jesus’ welfare. (Eat Bread, Angels will save you; Give all the kingdoms to you). He may even use the truth for his own devices. Satan quoted scripture to Jesus in Matthew 4:6—Give angels charge concerning thee. Psalm 91:11-12.

Be warned that he is our enemy; he is our adversary. **1 Peter 5:8-9** *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing*

that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.” Lions typically do not roar while actively stalking their prey; instead, they remain silent to avoid alerting their prey. Lions use roars to signal a successful kill. To help us in our defense against the devil, we are to take up the whole armor of God and battle against him. **Ephesians 6:11** *“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”* If we have enough willpower to deny the devil, he will leave us alone. We are to resist him. **James 4 7** *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”*

IV. SIN SEPARATES MAN FROM GOD. The result of Adam and Eve’s sin was separation from God. Sin does not bring any of the things that Satan says it will bring. Sin does not bring lasting joy. **Hebrews 11:25** *“Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season”.* Sin does not bring wisdom; it is foolishness. **Proverbs 14:9** *“Fools make a mock at sin:”* Sin does not bring honor, but reproach. **Proverbs 14:34** *“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.”* Sin does not bring true love. **1 John 3:10** *“In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.”*

Sin brings death. Romans 6:23. Sin brings sorrow. **Psalms 32:10** *“Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.”* Sin indicates that you are of the devil. *“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”* (1 John 3:8).

Let us learn the lessons from the life of Adam and Eve. God is our creator and God’s commands are for our benefit. Satan is our enemy and sin only leads to separation from God.

Invitation If you are a Christian but have fallen away, hear the lessons of Adam and Eve today. God’s commands are for your benefit. Repent and come back home. If you are not a Christian this morning, you stand separated from God. You need to be reconciled to Him today. Heed the plan that it has for man’s salvation today!

- a) Hear the word; Romans 10:17 *“Faith comes by hearing...”*
- b) Believe with all your heart; Hebrews 11:6 *“For without faith it is impossible...”*
- c) Repent of your sins (Acts 17:30).

- d) Confess Jesus as the Son of God (Matthew 16:16).
- e) Be baptized for the remission of your sins (Mark 16:15-16).