

All are Sinners Because of Adam (Genesis 3:1-24)

I. Introduction

A. *This Week in Clear Living*

1. The First Sin (Genesis 3:1-24 and Romans 5:12)
2. Some Bible Definitions of Sin (Psalm 10:4, Proverbs 29:23, Daniel 5:20, I John 2:16, and Matthew 22:37-39.)
3. The Steps of Sin (I John 2:16)
4. The Right Attitude (Matthew 22:37-39)
5. The Bible is God's Word (II Timothy 3:16 and II Peter 1:21)

Question: How do theologians explain Adam's transgression on all humanity? Does the evidence of Genesis 3:21 suggest that Adam and Eve were saved or that they were lost?

B. The fall of Adam and Eve

1. Genesis 3:1-6: Talking to the devil and doing wrong
 - a. Subtil (*aruwm*) – shrewd or crafty.
 - b. Field (*sadeh*) – flat land, as opposed to mountains or the sea, cultivated land.
 - c. Eve made a mistake trying to have a conversation with Satan.
 - d. She did not know what God had said to Adam.
 - 1) Verse 3: She might have gotten the wrong tree (in the midst of the garden) and the wrong instruction (touch).
 - 2) Genesis 2:9 says, "And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; **the tree of life also in the midst of the garden**, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil."
 - 3) Genesis 2:17 says, "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."
 - e. Verses 7-11: In measure, the devil was correct. Their eyes were opened, and they knew fear probably for the first time.
 - f. Verses 12-13: the blame game.
 - 1) Note that the Lord did not take anyone off the hook.
 - 2) Everyone had to take responsibility for their actions.
 - g. Verses 14-19: Adam, Eve, and the serpent learn of their consequences for disobeying the Lord.
 - 1) In verse 14, the serpent was cursed to crawl on its belly. **The serpent was not Satan, but Satan had inhabited the serpent.**
 - 2) In verse 15, **the first biblical reference to a Savior was given.**
 - a) God did not make Adam sin, but He knew that he would.
 - b) Jesus was planned before the foundations of the world (I Peter 1:19-20).

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- c) God does not make anyone sin. Even a person never committed any sins he or she would still be in a lost condition because of their sin.
- 3) In verse 16, woman would suffer during childbirth, and she would be in submission to her husband.
- 4) In verses 17-19, man would have to labor for his survival.
2. **WAS IT REAL?** Some common misconceptions about what really happened.
 - a. Literal or allegory – many people do not really believe in one man and one woman in the Garden of Eden (Mother Earth, Mother Nature, and Mother Eve).
 - b. Mythological – many people do not believe that Adam, Eve, the serpent, and the Garden of Eden are real.
 - c. Many people think that Adam and Eve sinned by either having sex or eating an apple. ***Secular depictions often show them eating an apple.***
- C. Some key definitions and history relevant to the Fall
 1. **Original Sin** – Adam’s disobedience in the Garden of Eden.
 2. **Original Pollution** – The sin nature that is passed to offspring through the male seed.
- D. Some past views
 1. ***Pelagius*** lived in the fifth century. He was highly educated and learned in theology. But he denied ***original sin*** and believed that a person did not become “lost” until he or she committed their “first” sin (***Pelagianism***). He was declared a heretic by the Council of Carthage
 2. ***Augustine*** also lived in the fifth century. He was a philosopher, theologian, and a church father. He opposed Pelagius.
 3. Some theologians have denied ***original pollution*** as well. The primary disagreeing view is that Adam’s sin only had a bad influence on humanity and that people are not born with a sin nature.
 4. **Note: Because of original pollution (the sin nature), Jesus had to be born of a virgin so that He would not be polluted.** His virgin birth supports the doctrines of original sin and original pollution.
- E. Two views of why are humans born in sin because of Adam?
 1. The **Seminal** view says that people are imputed the sin of Adam.
 - a. Sin nature is inherited from parents.
 - b. This view, which is supported by Romans 5:12, says that all people were seminally in Adam when he sinned.
 - c. Romans 5:12 says, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that ***all have sinned:***"
 - d. This view makes it difficult to make people only guilty for Adam's first sin.
 2. The **Federal Headship** view says that Adam acted as our representative.

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- a. When he fell, we fell with him.
 - b. This view is frequently presented in the Bible.
 1. Romans 5:19 says, "For as by one man's disobedience *many were made sinners*, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."
 2. Galatians 3:22 says, "But the scripture hath concluded *all under sin*, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe."
 - c. It explains why all are guilty of Adam's first sin, but not all his sins.
- E. Were Adam and Eve saved?
1. Genesis 3:21 says, "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."
 2. God made a covering for their sin, and they accepted it.
 3. God made a covering for our sins, which is the blood of Jesus. *We are saved when we accept Him and, by so doing, enter into a personal relationship with Him.*

Question: What does I John 2:16 say about the nature of sinners? What are the steps that lead a person to sin, and at what point does the person actually sin?

