

A Free to choose.

- ❖ God created us with free will. That's why He advised Adam to choose not to eat the fruit. (Genesis 2:16-17).
- ❖ Obedience was the only logical choice. However, the tempter appeared as a serpent and encouraged them to choose disobedience. The serpent was eating the fruit and it had not died. It insinuated that God was setting rules capriciously.
- ❖ Eve forgot that God's Word is always trustworthy, even when it might seem illogical. We're facing similar situations every day. We must choose between obeying God or mistrusting and disobeying Him.

B Is God truthful?

- ❖ Satan openly contradicted God and stated that God's motives were not clear (Genesis 3:4-5). Is God truthful? Is He hiding something? Does He really want your welfare?
- ❖ Eve had to choose between believing God or not. She analyzed the issue and doubted God's Word (Genesis 3:6).
 - The nutritional aspect: "the tree was good for food"
 - The esthetic aspect: "it was pleasant to the eyes"
 - The logical aspect: "a tree desirable to make one wise"
- ❖ If we doubt God, we may end defending things that result in death.

C Who should we believe?

- ❖ Satan openly contradicted God's Word by saying that Adam and Eve couldn't die because they were immortal.
- ❖ Adam and Eve didn't die in that moment, but they eventually did (Genesis 3:19). Then, Satan changed his strategy. He began to convince humans that their bodies were not immortal, but their souls were.
- ❖ Almost all civilizations believe in some kind of conscious existence after death.
- ❖ The Word of God is clear enough: our souls also die (Psalm 115:17; 146:4; Ecclesiastes 9:5; Matthew 10:28).

D The fall.

- ❖ Adam and Eve thought that the fruit would bring them superior knowledge. They left God's side and joined Satan's by eating it. This brought tragic consequences:
 - Theological: They were afraid of God and hid from Him (Genesis 3:10)
 - Social: They accused one another (Genesis 3:12)
 - Physical: They would feel pain and die (Genesis 3:16-17, 19)
 - Ecological: Nature would deteriorate (Genesis 3:18)
- ❖ Their disobedience was a death sentence for all humankind: "For the living know that they will die" (Ecclesiastes 9:5; see Romans 5:12).

E The promise.

- ❖ The word "enmity" (Hebrew 'eybah) implies not only a long-lasting cosmic controversy between good and evil, but also a personal repulsion to sin, which has been implanted by God's grace in the human mind.
- ❖ This repulsion moves us to desiring to be free of Satan's yoke, but we're unable to do so. Then, God comes to our rescue: the Messiah—the woman's Seed—has overcome and has saved us from eternal death.
- ❖ God made the first animal sacrifice, a symbol of Jesus' redeeming death. He clothed Adam and Eve with the skin of the animal, covering them with His protective justice. He didn't leave us to our fate but gave us hope that we'll return to His loving arms eventually.