

## *Lesson 4: The Beginning of Sin*

**Memory Verse:** "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High." Isaiah 14:12-14

### **I. How Sin Began on Earth**

**Read Genesis 3:1-7.**

1. Who came to Eve in the garden? The \_\_\_\_\_ came. (verse 1).
2. Who is the Serpent? The serpent is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. 12:9
3. What did he first ask Eve? Genesis 3:1  
"Yea, hath \_\_\_\_\_ said, Ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ eat of \_\_\_\_\_ tree of the garden?"
4. What was Eve's answer? (verses 2,3)  
"We \_\_\_\_\_ eat of the fruit of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the garden, \_\_\_\_\_ hath said, Ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ eat of it, neither shall ye \_\_\_\_\_ it, lest ye \_\_\_\_\_."
5. What would happen if they ate from the tree that was in the midst of the garden? They would \_\_\_\_\_. (verse 3)
6. Read Genesis 2:16,17.
  - A. What was God's instruction to them? They could \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden except \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. What did He call this tree? The tree of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. How did Satan contradict God? Genesis 3:4. He said, " \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_."
8. What did Satan promise them that they would gain by eating from the tree in the midst of the garden? Genesis 3:5  
Their \_\_\_\_\_ would be \_\_\_\_\_  
They would be as \_\_\_\_\_  
They would know \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

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9. What did they really gain by eating from the tree?

A. **THINK:** Why was it called the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?

They would know \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ if they ate from it.

B. **THINK:** What knowledge did Adam and Eve have before this?

They had the knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_ only.

C. What knowledge did they gain by eating from the tree?

They gained the knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_. Genesis 3:22

**Note:** "It was the will of God that Adam and Eve should **not** know evil. The knowledge of good had been freely given them; but the knowledge of evil, – of sin and its results, of wearing toil, of anxious care, of disappointment and grief, of pain and death, – **this was in love withheld.** Ed 23.2

"While **God was seeking man's good**, Satan was seeking his ruin. When Eve, disregarding the Lord's admonition concerning the forbidden tree, ventured to approach it, she came in contact with her foe. Her interest and curiosity having been awakened, **Satan proceeded to deny God's word, and to insinuate distrust of His wisdom and goodness.**" Ed 23.3

"**Satan desired to make it appear that this knowledge of good mingled with evil would be a blessing**, and that in forbidding them to take of the fruit of the tree, God was withholding great good. He urged that it was because of its wonderful properties for imparting wisdom and power that God had forbidden them to taste it. that He was thus seeking to prevent them from reaching a nobler development and finding greater happiness. He declared that he himself had eaten of the forbidden fruit, and as a result had acquired the power of speech; and that if they also would eat of it, they would attain to a **more exalted sphere of existence** and enter a **broader field of knowledge.** Ed 24.1

"While Satan claimed to have received great good by eating of the forbidden tree, **he did not let it appear that by transgression he had become an outcast from heaven.** Here was falsehood, so concealed under a covering of apparent truth that Eve, infatuated, flattered, beguiled, did not discern the deception. **She coveted what God had forbidden; she distrusted His wisdom. She cast away faith, the key of knowledge.**" Ed 24.2

"Their eyes were indeed opened; but how sad the opening! **The knowledge of evil, the curse of sin, was all that the transgressors gained.** There was nothing poisonous in the fruit itself, and the sin was not merely in yielding to appetite. It was **distrust of God's goodness, disbelief of His word, and rejection of His authority,** that made our first parents transgressors, and that brought into the world a knowledge of evil. It was this that opened the door to every species of falsehood and error." Ed 25.2

### II. The Results of Sin

What were the results of their sin? Read Genesis 3:8-24.

10. True or False: They were afraid of God. (verses 8-10)

T

F

11. They were N\_\_\_\_\_. (verses 7,10,11)

12. Did they blame someone? (verses 12,13)

YES

NO

13. True or False: The serpent was not cursed. (verse 14)

T

F

14. Women had \_\_\_\_\_ in childbirth, and were \_\_\_\_\_ by their husbands. (verse 16)

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15. True or False: The ground was not cursed. (verse 17)      T              F
16. What grew in their gardens and made their work harder? (verse 18)  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
17. What was added to their diet? (verse 18)  
God said, "Thou shalt eat the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_."
18. What would happen to them? (verse 19) They would \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_, because they were made from \_\_\_\_\_.
19. What did God provide for them for a covering? (verse 21)      Circle one:  
a. Nothing              b. A Shirt              c. Animal Skins              d. Fig Leaves
20. They now knew \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (verse 22)
21. Could they live in the garden anymore? (verse 24)              YES              NO

