



Freedom From Fear



Everyone experiences fear at some time in their life. But fear was never, and is never, given to us by God. When He created Adam and Eve, the first man and the first woman, He created them in His own image, perfect and holy, just like He was.

He created them from the dust of the ground and then He breathed into their nostrils the breath of life which was His own divine spirit. Like when a person drowns or has an accident and stops breathing; in order to save their lives, someone puts their mouth over the dead person's mouth and breathes their own life into the one who is dead. (Genesis 2:7)

But with Adam and Eve, it was not to bring them back to life, it was to give them brand new life, pure, clean, perfect and holy, like God is, so they could have fellowship together and God could come and walk with them and talk with them in the cool of the evening in the beautiful garden he made for them. (Genesis 2:8)

How many know God would make a really beautiful garden? He brought forth from the ground trees that had flowers on them and delicious fruit for Adam and Eve to eat, (not like the hard unripened fruit we get in the market today). In the middle of His garden He put a very special tree that He called the Tree of Life. He called it that because the fruit on it would keep Adam and Eve forever if they ate it. It was His way of keeping Adam and Eve and their children, and all their descendents, alive forever.



God planned for us to live in beauty and peace with Him here on a beautiful earth forever. But look what man has done to God's beautiful plan. This pollution of God's green earth actually began in the lovely garden He made for Adam and Eve, because there was another tree in the garden that belonged only to God. He called it the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. (Genesis 2:17)

He told Adam, "You shall not eat any of the fruit or even touch it, because if you do you will die." God never intended people to die or to know anything evil. When he told Adam not to eat of that tree, it was before He created Eve. The Bible does not say God Himself told Eve not to eat of it – so it's possible that her husband told her and she didn't pay as much attention to him as she would have if God had told her, because when she was tempted by the devil, in the form of a serpent, to eat the fruit of that tree, she went ahead and did it because she was curious to know about evil.

She gave some of the forbidden fruit to Adam who was with her (v.3:6) and he ate it too. His sin was even worse because God had spoken directly to Him and had commanded him not to eat it. It wasn't the devil who directly tempted Adam, it was only his wife.



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The reason Eve sinned, and fell from the perfection God had created in her, was because she believed a lie from the devil more than she believed God. (Gen 3:4,5). God had to put them out of the garden of Eden so they wouldn't eat of the tree of life and live forever without dying and there would be no end to evil.

The devil is still using the same tactics on people today and women are still easy to persuade and to talk into believing him more than they believe God. Especially women who are alone.

The devil is only a fallen angel. His heavenly name was Lucifer (angel of light) before he was cast out of heaven for becoming completely evil against God. The Old Testament people re-named him Satan (the enemy of good) after his fall. The New Testament people called him diabolos, meaning devil. All of those words describe him as an evil enemy of God and an enemy of everyone who believes in God. The weapon the devil uses against people is deception and fear. After Adam and Eve had disobeyed God, innocence was gone forever. They knew they were naked and they were afraid. (Genesis 3:10)



Fear is the first emotion mentioned in the Bible. Right here in this verse is when fear entered the world. It is the oldest emotion known to man.

When God came to the garden and asked Adam why he was hiding and why he was afraid, Adam said it was Eve's fault, and Eve said it was the devil's fault. She said, "The serpent deceived me, so I ate." (Genesis 3:12,13)

She chose the perfect word to use because "deceived" means: to lead away from truth into error in our mind. He lies to us. He tries to make us believe what is not true, and then when we do and we are afraid he makes fun of us and torments us.

But the good news is that **Jesus** came to earth to destroy the works of the devil! He stripped him of all his power. And then He gave us the power to resist the devil, and be in authority over him, so he has no power over us. (Luke 10:19)

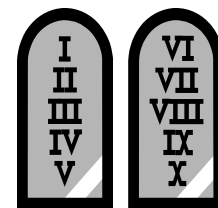


Today the only way the devil can make us afraid of anything, or make us feel defeated, discouraged or depressed, is when we allow him to do it. When we give in to these feelings, it means we have been deceived, just like Eve was. God will never defeat, discourage or depress us.

The devil can't force his will on us. He can only lead us into the trap if we're willing to follow. Gen. 3:1 says he is *subtle*. *Sub* means under, *tle* means web. He hides under his web of deceit like a spider until you are caught in it, then he reveals himself with stinging torment.

Jesus said "The devil is a thief that comes to steal, kill and destroy, but I came that you may have life in abundance, and enjoy it to the full." (John 10:10)

Let's be wiser than Eve and follow the Lord's commandments not the devil's. "*Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*" (James 4:7)



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1. When God decided to create man in His own image, how did He do it? (Genesis 2:7)

2. Whose image are you created in? _____

3. Where did God put Adam after He created him? (Genesis 2:8) _____

4. What grew in the garden? (Genesis 2:9)_____

5. What commandment from God did Adam break? (Genesis 2:17) _____

6. How did the devil tempt Eve? (Genesis 3:1) _____

7. How does the devil tempt us? _____

8. Where were Adam and Even when they heard God's voice? (Genesis 3:8)_____

Why? (Genesis 3:10)_____

9. Who did Jesus give power and authority over the devil to? (Luke 10:19) _____

10. How do we keep the devil away from us? (James 4:7)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE: _____

Freedom From Fear

1. When God decided to create man in His own image, how did He do it? (Genesis 2:7)
“And the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils, the breath of life, and man became a living soul.”
2. Whose image are you created in? I’m created in God’s image.
3. Where did God put Adam after He created him? (Genesis 2:8) In the garden of Eden.
4. What grew in the garden? “Every tree that was pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”
5. What commandment from God did Adam break? (Genesis 2:17) Not to eat of the tree of good and evil.
6. How did the devil tempt Eve? (Genesis 3:1) He questioned God’s commandment.
7. How does the devil tempt us? The same way. Making us not believe God’s word.
8. Where were Adam and Even when they heard God’s voice? Why? They were hiding. They were afraid because they had disobeyed God.
9. Who did Jesus give power and authority over the devil to? (Luke 10:19) He gave me the power and everyone who has accepted Jesus as their Savior.
10. How do we keep the devil away from us? (James 4:7)

MEMORY VERSE: “Resist the devil, and he will flee (run away) from you.”