

Genesis 3:1-5

☐ Monday - The Serpent of Old.

Genesis 3:1

Angels are created beings (Psa. 33:6, 148:2,5; Neh. 9:6; Col. 1:16). They were created, by the Lord, during the six days of Creation (Gen. 2:1), possibly on the first or second day (Job 38:4, 7). God created “myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands” of these spirit-beings (Rev. 5:11), and organized them into ranks, principalities, and powers (Eph. 3:10). Lucifer (which means “morning star”) was perhaps the highest angel in glory and power. Because of his beauty (Ezek. 28:17), Lucifer thought he should be worshipped as God (Isa. 14:13-14). One-third of the angels joined him in an angelic civil war (Rev. 12:7), and were cast out of heaven (Rev. 12:9; Isa. 14:15). Now, this “serpent of old” who is called the devil (Gk: *diabolos*, “slanderer”) and Satan (“adversary”) deceives the whole world (Rev. 12:9), just as he deceived Eve (Gen. 3:4-5,13; 1 Tim. 2:14). “Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies” (Jn. 8:44). He can prowl about like a roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8), or masquerade as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14). Yes, “his craft and power are great and armed with cruel hate” (Luther, *A Mighty Fortress*). Perhaps Eve was caught off guard by the devil’s wiles, but after many millennia, we are not ignorant of his schemes (2 Cor. 2:11; cf. Eph. 4:14). Therefore, “Put on the full armor of God that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil (Eph. 6:11).

Read Revelation 12:1-12

☐ Tuesday - “Has God said?”

Genesis 3:1

“Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?’” (Gen. 3:1). To drive a wedge between God and man, the devil starts by questioning the fairness of God’s Word. And his attacks have not changed in six thousand years, for he still seeks to cast doubt in the minds of men concerning the Word of God, just as he did in Eve. But you, O man or woman of God, hold up your shield of faith by which you will be able to extinguish all the fiery darts (doubts / deception) of the evil one (Eph. 6:16). Resist the devil firm in your faith and he will flee from you (James 4:7). Read 1 Peter 5:8-9

☐ Wednesday - “You shall not die!”

Genesis 3:4

God said, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die” (Gen. 2:16-17). But here, the serpent says to the woman, “You surely will not die!” (Gen. 3:4). Christian, God “cannot lie” (Titus 1:2); indeed, “it is impossible for God to lie” (Heb. 6:18). But the devil is “a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44). Trust in the Lord, for He is trustworthy.

Read Proverbs 3:4-5

☐ Thursday - “You will be like God!” - The Lie

Genesis 3:5

Here the devil declares, “For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God” (Gen. 3:5). The devil thought he could make himself like God (Isa. 14:14), and here seeks to convince the man and the woman of the same (Gen. 3:4). All sin, whether in men or angels, is rebellion against God. It is the rejection of God’s sovereignty and the assertion of our own autonomy. It is a declaration of independence from God. Yet to live apart from God is to disconnect ourselves from the only source of everlasting life, love and joy.

Read Psalm 14:1, John 15:5

☐ Friday - “You will be like God!” - The Truth

Genesis 3:5

The devil asserted that by rebelling against God, the man and the woman would be like God (Gen. 3:5). The madness of that assertion is self evident, and the exact opposite is true: We most reflect God’s likeness when we draw near to Him through Christ (Heb. 7:25). Christian, you are made in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27), and you are called to be “imitators of God” (Eph. 5:1, 1 Cor. 11:1). Read James 4:8, Hebrews 10:22