How SIN CAME INTO THE WORLD

Adapted from Leading Little Ones to God by Marian M. Schoolland (Eerdmans Publishing Co.)

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- When God made the world, He made everything so beautiful and so good!
- And the first people were so happy!

- But now many things are NOT beautiful and good any more.
- And people are often "unhappy".

- There is sickness and sadness; there is hatred and anger.
- There are selfish people, and wicked people.

- There is quarreling and fighting.
- And everything is dying.

What is the matter?

 What has happened to the beautiful world, and to the people that were so happy at first?

 SIN has come. Sin has "spoiled" God's wonderful world.

- How did sin get into God's beautiful creation?
- The Bible tells us how it happened.
- God has an enemy, a great enemy Satan.
- Satan is a wicked angel. He HATES God.
- And he wants everybody else to hate God.

- And Satan tells LIES, even about God.
- Jesus talking to people who were against Him said,
 "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to
 carry out your father's desire. 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
 8:42-48)
- Satan is a LIAR and the FATHER OF LIES.

 Paul wrote the following about Satan, "And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light." (2 Corinthians 11:14)

 Satan MASQUERADES AS AN ANGEL OF LIGHT.

- Satan watched God make the beautiful earth and the starry heavens.
- He watched God make Adam and Eve.
- He saw that Adam and Eve were the most wonderful of all God's works.
- And he said to himself, "I will make Adam and Eve hate God, just as I hate God. I will spoil God's WHOLE beautiful creation by making them disobey God."

- Now, God had given Adam and Eve a beautiful garden to live in.
- There were all kinds of flowers and trees in the garden.
- There were birds that sang. And there were all kinds of delicious fruits to eat.
- God LOVED Adam and Eve.
- And God wanted Adam and Eve to love Him.

- God wanted them to SHOW Him that they loved Him.
- For God had told the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Genesis 2:16-17).
- By obeying God, and leaving that tree alone, they would SHOW that they loved Him.

 God also said, "for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Genesis 2:17).

And Satan heard all that God had said.

- And then Satan went to talk to Eve.
- Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman,
- "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' "

 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

• When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. (Gen.3:1-7)

Eve listened to Satan.

 She BELIEVED him. She looked at the tree, and she thought the fruit looked very good to eat.

 She thought of what Satan had said – that she would be like God if she ate it!

You see, Eve forgot that she WAS like God already –

 God had made Adam and Eve wonderful and good, and in HIS IMAGE.

 Eve forgot that. She thought she would be much more wonderful if she ate that fruit.

 Ladies, remember, GOD HAS MADE YOU WONDERFUL.

 You need not put on lots of fancy jewelry, fancy makeup, and fancy clothes to try to make yourself beautiful – in God's eyes you are beautiful – and any man worthy of you will see you as beautiful.

- Let's continue, then Eve picked some fruit, and ATE it.
- She ate the fruit God had told her NOT to eat. She gave some to Adam, and he ate it too.
- So Adam and Eve did what Satan wanted them to do.
- And they did what THEY wanted to do, instead of what GOD wanted them to do.

Adam and Eve DISOBEYED God.

- They became SINNERS.
- And they died <u>"spiritually"</u> just like God had promised, remember?
- God had said, "for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Genesis 2:17).

- What kind of death was God talking about here?
- Did Adam and Eve "DIE" after they ate the fruit?
- No, they didn't "physically die" they "spiritually died.
- Spiritual death is separation from God which is caused by sin.
- So Adam and Eve "died spiritually."

• Instead of being like GOD, they became like SATAN.

 Instead of loving God, they began to be AFRAID of Him, and even to hate Him.

• When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. (Gen.3:6-7)

- Oh, that was a sad, sad day.
- All the happiness was gone out of the hearts of Adam and Eve.
- And on that day all the UNHAPPY things and wicked things began.
- Satan was glad. But Adam and Eve were sad.
- And God was sad.

- Did God know it would happen?
- Yes, He knows the FUTURE.
- But God also "lives" in the PRESENT.
- He is WITH US in our suffering, struggles, and difficulties.
- But He also allows us to make our choices He has given mankind "FREE WILL."

 Yes, God was very sad and so were Adam and Eve.

 And as Christians, we continue to feel that same sadness when we sin.

- Yes, we are now so blessed that we can come to the cross of Jesus Christ, confess our sins, and know God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins!
- And we can continue to WALK WITH GOD IN THE COOL OF THE DAY – in fellowship with GOD – because of what Jesus did for us through His death and resurrection!!!

LET'S PRAY:

MEMORY VERSE:

"You are free to eat
from any tree in the garden;
but you must not eat from the tree
of the knowledge of good and evil,
for when you eat of it you will surely die."
(Genesis 2:16-17)