**Note:** "Man **lost all** because **he chose to listen to the deceiver** rather than to Him who is Truth, who alone has understanding. By the mingling of evil with good, his mind had become confused, his mental and spiritual powers benumbed. No longer could he appreciate the good that God had so freely bestowed. Ed 25.3

"Adam and Eve had chosen the knowledge of evil, and if they ever regained the position they had lost they must regain it under the unfavorable conditions they had brought upon themselves. No longer were they to dwell in Eden, for in its perfection **it could not teach them the lessons which it was now essential for them to learn.** In unutterable sadness they bade farewell to their beautiful surroundings and went forth to dwell upon the earth, where rested the curse of sin." Ed 25.4

### III. Where Did Sin Come From?

22. With whom did sin begin? 1 John 3:8 "He that committeth \_\_\_\_\_ is of the \_\_\_\_\_; for the \_\_\_\_\_ sinneth from the \_\_\_\_\_. For this \_\_\_\_\_ the Son of God was manifested, that he might \_\_\_\_\_ the works of the \_\_\_\_\_." Sin began with the \_\_\_\_\_ who used the serpent to tempt Eve in the Garden of Eden.

**Note:** "The law of love being the foundation of the government of God, **the happiness of all created beings depended upon their perfect accord with its great principles of righteousness.** God desires from all His creatures the service of love -- **homage that springs from an intelligent appreciation of His character.** He takes no pleasure in a forced allegiance, and to all He grants **freedom of will**, that they may render Him **voluntary service.** GC 493.2

"But there was one that **chose to pervert this freedom.** Sin originated with him who, next to Christ, had been most honored of God and who stood highest in power and glory among the inhabitants of heaven. **Before his fall, Lucifer was first of the covering cherubs, holy and undefiled.**" GC 493.3

23. Where did the Devil come from? Read Revelation 12:7-9.

Revelation 12:7 tells us that "there was \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_."  
Who fought in the war? \_\_\_\_\_ and His angels fought against the \_\_\_\_\_ and his angels.

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Who won the war? [underline one] Michael the dragon  
Revelation 12:9 tells us who the dragon is: He is the \_\_\_\_\_; He is the \_\_\_\_\_ and he is \_\_\_\_\_. They are all 4 the same one.

What happened to the dragon when he lost the war? He was \_\_\_\_\_ out of heaven and he was \_\_\_\_\_ into the \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ out with him.

What is he doing here? He \_\_\_\_\_ the whole world.

He had to be cast out because there is no place in heaven for those who D\_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** "God assembled the angelic host to take measures to avert the threatened evil. It was decided in heaven's council for angels to visit Eden and **warn Adam** that he was in danger from the foe. Two angels sped on their way to visit our first parents. SR 29.2

"The angels ... gave them the sad history of Satan's rebellion and fall. They then distinctly informed them that **the tree of knowledge was placed in the garden to be a pledge of their obedience and love to God**; that the high and happy estate of the holy angels was to be retained upon condition of obedience; that they were similarly situated; that they could **obey the law of God** and be inexpressibly happy, or **disobey** and lose their high estate and be plunged into hopeless despair. SR 29.3

"They told Adam and Eve that **God would not compel them to obey** -- that He had not removed from them power to go contrary to His will; that they were moral agents, free to obey or disobey. There was but **one prohibition** that God had seen fit to lay upon them as yet. If they should transgress the will of God they would surely die. They told Adam and Eve that the most exalted angel, next in order to Christ, **refused obedience to the law of God** which He had ordained to govern heavenly beings; that this rebellion had **caused war in heaven**, which resulted in the rebellious being expelled therefrom, and every angel was driven out of heaven who had united with him in questioning the authority of the great Jehovah; and that this fallen foe was **now an enemy to all that concerned the interest of God and His dear Son**. SR 30.1

