

### A Conversation Leads to Trouble

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

**Genesis 3:1-6**, "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

This is a conversation that should not have taken place. Sometimes the best thing to do is to just walk off and do not listen to things that cause trouble. Satan questions Eve about what God has said, trying to bring doubt in her mind. Faith and doubt don't dwell together as Satan

knew very well. Once the seed of doubt was planted her relationship with God suffered.

Eve knew what God had said, and even quoted the commandment to the serpent. So, there was no way that she could claim that she didn't know, or understand what God had said. We don't know how long they had been in the garden, walking with God each day. They had everything that a person could wish for. They had nothing to fear, no danger, no pain, worries, or anything else that troubles us today. When Satan began to question her about the commandment of God she should have just walked off. She knew what the Lord had said; so there was nothing to discuss. When we know God's will there is nothing to do, but to obey.

I wonder what Adam said when he saw Eve coming with the forbidden fruit in her hand. Surely he would have recognized it for what it was. Artists have painted it as an apple, but it was not an apple. It was a special tree and the only one of its kind. We don't know what she said to him but, she got him to eat of it. Sin has a way of bringing misery to others. We know this, not only from their story, but we see it in our lives as well.

If she had only refused to listen to Satan, how different things would have been. Eve did listen and allowed herself to be led down the path of rebellion against God. I'm sure that there were many times in the years after that she asked herself, "Why did I listen to the serpent?" The question is the same for Eve, or for anyone else, "Why did I listen to Satan?"

When we listen to anyone who mocks, or questions, what God has said, we put ourselves in danger. There are plenty of deceivers in our world who will try to destroy our walk with God. They do the devil's work and feel that they have done some great thing when they cause a child of God to err. Flee from such a person who will say that God didn't mean what he has said.

We have the bible and have no excuse to be led astray by some false teacher. Deceivers today try to tell us that we don't have to follow the plan of salvation set forth in scripture. Some make fun of baptism, the Lord's Supper, holiness, church attendance, and even resisting sin. What God has told us is the truth and anyone who says different is a false teacher. Eve listened to the false doctrine and look where it got her. The devil wants to do the same to any child of God. Don't listen to his lies, seek the truth of God's Word and follow the Lord.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of I Samuel intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

**SAMUEL AND SAUL**

THE LORD TELLS SAMUEL THAT THE ISRAELITES HAVE NOT REJECTED THE PROPHET BUT THE LORD, HIMSELF BY ASKING FOR A KING, NOW.....

...THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME AND SERVED OTHER GODS...

...NOW THEREFORE HEarken UNTO THEIR VOICE...

...BUT SHOW THEM WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THEM IF A KING RULES OVER ISRAEL...

...AND SAMUEL SPEAKS TO THE PEOPLE...

WITH SOLEMN VOICE THE OLD PROPHET TELLS THE ISRAELITES THAT THE DEMANDS OF A KING WILL FORCE THE YOUNG MEN TO SERVE IN HIS ARMY, THE YOUNG WOMEN TO COOK AND SERVE IN HIS PALACE, AND ALL THE BEST FRUITS OF THEIR VINEYARDS AND FIELDS WILL GO TO THE KING! NO MAN WILL EVER AGAIN KNOW FREEDOM AS HE HAS KNOWN IT IN THE PAST - BUT STILL THE ANSWER FROM THE PEOPLE REMAINS THE SAME....

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