

UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

Episode 3: The Fall

In the last session:

- God is – He exists outside time and creation. God is an “all-powerful Being who is apart from time and space, and is responsible for the existence all reality.”
- There was order, and purpose to how He made creation.
- The Bible is not a science book, but it’s scientific accuracy far surpasses any other known writings at its time. All of us are biased about the origin of the universe. Question EVERYONE’s biases – including those who would accuse science as proving contrary to the Bible.
- God made men and women differently, complimentary, and yet equal in value – we both bear God’s image – a piece of His DNA. Gen. 1:27 “God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”
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- God made humanity in His image – endowing the human race with His profound capacity of freewill – choice.
- There were two special trees placed in the Garden of Eden, where God put the first man/woman, Adam and Eve.
 - o Tree of Life
 - o Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil...

Genesis 3-4

- The serpent (actually Satan, appearing as a serpent).
 - o Doubts God’s Word.
 - o A little truth. “You’ll *know* good from evil.” (yada... to experience, know intimately”)
 - o You will be like gods... they were already LIKE GOD!
 - o Counterfeit sale, on something they already had.
- She ate the fruit, gave to her husband.
 - o Where was HE?! Sounds like he was with her, but was apparently too afraid to speak up.
 - o Whose fault is it that humanity bit into the lie? Both!
 - o They thought this would increase them, it would add something. But that’s not how sin works. But it’s adding a negative number. A BIG negative number. Which is better known as subtraction. We became far less by the addition of the knowledge of evil. It severed our relationship with God. Hab. 1:13, “Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing.”
- God came to them
 - o “Where are you?” God doesn’t lack information.
 - o Love isn’t love without choice – the very gift God gave the human race.
 - o “All we like sheep have gone astray...” Isa. 53:6
 - o They were naked and ashamed. They hid from God.

- The aftermath:
 - Serpent/Satan: I will cause turmoil between you and “the child” of the woman.
 - Woman: Childbirth sucks! Your husband is your authority.
 - Man: You’ll die sooner and more tired.
 - Eve: “Mother of all the living”
 - God clothed them with skins. (How gruesome must that have been!)
 - Cain and Abel: The first murder.

The primary theme of the Bible is the fall of humankind, and God’s agenda of redemption through a Messiah.

And as bad as things are, they get much, much worse... we’ll talk about that NEXT episode. We’re going to skip over Genesis 5 as it’s mostly genealogy, and the point of this being in the Bible is that there were REAL people in the beginning! They weren’t made up, their ages are all recorded, many of their children. Most of these names appear only once in the Bible. But they provide a historical record – a record that could potentially be fact-checked, provided we find more data – and much of it, we DO have!

Next time! We get into Genesis 6! Send in your questions to me at john@lifecitynow.org. Visit my website, johnmarkum.org, and remember to subscribe to us on iTunes, Google Play, and rate this podcast or leave a review. I look forward to hearing from you!