

THE CORRUPTED CREATION

Lesson Aim: To know the grave danger of disobeying the commands of God.

Suggestion: Have the students read the Scriptures and answer the questions in the student lesson and insert the following questions where they fit the lesson for class discussion.

God made Adam the "king" of the earth forever, but if he ate the fruit of the tree of knowledge, he would die. Satan wanted to rule the world, but he had to conquer Adam to do it. Satan used this tree to be its ruler. He got Eve to eat its fruit; she gave it to Adam; he ate and was conquered. "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Samuel 15:22).

How did Satan deceive Eve (Gen 3:1-5)?

First, Satan used the serpent to catch Eve off guard. She probably thought she was talking to a good creature that God had made. Next, Satan asked her, "Did God say that you shall not eat of every tree in the Garden?" He twisted God's words to start a conversation with her so he could deceive her. Eve's mishandling of God's Word showed Satan he could lie to her and she would believe it. She failed to tell Satan all that God said to them; they could freely eat of every tree, except one. She failed by adding to God's restriction, when she said they could not touch the tree. She failed when she modified the God's warning from "surely die" to "lest you die." Eve's mishandling of God's Word showed Satan that he could tell her a blatant lie and she would believe it, so he said, "You will not die," when you eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. He continued to deceive her, when he told her that God did not want anyone else to eat of that tree because they also would become God knowing good and evil.

What is the plan that Satan often uses to tempt people to sin?

It is found in 1 John 2:15-17. It is to love the world system by the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. He followed this plan with Eve (3:6), with Achan (Josh 7:21), with David (2 Sam 11:2-4) and with Jesus (Mt 4:1-11). Jesus was tempted in all points, but did not sin (Heb 4:15).

What is the only way to defeat Satan's temptations?

Resist the devil and he will flee from you (Jam 4:7). Resist the devil with the Word of God like Jesus did (Mt 4:4, 6, 10). The Word of God is the believer's sword to effectively fight against the attacks of Satan (Eph 6:17).

How did Satan become the god of this world?

Jesus called Satan the prince (ruler) of this world three times (Jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11) and even after Christ defeated Satan by His death on the cross, Paul called him the god of this world (2 Cor 4:4). After Satan sinned against God and lost his position in Heaven, he decided he wanted to rule the earth. However, God had made Adam the "king" of the earth (Gen 1:28), so he had to defeat Adam to rule the earth. His plan was to get Adam to obey him and eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He chose to get Eve to eat of the tree first and through her to get Adam to eat of it. By deceiving Eve, she ate of the tree. When she did not physically die at that moment, she gave the fruit to Adam and he ate the fruit. By doing this he not only disobeyed God, he obeyed Satan and put himself under his authority. When someone conquers a king, he receives the kingdom of the conquered king. In this way Satan became the prince (ruler) of this world, the god of this world. He received it from Adam in the Garden of Eden (cf Lk 4:6).

Why was Cain's offering not accepted by God?

His offering was not a blood offering (Heb 9:22), which he knew God required, so his motive must not have been right (4:6-7). God wants to be worshipped in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:24). A disobedient spirit will not be accepted by God.