

III. THE STEPS IN THE FALL (Genesis 3:6; 1 John 2:15-16)

A. Passion

1. Eve saw that the tree was good for food.
2. She wanted to satisfy her fleshly, sinful lusts.
  - a. Sin focuses on the fleshly appetites and passions.
  - b. It makes the appetite of the flesh more important than the spiritual matters of the inner man.
  - c. It makes the stomach more important than the soul.
  - d. It exalts the physical over the spiritual. – This is the core of the social gospel.
    - (1) Satisfy the physical appetite and you will fail miserably where it counts most. (2 Timothy 4:10)
    - (2) Satisfy the physical and your spiritual man will starve. (Matthew 6:24; Romans 6:16-22; Ephesians 3:14-21)

B. Pleasantness

1. The tree – It was pleasant to the eyes.
2. It was good to look at.
  - a. Eve allowed the outward appearance to sway her thinking, it attracted her and dictated her conduct rather than the word of God.
  - b. Sin appeals to the outward attractiveness.
3. Also, wickedness makes much use of the eye gate.
  - a. Therefore, one sees much use by Hollywood, movie, TV, and pornography industries in their corruption of the minds of men. (1 John 2:15; Joshua 7:1; Job 31:1)

C. Pride

1. A tree desired...
2. To make one wise.
  - a. While it's not wrong to be wise, it is wrong to have the wisdom of this world and not the wisdom of the Lord. (Ecclesiastes 1:16, 17-18; 2:10-11; 7:23-25; Job 28:28; Proverbs 2:7; 3:13; James 1:5)
  - b. In fact, God tells us that we should be wise concerning the things that are good, but simple concerning the things that are evil. (Romans 16:19)
3. Eve's interest here in wisdom was a result of pride not prudence. (1 Corinthians 8:1; cp. Proverbs 16:18)

D. Proselyting

1. Eve gave the fruit to Adam...
2. After she had partaken of it.
  - a. Sin is never satisfied with taking of only one victim, it will continue to ruin all those around it.
  - b. Sin encourages others to join in (Proverbs 1:10-19)

## IV. THE ATTACK IN THE FALL (Genesis 3:1-6)

- A. The Gates Assaulted (1 John 2:15-16)
  - 1. Eye-gate (Genesis 3:6)
  - 2. Ear-gate (Genesis 3:1-5)
  - 3. Nose-gate (likely the fruit and tree had a wonderful smell)
  - 4. Feel-gate (Genesis 3:6)
  - 5. Mouth-gate (Genesis 3:6)
- B. The Gate Breached (Genesis 3:6)
  - 1. While all senses were affected in this assault by the devil.
  - 2. One in particular was attacked and failed.
    - a. The devil knew that a frontal attack upon the mouth-gate would never have succeeded, however if he could make his way through the ear-gate, he could then cause other gates to fall to him.
    - b. The devil made his way through ear-gate, causing it to fall, from there he was able to make the eye-gate fall (Genesis 3:6), then the feel-gate and finally the mouth-gate (Genesis 3:6).

## V. THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE FALL (Genesis 3:7, 8-10)

- A. The Shame in the Consequences (Genesis 3:7)
  - 1. The awareness of the shame.
    - a. Adam and Eve were immediately ashamed of what had occurred.
    - b. The consequences of sin quickly caught up with them.
      - (1) When one sins, sooner or later the shame of the evil deed will catch up with the doer of that deed.
      - (2) Adam and Eve were ashamed of the disobedience and felt guilt for what they had done.
        - (a) The conscience had taken hold (John 8:9; Acts 24:16; Romans 2:15) and had pointed its finger in their faces and told them that they were guilty of disobeying God's commandment.
        - (b) The Conscience:
          - i. Can be weakened (1 Corinthians 8:7)
          - ii. Can be seared (1 Timothy 4:2)
          - iii. Can be defiled (Titus 1:15)
          - iv. Should be:
            - 1) pure (2 Timothy 1:3)
            - 2) purged (Hebrews 9:14)
            - 3) good toward God (1 Peter 3:16, 21)
  - 2. The apparel for the shame (Genesis 3:7)
    - a. The covering that Adam and Eve made was unacceptable to God (Genesis 3:21).
    - b. This was man's vain attempt at covering up his shame of sin.
    - c. Sin ever tries to deal with the guilt of wrongdoing by covering with good works, the giving of money, paying of penance in an attempt to appease the conscience. However, this attempt is futile.

- d. Only the blood of Jesus Christ can WASH AWAY the sins of man.  
(Hebrews 9:11-14; 10:1-10, 11-14)
- B. The Society in the Consequences (Genesis 3:8-9)
  1. Sin shuns the fellowship of the Lord and his believers.
  2. Sin brings a decrease in the interest of God and his word.
    - a. Those who increase their pleasures of sin will have a decrease in their interest in church attendance and fellowship with God.
    - b. Sinners do not seek time with the saints but of sinners.
    - c. Adam and Eve kept company with each other but were afraid when God showed up in the Garden of Eden.
  3. The efforts of man to run God out of society is the fruit of increased sin in the society of man.
- C. The Fear in the Consequences (Genesis 3:10)
  1. Sin brings temporary enjoyment.
  2. However, after that brief time of enjoyment it is replaced with dread, hurt and fear.
    - a. Adam and Eve were afraid when they heard the voice of God.
    - b. God does not give the spirit of fear (2 Timothy 1:7). Therefore, it stands to reason that sin, this world and the Devil gives man that spirit of fear.
      - (1) When the wicked rule, good men hide themselves (Proverbs 28:28)
      - (2) When righteous men rule, the people rejoice (Proverbs 29:2)
    - c. Sin causes "*the wicked flee when no man pursueth*" (Proverbs 28:1)