

In Genesis chapter two. We saw the perfection of creation, the intimacy of the Garden of Eden, and the original blueprint for human relationships. Everything was in perfect harmony. God was on the throne, man was walking in unbroken fellowship with his Creator, and there was no sin, no shame, and no death.

As we turn the page to Genesis chapter three, we come to what is undeniably the most tragic pivot in human history—the fall of man.

As we move through these twenty-four verses "line upon line, precept upon precept," we are going to witness the spiritual tragedy that changed everything. We'll see how the enemy subtly introduced doubt, how Adam and Eve made the choice to distrust and rebel, and how the holy order of human nature became flipped upside down. But more than that—and this is the heart of this lesson—we are going to see the incredible, relentless grace of Almighty God. Even in the immediate aftermath of man's treason, when Adam and Eve were running and hiding in the shadows, God didn't turn His back. He came searching. He called out to them. And right there in the wreckage of human sin, He declared the very first promise of the Gospel.

In this powerful chapter, we are going to break down three central movements:

First, we'll analyze The Strategy of the Enemy and the Fall, looking at how Satan attacks God's Word, the anatomy of temptation, and how sin caused a "great inversion" in man's spiritual nature—leaving us in desperate need to be born again.

Second, we'll behold The First Promise of the Gospel, where God gives us the Protoevangelium in Genesis chapter three, verse fifteen, pointing forward to the virgin birth, the suffering of the cross, and the blood sacrifice necessary to cover our guilt.

And finally, we'll look at The Choice and The Remedy, seeing how God rejects our man-made "fig leaves" of self-righteousness, offering us true restoration and eternal life through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

It doesn't matter where you find yourself today—whether you've been walking with the Lord for forty years or you've been running from Him and hiding among the trees—God has a word for your heart in this passage.

Turn with me to the Book of Genesis, chapter three. We love to read and study the Word "line upon line, precept upon precept," because we believe that God has a specific message for us in every verse. In this chapter we see the heart of a God who pursues us even when we run away.

The Strategy of the Enemy

Genesis 3:1-5

Notice how the serpent begins. He doesn't start with a blatant frontal assault; he starts with a question: "Has God indeed said...?" This is always the enemy's "Method of Operation." He wants to get you to doubt the integrity of God's Word.

In verse 3, we see Eve adding to God's command. She says, "neither shall you touch it." God hadn't said that. When we misquote or misunderstand the Word, we become vulnerable. Satan then moves

from questioning to flat-out contradicting: "You will not surely die." He portrays God as a cosmic killjoy who is holding out on them.

Note: Satan will always try to convince you that God's "No" is because He's mean, when in reality, God's "No" is because He's protective.

The Three-Pronged Attack

Genesis 3:6

Here we see the anatomy of temptation. It's the same thing the Apostle John warns us about in First John 2:16 (NKJV):

1. The Lust of the Flesh: It was "good for food."
2. The Lust of the Eyes: It was "pleasant to the eyes."
3. The Pride of Life: It was "desirable to make one wise."

Eve was deceived, but the Bible tells us Adam was not. He walked into this with his eyes wide open. He made a deliberate choice to rebel.

The Great Inversion

Genesis 3:7-13

The moment they ate, their eyes were opened, and they lost their "God-consciousness." Man was created as a trinity: spirit, soul, and body. Before the fall, the spirit was on top, in communion with God. After the fall, things flipped. Man became "inverted." Now the body and its appetites rule the soul, and the spirit is dead—separated from God.

This is why Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:3 (NKJV), "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." To be "born again" is to have that order restored—to have your spirit made alive by the Holy Spirit so that God is on the throne of your life once more.

The First Promise of the Gospel

Genesis 3:14-21

In the midst of the curse (i.e., the natural results of sin entering creation), God gives us the Protoevangelium—the first mention of the Gospel. In Genesis 3:15 (NKJV), God speaks of the "Seed of the Woman." This is a beautiful hint at the Virgin Birth. This Seed would bruise the serpent's head (destroying his authority), while the serpent would bruise His heel (the suffering of the Cross).

Notice verses 7 and 21. Adam and Eve tried to cover themselves with fig leaves—that's man-made religion. It's trying to cover our own guilt with our own works. But it wasn't enough. God had to clothe them in tunics of skin. To get skin, an animal had to die. Blood had to be shed.

The Central Truth: From the very beginning, God was teaching us that without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin (Hebrews 9:22, NKJV). That pointed directly to Jesus Christ, who shed His blood on the cross to provide a permanent covering for our souls.

Practical Application for the Believer

If you have put your trust in Jesus, you are no longer defined by the "inverted" nature of Adam. You are a new creation!

- The Challenge: Stop trying to sew "fig leaves" of your own righteousness. Stop trying to earn God's favor through your performance. Walk in the Spirit, not the flesh. When the enemy whispers, "Has God indeed said?" follow the example of Jesus and answer him with, "It is written!"

An Invitation to the Unbeliever

Perhaps you've been running from God, hiding among the "trees" of your career, your hobbies, or your own guilt. You hear God calling, "Where are you?" Not because He's lost you, but because He wants you to realize you are lost without Him.

Jesus Christ came to reverse the curse. He wore a crown of thorns—the very symbol of the curse—so that you wouldn't have to. He died on that "tree" of the cross, shedding His blood to pay for your rebellion. But the story didn't end there! His resurrection proves He is God, Savior, and Lord.

Will you choose Him today? He has made every provision for you to return to the Garden, to the Tree of Life. But the choice is yours. He won't force you into His kingdom, but His arms are open wide to receive you when you come to Him.