

Genesis 3:1-5

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."

When we read today's verses in Genesis, we are reading of four things that are first recorded as happening in the bible.

The first is, God's word was questioned for the first time. **"Has God indeed said?"** That's one subtle thing that the enemy (satan) likes to put into our head.

- Did God really say that?
- God meant that for those other people but not for you, because you are stronger than that.
- God doesn't love you; He could never love someone like you.

The second is God's word was perverted and taken out of context. ***God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'***

God never said don't touch it, but ***"but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*** **Genesis 2:17** We don't know if Eve made that up or if Adam told her not to even touch it. But once we compromise or question God's word, that's when we try and justify what we are about to do or have done that was wrong.

- They asked me so I went because I don't want to be unsociable.
- I will date that person, even though they are not a believer, so I can save them.
- I was only 15 minutes over on my lunch break, I won't record it, because no one cares about 15 minutes.
- I saw them doing it, and they are a Christian.

The third is the first lie that was told to man/woman. **"You will not surely die."** If you think about that, it's a huge one that everyone hears all the time in their head.

- There is no God or Hell.
- A loving God would not send anyone to hell.

- You have plenty of time, you can accept Jesus later when you are old, so just have fun now.
- I will party in hell with all my friends.

And fourth speaking wrongly, God's word. ***"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."*** Eve must have figured that Satan was speaking on God's behalf by the way he phrased it ***"For God knows"*** which is a subtle way of saying, this is what God, or the Bible says, even though He never said it.

- Fight fire with fire.
- God helps those who help themselves.
- It's a sin to be rich and you will go to hell because you are.
- There are many ways to Heaven.
- Jesus and Satan are brothers.

As we read these things, we see how subtle the enemy is and how he likes to twist God's word to accomplish what he wants, and that is death for us all and to have us be separated from God for all eternity.

You have read the four things that Satan did at the beginning after creation and continues to do for the last 6000 years to man to destroy man who are made in God's image. So use them as a guide when you make decisions in life, Also it should make you think and pray before you do something that you are not sure of, or think is wrong, or that you have to twist God's word in order to do it, because that means it is wrong. Eve found out these things the hard way, and we all pay for it. It's up to us now if we also will learn the hard way or check out God's word for the right way.

† **John 10:10** *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

† **John 17:17** *Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.*

† **1 Thessalonians 2:13** *For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.*