



# The First Gospel

The Fount of Human Failure  
Class 4

Janet 02

Serpent  
Circumstances used by God  
to reveal what is hidden...



*...that we might respond & turn to Him.*

# The Serpent in the Heart

*For God knows that in the day 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 tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. Gen. 3:5-6*

# The Serpent in the Heart

When the woman *saw* that the tree was *good for food*, that it was *pleasant to the eyes*, and a tree *desirable to make one wise*, she took of its fruit and ate. Gen. 3:6

- “*saw*” => *power of visual images*
- “*good for food*” => *power of physical desire*
- “*pleasant to the eyes*” => *power of mental desire*
- “~~*desirable to make one wise*~~”
- “*desirable to contemplate*” => *power of ego*

# The Serpent in the Heart

*God*



*environment* 

 *upbringing*



*serpent (devil)*

# The Serpent in the Heart

*God*



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*serpent (devil)*

# The Serpent in the Heart

*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

*1 John 2:15-17*

# The Serpent in the Heart

*“good for food” =*                      *physical needs =>*  
*desire of the flesh*                      *make our bodies feel good*

*“pleasant to the eyes” =*                      *mental needs =>*  
*desire of the eyes*                      *make our minds feel good*

*“desirable to contemplate” =*                      *ego needs =>*  
*pride of life*                      *to feel in control*

# Looking Deeper...

- *Wanting necessities of life? Food, clothing, love, care?*
- *Wanting beautiful things or wanting to be beautiful?*
- *Wanting knowledge & experience to make us more like God?*

*Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.*

*1 Jn. 3:4*

*Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls.*

*Prov. 25:28*

*Sin = Being led by our natural desires*

# Looking Deeper...

*Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted by God for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.  
Jam. 1:13-15*

# Looking Deeper...

*Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted by God for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.*

***=> God cannot be blamed for human sin!***

# Looking Deeper...

*But each one is tempted when*

(1) *he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.* **Desire + Rationalization**



(2) *Then, when desire has conceived,*

**Sinful Thought**



(3) *it gives birth to sin;*

**Sinful Act**



(4) *and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.*

**Sinful Person**

# Looking Deeper...

*The desires of the **Flesh** ... and the desires of the **Spirit** ... are opposed to each other.*

*The works of the **Flesh** are evident: sexual immorality, impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, idolatry, use of mind-altering drugs, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, divisions, cliques, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other kinds of sin...*

*But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

*Gal. 5:17-23 (paraphrase)*

# Adam & Christ

*She also gave to her husband with her,  
and he ate. Gen. 3:6*

*Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,  
who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard  
equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself,  
taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness  
of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself  
by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.  
Phil. 2:5-8 (NASB)*

# Concealing...not Revealing

*Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked;*

*and they sewed **fig leaves** together and made themselves coverings.*

*...and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

*Gen. 3:7-8*



# Concealing...not Revealing

Therefore, laying aside all *malice*, all *deceit*, *hypocrisy*, *envy*, and all *evil speaking*, as newborn babes desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby.

1 Pet. 2:1



malice



deceit



hypocrisy



envy



evil  
speaking

# The Sadness of God

*She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.*

*Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked;*

*and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.*

*and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

# The Sadness of God

*She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.  
Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they  
knew that they were naked;  
and they sewed fig leaves together and made  
themselves coverings.  
and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the  
Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

*O LORD, our Lord...*



*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have ordained...*

*What is man that you are mindful of him...*

