

## Study Notes for Genesis 3

- Write down what you believe to be the theme of this chapter in your own words.
- Describe the condition of the world that God created prior to this chapter.
- God showed Adam no reason for the command in 2:16–17. What might God’s purpose have been in giving the man a command without an explanation?
- God promised that Adam would die if he ate from the forbidden tree (see 2:17). Why was death the necessary result of disobeying God? (see John 1:4; Acts 17:28)
- What was the serpent trying to achieve by asking “Did God really say ...”? (3:1)
- How might someone experience a similar temptation today?
- Eve’s reply (see 3:3) shows that Satan’s first scheme worked. Think about his next words (see 3:4–5), and describe his second tactic to alienate Eve from God.
- How should Eve have responded to the serpent?
- Satan claimed that eating the fruit would make Eve like God (see 3:5). In what way was this true (see 3:22)? In what way was it a deception?
- Three good things—nourishment, beauty, and wisdom—attracted Eve to the fruit (see 3:6). What was wrong with pursuing these good things through the fruit?
- How did the sin of the earth’s caretakers affect the earth? (see Genesis 1:28; 3:17; 9:2; Romans 8:19–23)
- How will Christ restore what sin marred?
- The couple’s actions and words in 3:7–13 reveal how knowing good and evil affected their inner natures. Why did they want to cover themselves and hide from God? (see 2:25; 3:7)
- Adam and Eve both attempted to shift the blame from themselves onto someone else. What does that tell you about the effects of sin?
- God said man would die when he ate the fruit. The serpent said he would not die. Which spoke the truth? How do you know? (See 3:7–10, 19, 22; 5:5.)
- Based on this story, how would you define sin?
- What do you learn about God from the ways He responded to sin and sinners?
- For Further Study: Read in Romans and 1 Corinthians about what it means to be “in Christ” versus “in Adam.” How has Christ undone each of the effects of Adam’s sin—enmity, sin, death, toil, and so on? To what extent do we already experience the restoration Christ accomplished, and to what extent do we await the fulfillment of that restoration? (See 1 Corinthians 13:12; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 5:17; Ephesians 2:11–18; 1 John 3:2.)