"They told them that **Satan purposed to do them harm**, and it was necessary for them to be guarded, for they might come in contact with the fallen foe; but **he could not harm them while they yielded obedience to God's command**, for, if necessary, every angel from heaven would come to their help rather than that he should in any way do them harm. But if they disobeyed the command of God, then Satan would have power to ever annoy, perplex, and trouble them. If they remained steadfast against the first insinuations of Satan, they were as secure as the heavenly angels. But if they yielded to the tempter, He who spared not the exalted angels would not spare them. They must suffer the penalty of their transgression, for the law of God was as sacred as Himself, and He required implicit obedience from all in heaven and on earth. SR 30.2

"The angels cautioned Eve not to separate from her husband in her employment, for she might be brought in contact with this fallen foe. If separated from each other they would be in greater danger than if both were together. The angels charged them to **closely follow the instructions God had given them in reference to the tree of knowledge**, for in perfect obedience they were safe, and this fallen foe could then have no power to deceive them. God would not permit Satan to follow the holy pair with continual temptations. **He could have access to them only at the tree of knowledge of good and evil**. SR 31.1

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"Adam and Eve assured the angels that they should never transgress the express command of God, for it was their highest pleasure to do His will. The angels united with Adam and Eve in holy strains of harmonious music, and as their songs pealed forth from blissful Eden, Satan heard the sound of their strains of joyful adoration to the Father and Son. And as Satan heard it his **envy, hatred, and malignity** increased, and he expressed his anxiety to his followers **to incite them (Adam and Eve) to disobedience** and at once bring down the wrath of God upon them and **change their songs of praise to hatred and curses to their Maker.**" SR 31.2

24. What was Satan's name in heaven? \_\_\_\_\_ Isaiah 14:12  
"How art thou \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_, O \_\_\_\_\_, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst \_\_\_\_\_ the nations!"

25. What was he like before he sinned? Ezekiel 28:12-15  
He was full of \_\_\_\_\_, and perfect in \_\_\_\_\_.  
He had been in \_\_\_\_\_ the garden of God;  
Every \_\_\_\_\_ stone was his covering,  
the workmanship of his \_\_\_\_\_ and of his \_\_\_\_\_ was prepared in him in the day that he was \_\_\_\_\_.  
He was the anointed \_\_\_\_\_ that covereth appointed by God  
He was upon the holy \_\_\_\_\_ of God;  
He walked up and down in the midst of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.  
He was \_\_\_\_\_ in his ways from the day that he was \_\_\_\_\_,  
till \_\_\_\_\_ was found in him.

**Note:** "Before his fall, Lucifer was first of the covering cherubs, holy and undefiled. ... Lucifer might have remained in favor with God, beloved and honored by all the angelic host, exercising his noble powers to bless others and to glorify his Maker." GC 493-494

26. But a change came. Ezekiel 28:17, first part tells us what happened:  
His heart was lifted \_\_\_\_\_ because of his \_\_\_\_\_,  
He corrupted his \_\_\_\_\_ because of his \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** "Little by little, Lucifer came to indulge a desire for self-exaltation." GC 494.1

27. What was his evil plan? Ezekiel 28:6 tells us "thou hast set thine \_\_\_\_\_ as the heart of \_\_\_\_\_." And Isaiah 14:13,14 tells us of his plans:  
"For thou hast said in thine heart, \_\_\_\_\_ ascend into heaven,  
\_\_\_\_\_ exalt my \_\_\_\_\_ above the stars of God:  
\_\_\_\_\_ sit also upon the mount of the congregation,  
in the sides of the \_\_\_\_\_:  
\_\_\_\_\_ ascend above the heights of the clouds;  
\_\_\_\_\_ be like the most \_\_\_\_\_." He wanted to be \_\_\_\_\_

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**Note:** "Instead of seeking to make God supreme in the affections and allegiance of His creatures, it was **Lucifer's endeavor to win their service and homage to himself**. And coveting the honor which the infinite Father had bestowed upon His Son, this prince of angels aspired to power which it was the prerogative of Christ alone to wield." GC 494.1

"Lucifer in heaven **desired to be first in power and authority**; he wanted to be God, to have the rulership of heaven; and to this end he won many of the angels to his side. When with his rebel host he was cast out from the courts of God, the work of rebellion and self-seeking was continued on earth.

