

The Presence of Sin

Genesis 3

- I. The origin of the fall
 1. As it relates to Satan
 2. As it relates to man
- II. The order of events
 1. There was deception by the serpent.
 - a. He began casting doubt on God's Word (Gen. 3:1).
 - b. He continued contradicting God's Word (3:4).
 - c. He concluded by challenging God's motives (3:5).
 2. There was desire by the woman.
 3. There was disobedience by the man.
- III. The outcome of the fall
 1. There were immediate consequences.
 - a. There was a sense of shame (v. 7).
 - b. There was an attempt to hide from God (v. 8).
 - c. There was an expulsion from the Garden (vv. 22-24).
 2. There were subsequent physical consequences.
 - a. To the serpent
 - b. To the woman
 - c. To the man
 3. There were ultimate spiritual consequences.
 - a. Depravity for the human race (Rom. 5:19; Eph. 2:1-3)
 - b. Bondage to sin (John 8:31-36; Rom. 6:6; 7:22-24)
 - c. Guilt and condemnation (Rom. 3:19; 5:16, 18; John 3:18)
 - d. Physical death (Rom. 5:12-13; 6:23; Gen. 3:19)
 - e. Spiritual and eternal death (Isa. 59:1-2; Eph. 2:1)

Review

1. What part has Satan played in the sin problem, according to 1 John 3:8? What, in your opinion, is "the beginning"?
2. In light of Genesis 3 and Romans 5:12, what effects did Adam's sin have on the human race?
3. Describe in detail the method the serpent used to deceive Eve in Genesis 3:1-5. Compare Eve's response to 1 John 2:15-17.
4. What was the basic difference between Adam's sin and Eve's sin (see 1 Tim. 2:13-15)?
5. List at least five consequences of the Fall, either immediate or subsequent to Adam's sin.
6. What effects of Adam's sin do we have in our lives according to:
John 5:24-25
Romans 3:19; 5:16
Romans 5:12-14; 6:23
Romans 5:19
Romans 6:6; 7:22-24

Further Consideration

1. Compare the Bible's view of man and sin to that of our society today. Why do you think differences exist? What difference does it make?
2. Do you think Adam and Eve's fall was historical or simply a metaphor of the human condition? Is it important? Why?
3. What does Eve's experience with Satan, along with 1 John 2:15-17, show you about Satan's strategy against you as a believer?
4. Explain the relationship between a person's condition as a sinner and the fact that he or she commits sin. Is there any cure for this problem?
5. How would you answer someone who says he believes man is basically good?

Going Further

The better we understand concepts, the more simply we can explain them. How would you explain the presence of sin to a third grade Sunday school class? What Bible verses would you use? What illustrations would you use? How would you explain a Christian's relationship to sin? If any of these things are not clear in your mind, review the lesson notes again.