

BIBLE STUDY on GENESIS (NIV) Part 3 (b)

MAN BECOMES SEPARATED FROM GOD

Genesis 3 : 1 - 21, 24

The Promise of Redemption



Genesis 3:15 is the first hint in the Bible that a Saviour would come through the seed (offspring) of the woman and that satan's defeat through Him (Jesus) would be sure. **“But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law that we might receive the full rights of sons.”** (*Galatians 4:4-5*) **“... The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.”** (*1 John 3:8b*) Aren't you glad God provided a way back to fellowship with Him?

Adam and Eve tried to cover their nakedness by sewing aprons of fig leaves. But man can do nothing to make himself acceptable to God. **“... and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags ...”** (*Isaiah 64:6a*) But God loves man so much! He Himself made coats of skins and covered them. To have skins, animals had to be killed. This was the first shedding of blood. **“For the life of a creature is in the blood ... it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.”** (*Leviticus 17:11*) The word “atonement” means “covering”. This act of God was to symbolize that blood would need to be shed—not the blood of animals, but the blood of Jesus Christ. Only Jesus, the Lamb provided by God, could obtain eternal redemption for us. Praise God!

Christ came to be what Adam was not. **“For just as through the disobedience of the one man (Adam) the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man (Jesus) the many will be made righteous.”** (*Romans 5:19*) **“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”** (*1 Corinthians 15:22*)

As we obey God's Word and submit to Him in the circumstances He allows, our minds are renewed and we are transformed. As we spend time in His presence, He makes us more and more like Christ, who is in the perfect image of God. (*Hebrews 1:3*)

“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”



How to Resist the Devil

Just as satan deceived Eve and through Eve tempted Adam to sin, he (satan) will try to deceive and tempt you, too. **“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him (devil), standing firm in the faith ...”** (*1 Peter 5:8-9a*) But satan does not always appear as a roaring lion or as a serpent. He can also appear as **“an angel of light”** (*2 Corinthians 11:14*). If any seemingly good person or even an angel should tell you something that is not true according to the Bible, do not believe him. (*Galatians 1:8*)

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” (*James 4:7*) God tells us to resist satan. How can we do that? Before we can resist satan, we must submit ourselves to God. We must be committed to doing God's will. God does not tempt people to do evil. **“... but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed (tempted). Then, after desire has conceived (started), it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers.”** (*James 1:14-16*) If we are not fully committed to doing God's will, satan will be able to entice (tempt) us to do the desires of our flesh (sin). **“For everything in the world - the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”** (*1 John 2:16-17*) Satan enticed (tempted) Eve through her desire for good food, her desire for what looked good to her eyes, her desire to be somebody important. But if she had done the will of God instead of following the desires of her flesh, *she could have lived forever*. She would also have received the true desires of her heart. **“Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.”** (*Psalms 37:4*) The pleasures of sin last such a short time and then lead to death.

Jesus, who was without sin, was tempted by satan also (*Matthew 4:1-11*). While Eve was tempted in a garden, surrounded by all she needed, Jesus was tempted in a wilderness after 40 days of fasting. Satan also came to Jesus quoting Scripture. He appealed to Jesus' need for food. He promised Jesus the kingdoms of the world. He tempted Jesus to prove to the world who He really was. Now, for Jesus to eat when He was hungry, to rule the kingdoms of the world, and to show the world who He really was, were all good things. Jesus had a right to them. It was God's purpose to do this for Jesus in the future. But to receive them from satan in satan's way? NEVER! Jesus is our example in resisting satan. He was totally submitted to His Father's will. He spoke directly to satan and told him to go away. With each temptation, Jesus said, **“It is written ...”** and He quoted the Word of God. And satan left Him for a time.

We, too, can resist satan in the way Jesus did, and satan will flee. For example, when we realize that satan is tempting us to complain, we can say, "Satan, in the name of Jesus, go away, for it is written **"Do everything without complaining or arguing."**

(Philippians 2:14) It is so important to know God's Word well. The word of God is a spiritual weapon; it is called the sword of the Spirit *(Ephesians 6: 17)*. Satan, a liar from the beginning, *has* to flee when faced with truth. As you study through this book, write out a list of verses to memorize. Then spend some time each day memorizing them and reviewing them aloud to yourself in order to fix them firmly in your mind and heart. If you are often tempted in an area of life, memorize a verse which you can use to resist satan when that temptation comes.

"Be holy because I (God) am holy". *(1 Peter 1:16b)*

We have no strength in ourselves to cause satan to flee, but at the name of Jesus, whose blood defeated satan at Calvary (cross), satan *is compelled (forced)* to flee. *(Revelation 12:11)*.

"No temptation has seized (caught) you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." *(1 Corinthians 10:13)*