II. The steps of sin

- A. Sin as defined by the Bible
1. I John 2:16 says, "For all that is in the world, *the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life*, is not of the Father, but is of the world."
 - a. Sin involves the lust of the flesh.
 - b. Sin involves the lust of the eyes.
 - c. Sin involves the pride of life.
 2. Romans 14:23 says, "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for *whatsoever is not of faith is sin.*"
 3. James 4:17 says, "Therefore to him that *knoweth to do good, and doeth it not*, to him it is sin."
- B. What is temptation and when does it becomes sin?
1. Step 1 - Temptation is desire.
 2. Step 2 is the intent to have the object of desire.
 3. Step 3 is developing a plan to acquire that which is desired.
 4. Step 4 is having a willingness to put the plan into action.
 5. Step 5 is actually gratifying oneself with the object.
- C. Sin takes place at step four *when the individual actually starts moving* toward having the object.

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Question: How would you explain to someone the steps for being saved?

III. Understanding salvation.

A. Salvation is NOT:

1. Turning over a new leaf.
2. Simply believing in the existence of God.
3. Living by the Golden Rule or the Ten Commandments.
4. Not hurting anyone that does not hurt me.

B. Salvation is:

1. Entering into a personal relationship with Jesus (John 3:16).
2. Trusting the Lord as you would trust a chair to hold you (Acts 16:31).
3. The result of desire. **No one gets saved by accident.**

C. Salvation results in:

1. Deliverance from eternal judgment and the penalty of sin (Romans 5:9).
2. Indwelling of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13).
3. An internal peace that passes all understanding (Romans 5:1).
4. Taking on the life of a servant (Matthew 20:26-28).
5. Being reconciled to our Creator (Romans 5:10).
6. Being conformed to the image of Christ (Romans 8:29).
7. Probably being unpopular (John 15:18).

D. Salvation does not result in:

1. Guaranteed deliverance from the consequences of sin in this life.
2. A certain easy walk through life.
3. One becoming more popular.

Question: How do you know that you can trust the Bible? What do you know about the KJV and the NIV? In your opinion, is one version better than the other?

IV. Being able to trust the KJV and the NIV.

A. The KJV of the Bible was translated in 1620 AD.

1. It came from Massoretic manuscripts that date to the tenth century.
2. The last book of the Old Testament was written in the 4th century BC.
3. The Massoretic manuscripts are more than 1300 years from the original.
4. Nevertheless, the copying process through those centuries was very precise and resulted in only a few very minor copying errors.
5. The Massoretic manuscripts are later in date but more numerous.
6. Monks used a process called "pointing" to copy the original manuscripts.

B. The NIV of the Bible was translated in the twentieth century.

1. The language is clearer and closer to current-day speaking.

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2. Much of the NIV comes from the Dead Sea scrolls, which date to about 200 BC.
3. The Dead Sea scrolls are not as numerous as the Massoretic manuscripts, but they are much closer to the original Scriptures.
4. A comparison between the Massoretic texts of the tenth century and the Dead Sea scrolls shows almost complete agreement.
5. No theological doctrines disagree between the manuscripts used for the two versions. Therefore, Bible truth can be discovered in either version.
6. Some people have noted that the NIV leaves out many verses.
7. Some have criticized the NIV because a gay person may have been involved in its development. **How does that affect the NIV, in your opinion?**

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Next week's lesson: "Methuselah Lived a Long Time" (Genesis 5:1-32)

Five Day Recommended Reading:

Monday:	Genesis 5:18-27
Tuesday:	II Kings 2:1-11
Wednesday:	I Thessalonians 4:13-18
Thursday:	Hebrews 11:1-40
Friday:	Jude 1:1-25

Study questions:

1. Who were Seth, Enoch, and Methuselah? What did Methuselah's name mean?
2. How old was Noah when he started building the ark? Do you believe that a year in those days corresponded to a year today.
3. What does Genesis 5:24 mean? Does that mean that Enoch could be one of the two witnesses in Revelation?
4. What will happen to the saints when the Rapture occurs?
5. Does the trumpet mentioned in I Thessalonians 4:13-18 correspond to the trumpet judgments in the Book of Revelation? If so, does that mean that the church will be on earth for the first part of the Great Tribulation?
6. How did the writers of Hebrews and Jude describe Enoch?
7. Why did Jude write his book? What did he mean when he wrote about contending for the Faith?