

MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Adam & Eve and the Fall

Genesis 2:5-24 to 3:24 (*Selected verses*)

Major Segments:

- The creation of man in a brand new world.
- The trees in the garden
- The creation of woman from man's rib
- The snake tempts them to eat from forbidden tree
- Man and women eat from forbidden tree and are banned from garden

Segment Questions:

- What mental image comes to your mind of how God formed man? Consider some of the descriptive words that are used to describe how it happened.
- Why in the midst of a perfect world did God forbid them to eat from that one tree?
- How long do you think it took to name **all** the animals? What do you think that did to Adam's response to when he finally saw Eve?
- What do you think is meant by "This is the reason a man leaves his parents..." What's the reason and what's the connection to "become one flesh?"
- Describe the sequence that the snake (Satan) uses to cause the man and women to eat the forbidden fruit and to sin?
- What do you think happened to the "Tree of Life" and the Garden of Eden?
- **Bonus:** In the Garden, eating from the Tree of Life was a physical action that gave them life. Eternal life is now a "spiritual" action of putting our faith in Christ. How does that work? Did God change the rules? Did God "change?"

Action Questions:

- What are some things in your life where you feel you are most susceptible to the smooth talking temptations of Satan?
- Will we know good from evil in heaven and what are the implications of your opinion?
- Are there things in your life where you saw God take "dramatic action" in order to protect you from something much worse?

Genesis 2:5-24 to 3:24

From: www.btstories.com

Imagine the earth when it was new before the plants had come up. In those days, God hadn't yet allowed it to rain on the earth, but caused a mist to come each day to water all the land. During this time, God took some soil and shaped the first man. He breathed into his nostrils, and Adam was alive.

Now God had planted a garden in a place called Eden. It had every kind of tree, and there was a river that flowed out from the garden. In the garden, there were two special trees – one was called The Tree of Life and the other was called The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. God told Adam take care of the garden. He said, "You may eat from every tree except the one in the middle, The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. You are not to eat from that tree. If you eat from it, you will die!"

God said, "It's not good that man is alone. I'll make a helper that's just right for him." He then brought all the animals to Adam and told him to name them. So he named all the animals, and whatever he named them, that was their name. As Adam was naming each one, he noticed that the animals all came in pairs, male and female. Yet, as he looked around, he noticed that there wasn't a female for him. God caused a deep sleep to come down over Adam, and he slept deep and long. Then God opened up the flesh in Adam's side and took a rib. Carefully he closed up the flesh. From that rib, God made a woman. When Adam awoke, God brought the woman to him. Adam said, "This is bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh. She'll be called woman, because she was taken out of man." This is the reason a man leaves his parents and forms a relationship with his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all people.

The snake was the cleverest of all the animals. One day he said to Eve, "Is it true God won't let you eat from all the trees in the garden?"

"Oh, we can eat from all the trees. That is, except for the one in the middle. God said that we aren't to eat that fruit or even touch it. He says if we do, we will die." "It's not true! You won't die. God told you that because He knows if you eat that fruit, you'd be like Him – knowing good, as well as evil."

The woman looked at the fruit. It was beautiful and looked delicious. She thought, "If I eat this fruit, it'll make me wise." So she took the fruit and ate it. She then gave some to Adam and he ate it as well. Suddenly they realized they were naked. Immediately they sewed some fig leaves together to cover themselves.

God said, "Man now knows evil as well as good. He will try to get to the Tree of Life so he can live forever." Therefore, God put a heavenly guard outside the garden. From that day on, people were separated from the Tree of Life.