

# **PASTOR RAY'S BIBLE SCHOOL 201**

## **THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS**

### **Session Five**

#### **“Legends Of The Fall”**

##### **I. Review:**

- Session One: Christ and Creation-All beginnings are in God, Who created all things
- Session Two: The Seed Plot Of The Bible-Genesis is the Book of Beginnings, how God's story (and ours began), and holds the keys to all that follows
- Session Three: The Origin Of Evil-We have studied the pre-Adamic fall of Lucifer and the entrance of evil into the Creation, and thus set the stage for...
- Session Four: The Clash Of Two Kingdoms-Man enters the arena of life to be confronted with a choice of two “trees”, two “kingdoms”, two “masters”

##### **A. The Fall And Its Effects**

1. The first of the two most important EVENTS in human history is described in Genesis 3, and is referred to as the “fall of man”.

2. The second most important event is the Cross of Christ, the redemption of fallen man.

3. It is impossible to appreciate the greatness of the redemptive work of Christ without a proper understanding the greatness of man's fall.

- Adam “died” in the day he disobeyed God-This was spiritual “death”, resulting in his separation from God, his alignment with the “kingdom” of darkness.
- The “fall” of Lucifer previews the “fall” of the human race, since Adam acted not only for himself, but as the covenant “head” of his entire race, thus corrupting his “seed” and dooming him to an inability to reproduce a godly “seed”-all born of Adam are spiritually “dead”, separated from God.
- The fall of man was total: spirit, soul and body. And his sin released the ravages of sin, sickness, death, and all the depravity of human history into being

- The work Lucifer (Satan) accomplished in Adam was so devastating and complete, that only the sacrificial work of the Son of God could reverse it.

4. The two most important EVENTS in history were accomplished in the two most important MEN in history...Adam and Jesus Christ. This is confirmed in Paul's epistle to the Romans:

**Excerpts from Romans 5:12-21, emphasis added  
(NASB)**

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned — 13 for until the Law sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. 15 But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. 16 And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification. 17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. 18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. 19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. 20 And the Law came in that the transgression might increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, 21 that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***5. The Bible teaches that all the evil of human history, in all its multifarious forms, originated in the Fall of Man.***

6. We can only truly appreciate the incredible significance of man's fall from innocence, (described in Genesis 3:1-6 ), as we consider its effects in history:

a. All the human race, as children born of Adam and Eve, come into the world spiritually "stillborn", (dead), separated from God\*

\*The theological term for this condition is "Total Depravity", referring to how what happened to us as a result of Adam's sin was *totally pervasive* in all our soul and personality. Total depravity does not mean every person is as bad as they could possibly be. There are degrees of sin's expression in the lives of individuals. But the doctrine teaches that the *effects* of sin (or, spiritual death), touch every part of man, spirit, soul and body. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

***"And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh***

and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ...”

Ephesians 2:1-5 NASB

b. This condition of spiritual ‘death’ carries the idea of man’s *total inability* to save ourselves or to make ourselves right with God. Most people fancy themselves (out of their own free will) as able to choose or reject God. This is not the case.

“9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; 10 as it is written,

“There is none righteous, not even one; 11 There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God; 12 All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one.”

13 “Their throat is an open grave, With their tongues they keep deceiving,” “The poison of asps is under their lips”; 14 “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness”; 15 “Their feet are swift to shed blood, 16 Destruction and misery are in their paths, 17 And the path of peace have they not known.” 18 “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

19 Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God...”

The Apostle Paul quoting Psalm 53:1-3 in Romans 3:9-20, NASB

c. “General (or Universal) Revelation testifies to all men the existence and goodness of God as mankind observes the Creation and the order of the universe...But man, in his condition of spiritual death, “suppresses the truth in unrighteousness”.

*18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. 21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.*

Romans 1:18-23 NASB

7. The depth of our revelation of the greatness of what God has done in Christ is directly proportionate to the revelation we have of the awfulness of what Lucifer accomplished in the Fall of Adam.

8. The student is invited to enter into a deep and thorough study of the doctrine of original sin and the “Fall” of man. Seeking the answers to questions such as these will prove immensely rewarding: “How far did Adam fall?” “What is the real spiritual position of fallen man towards God in terms of his (man’s) ability to seek God or to respond to God?”

## II. Legends Of The Fall

### A. The Rebellion Grows

1. Lucifer's pre-Adamic rebellion prefigures the rebellion of man, as man follows Satan in his opposition to God's righteous rule.

2. We look to the Book of Beginnings because only here can we obtain a more perfect understanding of the "mechanics" of sin and the consequences of disobedience to God.

