

ADAM AND EVE OUTSIDE THE GARDEN: GENESIS 3

Why do we sometimes do wrong things even when we don't want to? Well, the Bible tells us that sin, doing bad things, came into the world when the first woman, Eve, and the first man, Adam, ate some fruit that God told them not to eat.

In Genesis chapter 3, the first book of the Old Testament part of the Bible, we read that God drove Adam and Eve out of the beautiful Garden of Eden. To keep them from going back, He placed angels to guard the way to the tree of life with a flaming sword, which turned in every direction. When Adam and Eve were sent out of their beautiful home in the garden, they had to make a home for themselves. Things were not pleasant for them. They had to work hard to get enough to eat. Thorns and thistles began to grow in their garden. The trees were no longer full of delicious fruits for them to eat. They often felt tired, sick and unhappy. But what they missed most of all was those wonderful evenings when God would come down to the garden and walked and talked with the man and the woman He had made. How they wished for those times again. How they had wished they had not disobeyed God's command. But now it was too late. They could not go back to the garden and they could not go to live with a holy God in heaven because of their wicked hearts.

Neither can you and I go to heaven with a wicked heart. God is so pure and good and holy that He cannot allow the least little bit of sinfulness in heaven. But was it altogether too late? Were Adam and Eve and all their children lost in sin forever? Was there nothing they could do? Actually they could never pay for their own sin. Neither can we. But what is impossible for man is possible for God. God loved man so much that He would make a way for Adam and Eve and their children—that includes us—once more to walk and talk with God. He would send a Saviour who would pay the death penalty for their sin. Adam and Eve did not know who the Saviour would be or when and how He would come to help them. They only had the promise of God and they trusted completely in God's promises. Someday they were going to walk and talk with God again. God Himself had said so. You and I, however, know that the Saviour is Jesus Christ, God's own Son. He died on the cross to pay for Adam's sin, for Eve's sin, for my sin, and for your sin and for the sins of all the people who ever lived or whoever will live who put their trust in Jesus and love Him.

The Bible is the story of how God planned and prepared for the coming of His Son to be the Saviour. It is the story of how the Saviour finally came to earth, died to pay for our sins, and came alive again. It is the story how you and I, even though we have wicked hearts, can be forgiven and once again walk and talk with God. The Bible says believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. Saved means to be saved from the punishment for sin, to be free from the death penalty for sin, because Jesus Christ paid with His life's blood on the cross for our salvation. You can read today's Bible story in your Bible in Genesis chapter 3.