

Genesis 3

“Jesus our Savior”

Many Moderns NOT Think Gen 3 Reliable History, Propositional Truth

Talking Serpents occur only in Fables / AESOP’S FABLES

UNUSUAL Situation / only 1 other talking animal in all Jewish History

NOT A TALKING SNAKE / “Serpent” / UPRIGHT not crawling on belly

NOT SURE WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE / Not a Snake AS WE KNOW IT

Reader Must INTERPRET Historical NARRATIVE / draw conclusion

History of beginning of Human Race / 1st Sin / Consequences

1. Characters in the Story

a. Hero & Heroine

ADAM – God’s Chief Gardener / Namer of the Animals / Image of God

EVE – Beautiful Helpmeet / Loving Wife / Intimate Life Partner

b. New Character v 1 “Now the serpent” / Moses: GREAT EMPHASIS

1) Creature of God / Not Pre-Existent / GOD MADE ALL THINGS

v 1 serpent more crafty than any other beast of field LORD God made

2) Named by Adam 2.20 man gave names to all the beasts of the field

More than Label = Study & Interpret / Learn what COULD & NOT DO

3) Ambitious / Steadily Climbs up the FOOD CHAIN

1st Meet SERPENT – ALREADY Equal to Man – Engages in a Dialogue

THEN BECOMES - Higher than Man – Instructs him in Real Truth

NEXT - Equal to God – Offers alternative Morality and View of Reality

Finally Better than God Tells Man Truth God hides cause God Jealous

4) Identified in the New Testament

Adam & Eve NOT Know Full IDENTITY Serpent/ Maybe MOSES Did?

JESUS DID – Refers to this scene in Garden / Jesus calls serpent DEVIL “the devil...He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies” John 8.44

2. Challenges of the Serpent

Satan AFRAID Challenge God & AFRAID of Man > Attacks WOMAN

a. Doubts

1) AUTHORSHIP Message? v. 1 "Did God actually say...?"

R U really sure was God? Maybe another source? 2 much pizza last night?

2) about AUTHORITY of this message? v. 1 "Did God actually say...?"

Q. of SERPENT MISSING Very IMPORTANT – 4 Letter Word - LORD

2.16 "LORD GOD commanded the man" / 3.1 "LORD GOD had made"

Moses declares God Lord / Master / Covenant Ruler / Rightful Authority

"If he did make this place, but not give him right to tell us what to do"

3) ACCEPTABILITY Message? v. 1 shall not eat of ANY tree garden

2.16 LORD God: "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden"

Serpent turns POSITIVE STATEMENT into NEGATIVE DISTORTION

GOD wants to RESTRICT Your FREEDOM / Take AWAY your FUN

Woman NOT AGREE at First – Raising DOUBT put her on DEFENSIVE

vs. 2,3 woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die'"

b. Distorts (Here the woman helps SERPENT do his work)

v 3 woman said ... neither shall you touch it, lest you die"

Exaggeration of God's Commands / WINDOW INTO HER HEART

Perhaps – Feeling that God's Commands too Strict, too Severe

c. Denies – Blatant Denial of God's Truth

Serpent's Hits made Eve's Legs Wobbly/ Now Deliver Knock-out Punch

v. 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

EVE MUST MAKE A CHOICE / Someone is Right and Someone Wrong

REAL Issue – Does God speak Truth? Can Judge of Earth be Trusted?

d. Delusion - PRIOR TO THIS – THEY KNEW ONLY THE GOOD

v. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

God is Jealous of You / You will be as Good as Him > Not Quite

GOD – loves good and hates evil // MAN – loves evil and hates good

If Satan Honest he'd Say > "You will be like ME"

3. Complexity of Sin

a. Look Becomes Lust EVE FELL INTO SPIRITUAL "QUICKSAND"

v. 6 woman saw that tree was good for food and delightful to the eye

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS – THERE'S NO HARM IN LOOKING

Advertisers PAY BIG MONEY FOR Looks: WE Spend MONEY

Naked Pictures help people do Stupid & Expensive things/ BIG \$ Industry

b. Desire Becomes Decision v 6 "also desirable for gaining wisdom"

MORE SHE THOUGHT ABOUT IT / MORE LIKED THE IDEA

"each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire is conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, gives birth to death"

James 1.14,15

c) Sinner Becomes a Seducer v. 6 "her husband, who was with her"

EVE Eager to Share her NEW DISCOVERY / Now her Eyes are Opened

d) Choice Becomes a Chain FAULT to WHOLE WORLD

just as sin entered the world through one man... Romans 5.12

For since death came thru a man...For as in Adam all die 1 Cor 15.20,21

JESUS "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave a sin" John 8.34

4. Consequences of Sin

PRESENT DEATH FELT / FUTURE DEATH FEARED

DEATH = SEPARATION / Gradual Process: Soul, Body, Eternity

a. Guilt - Feel RESPONSIBLE FOR DOING SOMETHING WRONG

GUILT - legal standing // SHAME - social/psychological standing

Genesis 3:12,13 man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me"

