

God's Invisible Creation

Satan – Genesis 3:1 – 16

Sermon Discussion Guide

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STUDY NOTES

Did God really say, “You must not eat . . .” (Gen. 3:1). God did not say this (2:16). Evil was ushered into the world because trust was broken. With one question, the serpent tempted Eve to distrust both God and her understanding of God's world.

You must not touch it (Gen. 3:3). God had not said anything about touching the fruit; they were not to eat it. Eve did understand, however, that God had set a boundary that she was not to cross.



In his message, Matt describe Satan as an angel whom God created and made him spiritual, powerful, and immortal like all angels. Satan, however, “fell” due to his disobedience. Satan and the other angels, who fell with him, have been waging war with God and mankind ever since. Even though Satan is a powerful angel, he does not hold power over God. And as Christians, he also holds no power over you and me, yet we continue to fail to see beyond his lies and temptations. In the scripture you are about to read, we see Satan's first recorded encounter with mankind.

Read Genesis 3:1 -16.

1. Why do you think that God did not want Adam and Eve to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil if it was pleasing to the eye and good for food? Why have such a tree or forbidden object at all? (Reference: Genesis 2:16-17)
2. What's the problem with having "knowledge of good and evil?"
3. Which of the statements of Satan are true and not true? (v.1, 4 – 5)
4. Why do you think Satan mixes the truth with lies?
5. Matt shared the various names Scripture uses to call Satan. What do these names indicate about his nature? What implications do these names hold for you?

Deceiver - Revelation 12:9

Father of Lies - John 8:44

Murderer - John 8:44

Sinner - I John 3:8

Accuser - Revelation 12:10

Serpent - II Corinthians 11:3

Dragon - Revelation 20:2

Abaddon or Apollyon - Revelation 9:11

Beelzebub - Matthew 12:24, 27

Tempter - Matthew 4:3

Enemy - Matthew 13:25

Evil One - Matthew 13:19

Belial - II Corinthians 6:15

Adversary - I Peter 5:8

STUDY NOTES

You will not surely die (Gen. 3:4). Jesus said that lies were Satan's native tongue (John 8:44). In Eve's case Satan's lie was in saying that God did not really mean what he said. Satan still uses that device today, trying to get people to water down, distrust or discount God's words entirely.

You will be like God (Gen. 3:5). Satan made it sound to Eve like God was trying to hold onto a position and did not want anyone to become like him. God was pictured as selfish. Satan still tries to twist God's words to make us believe things that are not true about Him.

6. How might someone today fall prey to the same tempting question, "Did God really say . . . ?" What lies about God or Scripture are shrouded in truth that people tend to believe these days?
7. If we have superior power, the Holy Spirit, shouldn't we always win any collision with Satan? Why do we see Christians being cut down and churches stalemated so often?
8. Knowing that Satan is a fallen angel, a creation of God, we understand that the difference between Satan and his angels and us is their continual rebellion and sin. Are there specific things in our daily lives that we need to be very intentional about to keep us from falling as Satan did? How do we hold ourselves accountable? How do we help others to be accountable?