

EVE IN TROUBLE

When Adam and Eve doubted God and believed Satan he very likely thought he had gained a great victory against God who had cast him and his evil angels out of Heaven for their rebellion.

SATAN CAST DOWN

Not only was he cast down from Heaven, but he was brought down to the ground and humiliated, to crawl on his belly and eat of the dust of the earth.

Sin always has a short period of satisfaction, then reality sets in and the consequences of that sin are experienced.

If Satan can't win against God what hope has the person who rebels, for they are not only sinners but helpless sinners. As we saw in Gen.3.14 Satan was powerless in the presence of Almighty God, for, God decreed and Satan was compelled to comply without a word spoken, he was truly cast down to the earth, what an humiliation! now he full of fury in his hatred of God .

Now God turns away from Satan and in Gen.3.16 addresses Eve, who Paul when writing to Timothy under the guidance of the Holy Ghost said, **THE WOMAN BEING DECEIVED WAS IN THE TRANSGRESSION**, which means to violate a command, God had said not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and what did she do? She violated Gods command and ate of the fruit.

GOD'S DECREE AGAINST SIN

God has decreed that sin must be punished , either in this world or in the next, and that is a changeless statute. Eve had just found out that God was wiser and more powerful than Satan the adversary, and that his word is truth, what he had said about Adam and herself had come to pass, they had felt the effect of their sin in their own body ,they died spiritually immediately, that is, they were separated from God, they also began to die physically. What is in store for her?

GOD'S VERDICT AGAINST EVE

Now the judge of all the earth brings the gammell down in the direction of the woman , there is always a consequence for sin and now God pronounces sentence on Eve.

God said unto the woman; I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children;

Today the effects of this are still observed and experienced by woman having a baby naturally, so an ever increasing number are choosing to have a caesarean operation because of difficulties etc. This is again proof of the accuracy and reliability of God's word, all that is written is true and will come to pass.

Woman are noted as the tender sex, and they suffer all the trauma of the problems associated with bringing children into the world and the heartache of death and rebellion in children.

God's punishment always suits the crime, therefore Eve suffers sorrow and subjection, she gratified her pleasure in the eating of the fruit, therefore the punishment was sorrow, an increase of sorrow, as our sins increase so does our sorrow, she refused subjection to her maker, so has been subjected to her husband.

We should accept our sorrows and not accuse our God , but always keeping in mind that we deserve more punishment than we receive, for he corrects us as a tender father so that we don't give full license to the evil that is in us.

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ADAM'S SENTENCE

But now the Lord turns to Adam and in Verse 17 we have the record in, ***Gen 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;***

The Lord addresses Adam as the federal head of the human race, and the excuse he had laid before God was not admitted, Eve could tempt Adam but she could not force him to comply.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

The lame excuses of men on the day of judgment not only will be overruled but will be used against them, eg. **OUT OF THY OWN MOUTH WILL I JUDGE THEE, Lu.19.22**

The sentence is preceded by a recount of his crime, no doubt to impress upon Adam the grievousness of his rebellion against his maker.

God shows his hatred of sin in FIVE ways to Adam,

1. HE LOST HIS HABITATION.

But note carefully the mercy of a loving God, Adam was not directly cursed, he is yet alive and above ground., With the opportunity to repent. Once the breath ceases and the intellect fails to function and the grave closes over the silent body, so does the chapter of life end.

Elijah said to Elisha before he left the earth, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. Elijah knew that once he was gone to be with the Lord the opportunity to answer prayer was gone.

2. HE LOST COMMUNICATION WITH GOD.

That is what death means, a separation from God and all that is good and beautiful. No longer would there be a stroll in the garden in the cool of the day , he was driven out as one unworthy of this honour and incapable of the service he was used to. If we defy gravity without a backup we have broken bones, if we defy God, we have broken relationships.

Notice two things in V.23 and 24, first God sent him forth from the garden, (he told him to go) it is plain that Adam did not want to leave such a beautiful place, so we come to **V. 24 SO HE DROVE OUT THE MAN;** yes, all that Eden represented, Adam lost .If only man would think of the consequences of sin before they act. Eden had been a comfortable and pleasant dwelling but is now replaced by a place of sorrow and work. God always has a long term approach to mankind, this curse which man is caused to look down upon as he labours, might direct his thoughts and attention to things above

3. HE LOST PRODUCTION

Fruitfulness was it's blessing, barrenness is now it's curse.

V.17 cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

Adam is given a sentence of a life of hard labor, no longer would it be easy and a pleasure to provide a meal for his family, they were driven from the lush garden where everything grew so prolifically and had to work hard to make a living. Eating had been such a constant pleasure but now it is seasoned with sorrow and toil.

4. Then he lost , HIS HEALTH,

Sickness becomes a part of the human race, but God in his mercy provides a help and a balm, the grasses and the herbs for solace and healing.

The people of Israel were commanded to eat bitter herbs with the Passover bread to remind them of their bitter bondage in Egypt, and these herbs surely reminded Adam of the bitter bondage that he had brought upon himself.

5. Lastly ADAM LOST HIS LIFE.

The body was designed to replace worn out cells, but sin affected everything, and as the aging process progresses, the body cannot replace the cells fast enough and eventually a vital organ gives up, and as we say, the rest is history.