

Note: All scripture is from the New King James Version (NKJV) unless otherwise noted.

Before we continue this week, let's look back at the temptation in the garden of Eden in Gen 3:1-8 and compare it with Jesus' temptation in Matt 4:1-11.

✠ **Gen 3:1-8** *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?'" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 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.'" Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 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." 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. 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. 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.*

✠ **Matt 4:1-11** *Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "**It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'**" Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "**It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'**" Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "**Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'**" Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.*

✠ **Gen 3:1** *And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'"*

✠ **Matt 4:3** *he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."*

First off notice that the temptation had to do with food, or pleasing the flesh.

Eve used the words of God to answer Satan, but she added to God's word.

God warns about adding or taking away from His word.

† **Rev 22:18-19** *For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

Jesus also answered Satan with the Word of God.

† **But He answered and said, *'It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'*** "

Quoting:

† **Deut 8:3** *"So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.*

So Satan came back to Jesus with God's word.
Just as he was challenging Eve with Gods word.

✠ *Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 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."*

† **Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'** "

Satan was quoting from:

† **Psalms 91:11-12** *For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

Notice what Satan left out? *"To keep you in all your ways"*

Jesus throwing Himself down off the temple was not His way but Satan's way.
Jesus did not need to test God to know if He was His son, just like we don't need to test God if we are believers in Jesus. But we try to sometimes, asking for a sign, or something

to show that we are saved. Jesus already answered that question to the Pharisees when they asked Him for a sign.

† **Matt 12:38-40** *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."*

But how do you know that you are truly saved? Or how do you know God will answer your prayers?

Do you need God to write in the sky, "You are saved." Or for Him to tell you "Do this". Do you need to hear it from someone else?

What you really need to do is:

† **Prov 3:5-7** *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.*

I like verse 7 "**Do not be wise in your own eyes**" If we are wise in our own eyes, then we are putting our trust in ourselves. I know that sometimes it's hard to trust in God, especially if you have been praying for a long time and it seems He is not answering. We wonder, "*Will He ever answer me? Does God even hear me?*"

† **Isaiah 55:8-12** *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."*
(underlined for emphasis)

Don't use God's word to obtain for yourself. God says it's for what pleases Him and for prospering in what God intended His word for (see verse 11). Salvation through His Son Jesus Christ!

So again, Jesus gave Satan God's word in return.

† *Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' "*

Quoting from:

† **Deut 6:16** *You shall not tempt the LORD your God as you tempted Him in Massah.*

Notice also that Satan tempted Jesus and Eve in the same way that he fell from heaven. Wanting to make himself like God.

✠ *Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 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."*

† *Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."*

The only difference in the two accounts is that, Eve heeded the words of Satan

† *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.*

And Jesus did NOT, but once again came back with Gods word.

† *Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "*

Quoting from:

† **Deut 6:13** *"You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name.*

† **2 Kings 17:36** *"but the LORD, who brought you up from the land of Egypt with great power and an outstretched arm, Him you shall fear, Him you shall worship, and to Him you shall offer sacrifice.*

Notice the end results.

Adam and Eve hid themselves from God.

✠ *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.*

And God ministered to Jesus with angels.

‡ *Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.*

And this is where we left off last week.

The question was also brought up last week if Adam and Eve heard Jesus walking in the garden in verse 8?

✠ (NKJV) *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.*

✠ (KJV) *And they heard the voice 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 amongst the trees of the garden.*

✠ (NLT) *Toward evening they heard the LORD God walking about in the garden, so they hid themselves among the trees.*

The word for God is the plural form: **Hebrew word:** 'elohiym el-o-heem'

I believe it could very well be Jesus that was walking in the garden. As we study the book of Genesis we will see other times that Jesus could have been there also.

✠ **Gen 3:9-11** *Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat*

Can you see God here as the parent of His children? Notice His patience with Adam.

Also notice that He went to Adam first, and not Eve. Adams reply was not that he ate from the tree, but the result of his sin. **"I was naked so I hide myself."**

But then he wasn't naked, because if you'll remember in verse 7 they sewed fig leaves together to cloth themselves.

Adam did not say, "I AM naked" but that "I WAS naked" meaning he was now clothed with the fig leaves, and he was hiding because it was a dead give away to his sin.

Here is a little illustration of this confrontation between Adam and God that we as parents (or children) can relate to.

There is a jar of Oreo cookies on the counter, and you tell your child not to have any until after dinner. About a half-hour later you see your child with black teeth and crumbs on his/her shirt. As parents we don't start yelling at them, but take our direction from God here in Genesis. So we ask the child, *"What have you been doing?"* They give you that innocent look in their eyes and say, *"Nothing, I was just playing."*

So we ask, *"I notice someone was in the cookies. Do you know who?"*

Their reply may be, *"My sister/brother got them down and said we could have some."*

So you say, *"I don't think so because they were here with me all this time"*

"Have you been in the cookies?"

You probably know this story or you have been caught in a story like this yourself. Knowing you are guilty but still trying to give the blame to someone else. And that's just what Adam did.

