

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How can Satan's ability to twist God's commandments ruin believer's spiritual lives to the point of eternal loss?
2. How is sin and deception increasing in these last days?
3. What is the significance when God made coats of skins to cover Adam and Eve?

SUMMARY:

God had placed Adam and Eve in the garden and surrounded them with trees and herbs to supply their food. He gave them permission to eat of every tree in the garden except of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. There is no indication that either of them thought of eating of the forbidden tree until the serpent called Eve's attention to the tree and she became aware of the fruit's attractiveness, desirability as food, and its ability to make one wise. Her desires prevailed and she ate, also giving the fruit to Adam. The consequences of their sin were awareness of nakedness and fear of facing God. They tried to cover themselves with fig leaves, but God, after pronouncing the punishment for their sin, made coats of skins to cover them, thereby initiating the requirement of the shedding of blood for forgiveness of sins.

NOTES:

[SoF:7] We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #2

January 10, 2021

First Quarter

THE BEGINNING OF SIN

LESSON TEXT: *Genesis 3:1-24; Romans 5:12-14*

LESSON SETTING: In the Garden of Eden.

TIME: Approximately 4000 BC.

- I. THE CRAFTINESS OF SIN.** Genesis 3:1-5
 - A. Tempts (vs. 1) Matthew 4:3; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 2 Peter 2:18
 - B. Deceives (vs. 4) Matthew 4:6; 2 Corinthians 2:11; 11:3; 11:13-15
 - C. Wiles of Sin (vs. 5) John 8:44; Ephesians 6:11-12; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10
- II. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF SIN.** Genesis 3:6-13
 - A. Attraction (vs. 6) Job 20:11-14; Proverbs 9:17; Mark 7:20-23; Luke 12:15
 - B. Lust (vs. 6) Matthew 5:28; Mark 4:19; 1 John 2:15-16
 - C. Disobedience (vs. 11) 1 Samuel 12:15; Romans 5:12, 19; Hebrews 2:2-3
 - D. Deception (vs. 13) Isaiah 44:18,20; Jeremiah 17:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12; Revelation 3:17
- III. THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN.** Genesis 3:14-24; Rom. 5:12-14
 - A. Sin's Sorrow (vs. 16-17) Psalm 90:10; 38:3-6; Ecclesiastes 2:22-23; Isaiah 17:10-11;
 - B. Sin's Curse (vs. 14-16, 18-19) Deuteronomy 28:15-20; Galatians 3:10
 - C. Sin's Penalty (vs. 19-24, Romans 5:12-14) Isaiah 59:2; Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8

GOLDEN TEXT: *FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH; BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.* [SoF:7] Romans 6:23

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Genesis 4:1-15; James 1:14-15

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Mark 7:21-23; 1 John 3:9-15;
Leviticus 9:1-7

QUARTERLY THEME: The Beginnings

TOPIC: THE FIRST MURDER

INTRODUCTION:

When Adam and Eve sinned, God killed an animal in order to obtain skins, with which to cover their nakedness. Blood had to be shed for their sin. When their son Abel realized he too needed covering for his sins he sacrificed unto God the firstlings of his flock. He obeyed God. But Cain in his foolish pride thought himself good enough so that blood did not have to be shed for his sins. He therefore, offered fruit as a sacrifice which was a disobedient act in God's sight. (Hebrews 11:4)

Cain recognized the fact that Abel's sacrifice was accepted by God and his was not. Instead of repenting for his sin and asking for forgiveness, he was filled with jealous anger toward his brother. The Lord spoke to him concerning his sin and Cain should have taken this warning. His thoughts and heart were filled with wrath. We are told he talked with Abel. Surely the bitterness in his heart was growing to the degree that he was contemplating murder. When opportunity offered, he found Abel in the field, and killed him. (1 John 3:12)

When bitter thoughts occupy the heart and mind, sin in action is certain to be the result. This is the cunningness of the devil. How he cleverly first enters the mind, whispering evil thoughts and if we listen he gains a foothold. Eventually he has us in his power to obey him. Horrible sin is the result.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Sin committed in secret is witnessed by God and will be judged by God.

GOLDEN TEXT: *BELOVED, FOLLOW NOT THAT WHICH IS EVIL, BUT THAT WHICH IS GOOD. HE THAT DOETH GOOD IS OF GOD: BUT HE THAT DOETH EVIL HATH NOT SEEN GOD.* 3 John 11

After the parents of Cain had listened to the evil one and disobeyed God, evil became the natural, easy way for mankind to follow. Ever since sin entered into man's heart, it has taken extra effort to choose and follow "that which is good." God reminded Cain of this when He told him that, to be accepted he must do well, but if he did not do well, then sin would lie at the door. Thus, early in the history of mankind the Highest Power, God the Creator, was urging men to seek His ways, to "overcome evil with good." In spite of man's fallen estate, God in love has ever been willing to provide His help to those who sought to do His will. Even before man was created, God knew the danger which would face them on this earth, having body, soul and spirit, with the power of choice and subject to the temptations which the deceiver would bring. Therefore, the plan of salvation was already prepared before the foundation of the world, in the person of His Beloved Son who would be the sacrifice for sin. (1 Peter 1:19-20)

How it should move us then, to whom this plan and sacrifice is offered, to "*follow not that which is evil but that which is good.*"

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF January 11 – 17

M. *The First Murder. Genesis 4:1-15; James 1:14-15
T. The Old Testament Standard. Numbers 35:9-21
W. The Old Testament Inquest. Deuteronomy 21:1-9
T. Rejecting God Leads to Sin. Psalm 10:1-11
F. Forgiveness for Murder. Isaiah 1:7-18
S. The New Testament Standard. 1 John 3:11-16
S. Punishment for Murder. Revelation 21:1-8

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