

BORN AGAIN: THE FALL'S RESULT

Over the past several months I have endeavored to cover the process of the fall of man and the effect it's had on humanity in general. Now this month, I want to begin to move into what this all means for you and I, as individuals. As previously mentioned in **Genesis 2:7**, God breathed into Adam and he became a living soul.

We need to recognize in His "breathing", God produced a two fold life: sensual/natural and spiritual. We know this because in the Hebrew, "breath of life" is plural: breath of lives. We also see in **1st Corinthians 15:45-46** where it tells us the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. For Adam & Eve, their physical mind which is within their soul, became the medium of existence to make contact with this physical world. This was designed in the beginning, in the original formation of humanity to serve the spirit; a covering and means of using the body.

Genesis 2:17, God said, if you eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall surely die. In the Hebrew, this death is "Muth-Muth", two deaths, spiritual then physical. We see what Jesus said in **Luke 11:17**, a kingdom or house divided against itself falls. Satan's goal was to divide the soul of Adam and Eve from God, eventually separating mankind from their spiritual identity. This is what the term "for he is indeed flesh" is referring to. (**Genesis 6:3, 12, 13**).

What is spiritual death? It is a separation of our spirit from the Spirit of God and from the presence of God. **Genesis 3:5-7** says, then the eyes of both of them were opened. This is telling us something that took place in the realm of their soul. To see this in more detail, let's take a look at what the scripture says was going on in the mind of Eve.

In **Genesis 3:4-5**, Satan tells her four things:

1. You will not surely die
2. Your eyes will be opened
3. You'll be like God
4. You'll know good and evil.

Genesis 3:1 says, Satan was more cunning (crafty & shrewd), more so than any other being in the Garden. We really don't know how much observation took place before Satan approached Eve, however, we do know he was observing God when He was creating Adam & Eve. We know this because Satan is quoting the very words that God spoke to Adam in **Genesis 2:17**. Remember, this was before the fall when he approached Eve in the garden and told her those 4 things.

Adam and Eve's temptation is not like ours, **Galatians 5:17** says the flesh lusts against the spirit, the spirit against the flesh. This takes place in us who are born-again because we are living with the sin nature at work in our members. Adam and Eve's temptation was all from an outside source, why? They had no nature to sin living in them like we do now. Before the fall, they lived in a state of complete innocence and did not fully perceive the consequences of their choices. God told Adam what the consequences were in **Genesis 2:17**, but in my opinion, he could not fully understand the result of his disobedience since he had no experience with death.

Satan knew why the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was there. The tree was complete, not just in the command but the consequence of disobeying the command was also found in the tree. Take a look at **Galatians 6:7-8**, Satan will always come directly against what God speaks. **He looks for an open door and a way to impact how we think about what God speaks to us.**

Satan knew clearly what God was going to do to replenish the earth, so he knew he had to strike early before God unfolded His plan to bless mankind through His promises. Eve's response is clearly defined in scripture. In **Genesis 3:6**, we see what she would personally gain by eating the fruit of the tree. **Verse 6** says, "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."

This verse tells us the fact that everything that took place in her was brought on through her senses. Seeing, hearing and thinking—all prompted from Satan, speaking directly to her. So what can we learn from this? **We should never allow anything to distract us from what God has said, even when we don't understand it.** She went ahead of her husband and ate, then gave it to her husband who was there with her.

Notice, the eyes of them both did not open until he ate of the fruit, it was his violation which plunged humanity into death, spiritual death (separation from God), then natural death. Next month we will explain in more detail what is defined as spiritual death.

Love,
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