✠ **Gen 3:12** *Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."*

First off Adam blamed God. **YOU** gave me this woman, and this woman **YOU** gave me gave it to me so I ate.

Adam also blamed his wife, where in the previous chapter we saw him saying this about this wonderful woman.

✠ **Gen 2:23** *And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."*

God did not argue with Adam (although Adam was wrong) but just turned around and asked the woman.

✠ **Gen 3:13** *And the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

Eve couldn't blame God or Adam, so she blamed an animal, the serpent. I also noticed that they both gave excuses. Neither one confessed to being wrong, because they are on the same plane, one is not better than the other.

God did not even need to ask Satan, or the serpent. God knew what he did. God knows that Satan is the father of lies.

✠ **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.*

So now the price for sin is to be paid.

✠ **Gen 3:14-15** *So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."*

It is said that the serpent was the most beautiful animal created by God. But Satan turned this beautiful animal that God created, and had it cursed to slide on it's belly and eat dust

forever. If you look closely at a snake you can see where his legs were, and this is a scientific fact. But it's not evolution, but God's word!

The word *enmity* is *hatred* or *repulsion*.

God was right (that's why He's God), women (and men) hate snakes. They are slimy make your skin crawl type of creatures.

Also notice verse 15 again "***And between your seed and her Seed.***" This is the first prophecy of Jesus in the Bible. A woman does not have a seed. Man has the seed. It's telling of the virgin birth of Jesus.

† ***Gal 3:19 What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.***

✠ ***He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.***

This speaks of Satan's repeated efforts to try and stop Jesus, like a small dog nipping at your heels.

But Jesus will crush Satan by going to Calvary and dying on the cross for our sins. A heel wound heals; a head wound is fatal.

✠ ***Gen 3:16 To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."***

Pain in childbirth. We as men can not understand this, but women can.

Bill Cosby explains childbirth or labor pains like this, "Take you bottom lip, and pull it up over your head. This is the pain of childbirth."

And even in this pain, our wives still have a desire for us.

At this point man was put over the woman. Look at

✠ ***Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."***

✠ ***Gen 2:18 (KJV) And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.***

A helper or help meet comparable to him. God did not place the man over the woman at this time, God created a woman to help man. But Eve's sin caused God to put man above woman. Why? Because Eve was deceived by Satan, not Adam.

✠ ***Gen 3:17-19 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall***

eat of it All the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."

Adam's sin was not the same as Eve's. The serpent deceived Eve, but Adam was not deceived. Adam chose to disobey God and to listen to his wife.

We as men are the heads of the home; we should listen to the counsel of God. Even if your wife disagrees with your decision, remember that we have to answer to God, not our wives. Are we willing to sin to keep our wives? Or obey God and keep our wives?

‡ ***Ephesians 5:22-33 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.***

Men, you may say, "*But my wife won't listen to me, or allow me to be the head of the house.*" Are you trying to rule with an iron fist, or the tender touch of love just as Jesus does with us? Men you are not responsible for making your wife obey God. You are only responsible for loving her. There are no provisions for when to stop loving her.

And women you may say, "*But my husband won't be the head of the house.*" There are no provisions for not submitting, unless your husband is telling you to do something against the word of God. To submit is not to take leadership, but to follow the leader regardless of how he leads.

Man's punishment was to no longer have God take care of him like He did providing for Adam and Eve in the garden. But now God would still provide, but man would have to labor for this provision.

‡ ***Prov 12:24 The hand of the diligent will rule, But the lazy man will be put to forced labor.***

‡ ***Prov 14:23 In all labor there is profit, But idle chatter leads only to poverty.***

- † **Eccl 3:12-13** *I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor--it is the gift of God.*
- † **Eccl 6:7** *All the labor of man is for his mouth, And yet the soul is not satisfied.*
- † **Ex 20:8-11** *"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.*
- † **John 6:27** *"Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."*

And finally for Adams disobedience, death.

When we sin we are separating ourselves from God.

- † **Matt 13:49** *So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just.*

But the Love of Jesus will never separate us from God.

- † **Romans 8:35-39** *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

But it does not give us a license to sin.

- † **Romans 6:1-2** *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?*
- † **Romans 5:12-19 (NLT2)** *When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. But it was not counted as sin because there was not yet any law to break. Still, everyone died—from the time*

of Adam to the time of Moses—even those who did not disobey an explicit commandment of God, as Adam did. Now Adam is a symbol, a representation of Christ, who was yet to come. But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ. 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. Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.

So who was at fault? All three were. How do we know this? Because all were punished. None were singled out as the bad guy. But sin did have a snowball effect. It all started with Satan tempting Eve. Eve excepted that temptation and sinned, she then tempted her husband and he sinned. We all now pay the price for disobedience 6000 years ago. But the great part is that we all have forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and it's free, all you have to do is ask.

If you haven't now is the time.

If you have, rejoice in what Jesus did for you on the cross!