

# When Sin Entered the World

*(How Satan Acts to Deceive)*

*Genesis 2:15-17*

*Genesis 3:1-6*

# Introduction

- Paul had fear that Corinthian brethren, though he had taught them the truth, might be overcome by error
- He relates that fear to the way Eve was beguiled in the garden by the serpent
  - “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Corinthians 11: 3)
- Paul had earlier warned the Corinthians about being unprepared for Satan’s temptations if they were ignorant of his ways...
  - “...lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices” (2 Corinthians 2:11)
- It may help us be better prepared for Satan if we see how he acted in craftiness to deceive Eve in the garden

## Genesis 2:15-17

<sup>15</sup> Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; <sup>17</sup> 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 3:1-6

<sup>1</sup> 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’?” <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; <sup>3</sup> 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.’” <sup>4</sup> Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> 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.” <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

# Points to Note from the Texts

- God declared His law to distinguish right from sin
  - “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 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.”
- Eve manifested an understanding of that law
  - Serpent misrepresented law as “not eat of every tree of the garden”
  - Eve corrected that by saying, “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’”
- Serpent then tried to get Eve to doubt the word of God
  - Serpent said, “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.”
- Conclusion: Heed warning by seeing parallels today

# Same Principle Seen in Sin Today

- God Has Clearly Revealed His Will for People Today
  - *Deut. 18:18* → *Acts 3:18-24* O.T. revelation pointed to N.T.
  - *John 16:12-15* Complete revelation of all truth given by H.S.
  - *1 Corinthians 13:12* By process of revelation & confirmation
- That Will (Gospel) Can Be Understood
  - *Ephesians 3:1-4* Revealed by rational process to make known
  - *Ephesians 5:17* “Do not be unwise, but understand what...”
  - *Colossians 1:9-11* May be filled with knowledge through word
- Satan Got Eve to Doubt the Word of God – Same done today
  - *Matthew 4:5-7* Satan misused Scripture to work temptation
  - *Matthew 13:19* Satan works by taking away the word of God
  - *2 Corinthians 4:2-4* Satan seeks to blind all from seeing truth
- **Ultimately, Satan Always Wants Us To Doubt God’s Word!**