**Through the temptation to self-indulgence and ambition Satan accomplished the fall of our first parents**; and from that time to the present the gratification of human ambition and the indulgence of selfish hopes and desires have proved the ruin of mankind." CT 32.3

28. On what is God's throne based? Psalm 97:1,2

R \_\_\_\_\_ and J \_\_\_\_\_

29. In what **else** is His throne established? Psalm 89:14; Isaiah 16:5

J \_\_\_\_\_, M \_\_\_\_\_, T \_\_\_\_\_

30. If Satan could overthrow God's throne, what else would he overthrow? (see #28,29)

R \_\_\_\_\_, J \_\_\_\_\_, J \_\_\_\_\_, M \_\_\_\_\_, and T \_\_\_\_\_

31. What does God do on His throne? Psalm 67:4

He J \_\_\_\_\_ the people and G \_\_\_\_\_ the nations.

32. **THINK:** In order to judge and govern, what must you have? L \_\_\_\_\_

33. How is the Law of God described?

Psalm 119:172 "All thy commandments are \_\_\_\_\_."

Romans 7:12 "The Law is \_\_\_\_\_, and the commandment \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_."

34. When Satan set out to overthrow God's kingdom, what else did he determine to overthrow? The \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (see #32,33)

**Note:** "From the very beginning of the great controversy in heaven it has been Satan's purpose to overthrow the law of God. It was to accomplish this that he entered upon his rebellion against the Creator, and though he was cast out of heaven **he has continued the same warfare upon the earth.** To deceive men, and thus lead them to transgress God's law, is the object which he has steadfastly pursued. Whether this be accomplished by casting aside the law altogether, or by rejecting one of its precepts, the result will be ultimately the same. He that offends 'in one point', **manifests contempt for the whole law**; his **influence** and **example** are on the side of transgression; he becomes 'guilty of all'. James 2:10." GC 582.1

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"In seeking to cast contempt upon the divine statutes, Satan has perverted the doctrines of the Bible, and errors have thus become incorporated into the faith of thousands who profess to believe the Scriptures. **The last great conflict between truth and error is but the final struggle of the long-standing controversy concerning the law of God.** Upon this battle we are now entering – a battle between the laws of men and the precepts of Jehovah, **between the religion of the Bible and the religion of fable and tradition.**" GC 582.2

### **IV. How Sin Got to This World**

33. Who won the war in heaven? Revelation 12:7,8 \_\_\_\_\_

34. What happened to Satan and his angels? Revelation 12:9

They were \_\_\_\_\_ into the \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** "A compassionate Creator, in yearning pity for Lucifer and his followers, was seeking to draw them back from the abyss of ruin into which they were about to plunge. But His mercy was misinterpreted. Lucifer pointed to the long-suffering of God **as an evidence of his own superiority**, an indication that the King of the universe would yet accede to his terms. If the angels would stand firmly with him, he declared, they could yet gain all that they desired. **He persistently defended his own course**, and fully committed himself to the great controversy against his Maker. Thus it was that Lucifer, 'the light bearer,' the sharer of God's glory, the attendant of His throne, by transgression became Satan, 'the adversary' of God and holy beings and the destroyer of those whom Heaven had committed to his guidance and guardianship." PP 39.2

35. Read Revelation 12:17

A. Against whom is Satan warring today? He is wroth (angry) with the \_\_\_\_\_ and he makes war with the \_\_\_\_\_ of her seed.

B. What are the people doing against whom Satan is warring? They \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and have the testimony of \_\_\_\_\_ Christ.

**Note:** "The glory and peace of heaven, and the joy of communion with God, were but dimly comprehended by men; but **they were well known to Lucifer**, the covering cherub. Since he had lost heaven, he was determined to find revenge by causing others to share his fall. This he would do by causing them to **undervalue heavenly things**, and to **set the heart upon things of earth.**" DA 115.2

"God has waited long, and He is waiting still, to have the beings that are His by both creation and redemption, listen to His voice, and obey Him as loving, submissive children, whose desire is to be near His side, and to have the light of His countenance shining upon them. We are to bear the third angel's message to the world, warning men against the worship of the beast and his image, and directing them to take their places in the ranks of those who 'keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.' Mar 107.2

"The Spirit of the Lord is working to take the truth of the inspired word and **stamp it upon the soul** so that the professed followers of Christ will have a holy, sacred joy that they will be able to impart to others. Mar 107.3

"There is need of a deeper, stronger, more constraining testimony on the power of the truth as seen in the **practical godliness** of those who profess to believe it." Mar 107.4