

THE LUST OF THE EYES

In Genesis 3.6 we read, **And when 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, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat,**

The lust of the eyes and the lust of the flesh are closely connected, the sight of the eyes inflames the lust of the flesh. Eve saw the fruit, and no doubt Satan timed his approach when she was in the vicinity of the tree of the 'knowledge of good and evil' to promote his deception.

Satan knows all about our eyes, for he mentions them in **V.5 YOUR EYES SHALL BE OPENED.**

So Eve saw that the fruit was pleasant to look at and good for food, she already had the best to eat, but this is where the lust of the flesh comes in.

Eve felt sure the fruit would be more gratifying to the taste, more pleasant than other fruit, more nourishing to the body, more attractive because it was withheld, maybe she imagined it had more virtue, more desired because it would increase her wisdom, when she should have dreaded the thought of acquiring evil.

The lust of the flesh need not be restricted to what we look at, it can be associated with power, prominence, wealth, popularity

Satan was spinning his web of deceit very craftily and Eve was being taken in by one who was much stronger than herself, and being a willing partner in rejecting the God that made her and loved her, she took of the fruit.

The third and final result of the lust of the eyes and the lust of the flesh is the **PRIDE OF LIFE.**

THE PRIDE OF LIFE

V5 tells us, For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Gen 3:6 And when 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, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat.

God's wisdom is to be coveted, but if knowledge is turned toward evil it is to be shunned and abhorred. Eve saw, coveted, took and did eat, and like the sin it was, it spread quickly, for she gave to her husband.

1 Tim 2.14 tells us, And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

Eve was deceived by the subtlety of the Devil, but Adam took the fruit from her knowing that he was disobeying God's explicit command. Satan said in V5 **your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods,** Wow!

But that's not how it worked out, yes, their eyes were opened, but the sting was in the tail, they knew that there was something wrong, terribly wrong.

When we get sick we might not see any outward sign of it, but we know there is something very wrong inside, that is how it was with Adam and Eve, they knew that they had done wrong, because they felt ever so guilty, and their eyes saw the difference in each other, and they would have remembered those fateful words, **FOR IN THE DAY THAT THOU EATEST THEREOF THOU SHALT SURELY DIE.**

THEIR CONSCIENCE

Their sin revealed their nakedness, and to-day our nakedness reveals our sin.

Adam and Eve tried to rectify their mistake by sewing fig leaves together to make aprons. Have you ever picked fig leaves and let them dry in the sun, they soon become brittle and fall to pieces, man's idea to combat sin is like those fig leaves, they are only very temporary, and in no way get to the root cause.

Well, that was bad enough, their conscience had been activated, they didn't have to be told, they knew immediately that they had disobeyed their maker and their God.

Of all of God's creation man is the only one to have a conscience, and this can be clearly seen in v8,

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

There can be no doubt that THE VOICE OF THE LORD was none other than the Lord Jesus Christ Pre Incarnate as there are many scriptures to verify this ,and one very clear is Jn.1.1 **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

What a beautiful setting, the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, coming to meet and talk with Adam and Eve. This indicates that it was a common thing for the Lord to do, and what a privilege to walk and talk with the Son of God.

GOD'S OMNIPRESENCE

Here is a wonderful description of peace, love, companionship and serenity, then the awful transmission from pleasantness and peace to the thunder of guilt and shame, and we read, in v.8 Adam and his wife (you see God had married them) hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God.

Psalm 139. 7-9

7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

9 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

How terrible to have to try to hide from God, but you can't, God knows everything.

Previously Adam and Eve would have welcomed the voice of the Lord God and hastened to meet him, but not now; sin separates, sin destroys companionships, marriages, friendships, and it affects whole families, communities and sadly churches.

The Lord had to call to get a response from Adam.

WHERE ART THOU?, this is a very searching question, even to-day?

Do you hasten to meet with God first thing in the morning ?

What about in the cool of the evening at the close of the day?

Or the day that we remember the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ?