

# THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the  
Old Testament**

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## Genesis 2

8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, where He placed the man He had formed.

9 Out of the ground the LORD God gave growth to every tree that is pleasing to the eye and good for food. And in the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

## Genesis 2

15 Then the LORD God took the man and placed him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate and keep it.

16 And the LORD God commanded him, “You may eat freely from every tree of the garden,  
17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; for in the day that you eat of it, you will surely die.”

## Genesis 3

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’”

## Genesis 3

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “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.”

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, and he ate it.

# What can we learn about Satan?



## Isaiah 14

12“How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have weakened the nations!

13“But you said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north.

14‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’

15“Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, To the recesses of the pit.

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# What can we learn about Satan?

## 1. He is a deceiver

2 Corinthians 11

2 I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. For I promised you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

3 I am afraid, however, that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may be led astray from your simple and pure devotion to Christ.

# What can we learn about Satan?

2. He has a strategy that he uses to deceive

1. Causes us to doubt what God has said

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- Suggests that God's Word is subject to our judgement

### 2. Causes us to doubt God's character

- Suggests that God has impure motives

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- Suggests that sin is not that serious - nothing bad will happen

### 4. He Lies

- Getting us to believe a lie is at the root of all sin

# What can we learn about Satan?

3. He uses our own desires against us



## 1 John 2

15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh, the desires of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not from the Father but from the world.

17 The world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God remains forever.

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17 The world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God remains forever.

## Genesis 3

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food **(Desires of the flesh)**

and pleasing to the eyes, **(Desires of the eyes)**

and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom,  
**(Pride of life)**

# What can we learn about Satan?

## 3. He uses our own desires against us

### He promises us:

**Pleasure without obedience (Desires of the flesh)**

**Personal gain without dependency (Desires of the eyes)**

**Personal sovereignty without submission (Pride of life)**

## James 1

13 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone.

14 But each one is tempted when by his own evil desires he is lured away and enticed.

15 Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death.

## James 1

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow.

18 He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we would be a kind of firstfruits of His creation.

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# What can we learn about man?

- ❖ We are now sinful to the core – completely broken and unable to fix our situation
- ❖ Our desires makes us temptable and vulnerable
  - My desire for self-indulgence
  - My desire for self-fulfillment
  - My desire for self-exultation
- ❖ Since the whole world is broken, all good things from God above

John 3:19“This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, so also death was passed on to all men, because all sinned.

Romans 7:18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh; for I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19For I do not do the good I want to do. Instead, I keep on doing the evil I do not want to do.

# From the Fall - What can we learn about creation?

Romans 8: 18 I consider that our present sufferings are not comparable to the glory that will be revealed in us.

19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the revelation of the sons of God.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but because of the One who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

# From the Fall - What can we learn about creation?

Romans 8: *22* We know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until the present time.

*23* Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

*24* For in this hope we were saved;