

Outline for Lesson One: The Fall of Man

Introduction: Laying the Foundation of Faith

- **Key Verse:** *“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.”* (Matthew 7:24)
- **Purpose of the Series:**
 - Strengthen the foundation of the church and individual believers.
 - Equip believers to stand firm on the unchanging Word of God in a world that challenges biblical truth.
 - Begin with Genesis 3 to understand the root of humanity’s brokenness and God’s redemptive plan.
- **Opening Statement:**

“Genesis 3 answers life’s most pressing questions: Why is the world broken? What can be done about sin? Who can save us?”

1. The Temptation (Genesis 3:1-5)

- **The Subtlety of the Serpent:**
 - *“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field”* (Genesis 3:1).
 - The serpent, as Satan’s instrument, cast doubt on God’s Word with *“Yea, hath God said...?”*
 - **Key Truth:** Every temptation begins by challenging God’s authority.
- **The Deception of Eve:**
 - Satan promises, *“Ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil”* (Genesis 3:5).
 - Eve altered God’s Word by omitting *“freely”* (Genesis 2:16) and adding *“neither shall ye touch it”* (Genesis 3:3).
- **Application:**
 - Guard against doubt and distortion of Scripture.

2. The Act of Disobedience (Genesis 3:6-7)

- **The Appeal of the Forbidden:**
 - *“The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise”* (Genesis 3:6).

- Satan used legitimate desires (hunger, beauty, wisdom) but directed them toward sin.
- **Adam’s Rebellion:**
 - Adam’s sin was willful, not deceived: “*For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression*” (1 Timothy 2:13-14).
- **The Immediate Consequence:**
 - “*The eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked*” (Genesis 3:7).
 - They attempted to cover their shame with fig leaves—an inadequate remedy for sin.
- **Application:**
 - Sin often appears desirable but leads to shame and separation from God.

3. The Confrontation (Genesis 3:8-13)

- **God Seeks the Sinner:**
 - “*And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?*” (Genesis 3:9).

- God's questions were meant to lead Adam and Eve to confession.
- **Blame-Shifting:**
 - Adam blamed Eve: *"The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat"* (Genesis 3:12).
 - Eve blamed the serpent: *"The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat"* (Genesis 3:13).
- **Application:**
 - Sin leads to evasion of responsibility, but true repentance requires ownership of guilt.

4. The Judgment and the Promise (Genesis 3:14-19)

- **The Curse on the Serpent:**
 - *"Thou art cursed above all cattle... upon thy belly shalt thou go"* (Genesis 3:14).
 - The protoevangelium (first gospel): *"It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel"* (Genesis 3:15).
- **The Curse on the Woman:**
 - Pain in childbirth: *"I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception"* (Genesis 3:16).
 - Relational conflict: *"Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."*

- **The Curse on the Man:**
 - *“Cursed is the ground for thy sake... in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life”* (Genesis 3:17).
 - Death becomes certain: *“For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return”* (Genesis 3:19).
- **Application:**
 - God’s judgment reveals the seriousness of sin and His holiness.

5. The Mercy of God (Genesis 3:20-24)

- **Provision of Covering:**
 - *“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them”* (Genesis 3:21).
 - First sacrifice pointing to Christ’s atoning death.
- **Protection from Eternal Separation:**
 - *“He drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims... to keep the way of the tree of life”* (Genesis 3:24).
- **Application:**

- Even in judgment, God provides mercy and hope.

Theological Reflections

1. **Original Sin:** *“For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners”* (Romans 5:19).
2. **Human Responsibility:** Each person is accountable for their own sins (Ezekiel 18:20).
3. **The Need for Redemption:** Only Christ, the second Adam, can restore what was lost (1 Corinthians 15:45).

Application for Believers

1. **Take God’s Word Seriously:** Guard against questioning or altering His commands.
2. **Flee Temptation:** Avoid lingering near sin, as Eve did.
3. **Confess Sin:** Own your guilt and turn to God for forgiveness (1 John 1:9).
4. **Rejoice in Redemption:** Trust in Christ, who secures eternal life (Revelation 22:3).

Conclusion

The fall of man explains the brokenness of the world but also points to God's redeeming grace. As we look back on Eden, we are reminded of the hope of a new creation: *"And there shall be no more curse"* (Revelation 22:3).

Key Verse:

"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous" (Romans 5:19).

This is the foundational truth upon which the rest of the series will build. Let us anchor ourselves in the redemptive hope found in Christ.