Blamed woman & God / Luther quotes Adam "YOU Lord have sinned"

Eve Blamed the serpent v. 13 woman "The serpent deceived me"

b. Shame Painful Feeling EMBARRASSMENT from DOING WRONG

MORE REFERENCES IN SCRIPTURE TO SHAME THAN GUILT

GUILT - legal standing // SHAME - social/psychological standing

3:7 eyes of both opened...knew naked...sewed fig leaves together

CONTRAST before Sin 2:25 were both naked, and they felt no shame.

3:11 "Who told you were naked?..eaten from tree I commanded not eat?"

Knowledge of EVIL - DISTORTED UNDERSTANDING OF GOOD

3:8 hid themselves from presence of Lord God among trees of garden

WHOLE HUMAN RACE IS RUNNING AND HIDING FROM GOD

c. Judgment of God

1) Serpent: 1st Curse before this Only Blessing > Not for Serpent!

3:14 Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

WHY SOME PEOPLE MOVE TO HAWAII – NO SNAKES

AFRICAN VILLAGERS ALL CHASE AFTER SNAKE AND KILL IT

2) Woman: Pain CURSE NOT Spoken on WOMAN or MAN

EVIDENCE OF GOD'S MERCY - THEY WERE GUILTY

PAIN is Way of LIFE – Worst Moment PHYSICAL PAIN, Child/BIRTH

CALL FOR UNDERSTANDING / PATIENCE ON PART OF PARENTS Sinful Nature of

Children > Parents Duty is Train them in the Lord

3) Man: Toil and Sweat MAN Judged LAST Because SINNED LAST

Genesis 3:17-19 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife..

1) Ground is cursed because of him Changes Whole WORLD

HE was LORD of the EARTH - DOMINION - SPOILED HIS EARTH

WILL still PRODUCE what is GOOD- NOT W/Out Weeds & Hard Work

2) There is an end to man's life - DISASTER NOT A RELEASE

John Philips "From that day to this the specter of death has haunted this planet. The very ground over which Adam worked reminded him daily that it was waiting to receive his remains. Death is a horrifying thing."

d. Perfect Marriage becomes a Painful Mess

1) Man: Irresponsible – Adam starts Blame Game, Eve Follows

3:12 "The woman you gave to be with me" / Luther "God YOU sinned!"

ADAM given Command - HEAD OF FAMILY - RESPONSIBLE

2) Woman: Dominant v. 16 "desire" Good Thing? RIGHT? WRONG!

3:16 Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

4:7 sin is crouching @ door; it desires to have you, you must master it."

DESIRE = CONTROL > MAN fails to Take Up his RESPONSIBILITY

Woman "don't worry honey, I'll take care of it" / Man Fails to Lead

ONLY X can give MAN POWER TO BE RESPONSIBLE & SUBMIT

Eph 5 Husbands, love your wives, just as X loved church & gave himself

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

Gen 1&2 PERFECTION / Gen 3 SHATTERED God, man/woman, world

vs. 22-24 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Tree of Life OFF LIMITS > Mercy – Want to Live forever this Body

Flaming Sword > Guards Way to Tree of Life > Need Redemption

Rest of Bible WAY Back to Tree of Life > Found in New Garden

Last 2 Chapters of Bible > PERFECTION Restored – New Heaven & Ear

Fulfilled FIRST Promise of GOSPEL > Given by God in Crime Scene

v. 15 The Lord God said to the serpent...“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Prophecy of CROSS > Satan's Head CRUSHED > Jesus Bruised DIES

3 days Later ROSE from Dead > Triumphs over Satan, Sin, Death

Greatest MERCY from God Not seen in GARDEN BUT ON CALVARY

MERCY: NOT just Withholding PUNISHMENT, but SUFFERING IT

DID SIN BRING PAIN IN CHILDBIRTH??

No pain is equal to the pain He suffered to bring us to glory

DID SIN BRING CONFLICT??

He endured the greater conflict of sinners against Himself

DID THORNS COME WITH SIN?? Jesus was crowned with thorns

DID SIN BRING SWEAT?? Jesus sweat drops of blood in prayer for us

DID WE KNOW SORROW?? He "Man of Sorrows, familiar w Grief "

DO WE FEEL SHAME?? He endured the cross, despising the shame

DID SIN BRING DEATH?? Jesus tasted death for everyone

JESUS TOOK OUR CURSE - SO WE MIGHT BE SET FREE Mary's

Luke 1.46-55 Song of Praise: The Magnificat

Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” Amen and Amen.