### B. Commentary On The Fall: The First Mention Of Sin

**3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, lest you die.'" 4 And the serpent said to the woman, "You surely shall not die! 5 "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate**  
**Genesis 3:1-6 NASB**

1. The presence of the serpent indicates man's failure to "keep" (guard) the garden, which was his jurisdictional assignment.

a. God allowed Lucifer to rebel and cast him out of heaven (into the earth) because of it.

b. God allowed Satan to have access to the Garden, but gave man the authority to keep him out.

c. It seems clear that God had withdrawn his manifest presence from the scene to allow man to be tested by the Devil.

2. The term "crafty" means "cunning" or "subtle".

a. Prior to the Fall, Lucifer is described as a creature possessing great wisdom.

#### **Excerpts from Ezek 28:2-12, KJV**

**2 Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord God; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:**

3 Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from thee:  
 4 With thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures:  
 5 By thy great wisdom and by thy traffick hast thou increased thy riches, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches:  
 6 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God;  
 7 Behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations: and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile thy brightness.  
 8 They shall bring thee down to the pit, and thou shalt die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas.  
 9 Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, I am God? but thou shalt be a man, and no God, in the hand of him that slayeth thee.  
 10 Thou shalt die the deaths of the uncircumcised by the hand of strangers: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God.  
 11 Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,  
 12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.

b. But the wisdom of Lucifer was *corrupted* through his rebellion.

17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.  
 Ezekiel 28:17, KJV

c. The wisdom of Satan is corrupted wisdom, but wisdom just the same. It means that he is wiser than (natural) man. The “wisdom” he offers man is always a corrupted wisdom, and is referred to by Jesus:

And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: *for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.*  
 Luke 16:8 KJV

d. Adam and Eve were intellectually outmatched in this conflict. Their victory over Satan could only come from dependence upon and reliance in God’s word and the wisdom contained in it!

3. The conversational exchange between the Woman and the serpent provides us with a powerful prophetic truth: **THE ISSUE IS OVER THE WORD OF GOD!** While it’s true that Adam and Eve were being tested (tempted), it’s really about the Word of God! This “seed thought” will be confirmed by Jesus in His parable of the “seed” in the Gospels:

Mark 4:13-20  
 13 And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? And how will you understand all the parables?" 14 "The sower sows the word." 15 "And these are the ones who are beside the road where the word is sown; and when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away

the word which has been sown in them. 16 "And in a similar way these are the ones on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy; 17 and they have no firm root in themselves, but are only temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away. 18 "And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, 19 and the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. 20 "And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it, and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

NASB

4. The pattern of attack on the Word is always the same:

*First move: Question the Word of God*

*Second move: Direct contradiction*

*Third move: Injection of doubt regarding God's truthfulness, character, motive*

*First move: "Has God (really) said...."*

*Second move: "You shall not surely die..."*

*Third move: "God knows"...(if you disobey)... "you'll become gods yourselves"*

5. The appeal of sin was to the TOTAL man: body, soul and spirit

**Body: "When she saw it was good for food"...**

**Soul: "Pleasant to the eyes"**

**Spirit: "Desirable to make one wise"...**

Or, we might see the 3-fold temptation as Pleasure, Possession, Position)

**Pleasure: Something to satisfy our flesh**

**Possession: Covetousness is a thing of the "eyes"...wanting what we see...soulical**

**Position: Promotion is an appeal to our pride, a spiritual thing\***

*\*God is not opposed to us taking pleasure in such pleasures as our enjoyment of good food or sex within marriage; nor is He opposed to us having possessions; nor is He displeased with us when we are promoted to higher positions of influence. These things become evil apart from God, or when the nature of the temptation is in direct contradiction to the Word and will of God!*

a. The "fall" was total, or pervasive. And so was to be its reversal, as demonstrated by Jesus in the wilderness temptation: (See Luke 4:13; Matthew 4:1-11)

**Body**

**(Related to Pleasure)**

**Jesus had fasted forty days and was hungry. Satan's first appeal was to His flesh.**

**Soul**

**(Related to Possession)**

**Satan took Jesus to the “pinnacle” of the temple and “showed” him all the kingdoms of the world, offering to him as a possession if he would take it**

**Spirit**

**(Related to Position or Promotion)**

**Spirit/Position: Satan tempted Jesus to make a public display by throwing Himself off the Temple and having the angels catch Him. This was an appeal to the very spirit of Christ, to use signs and wonders to impress people with His true identity, rather than humbly wait on His Father for spiritual promotion!**

**Satan offers us the things of the “world” (kosmos)**

**15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**

**1 John 2:15-17 KJV**

6. A prophetic view of scripture “connects the dots” between:

- The 3 dimensional disobedience of Adam in Genesis 3
- The 3 dimensional obedience of Christ in Matthew 4 and Luke 4
- The warning of the Apostle John to the Church in 1 John 2

a. And so it is today. Every temptation in our lives falls within one or more of these categories. Satan has *no new tricks*.

b. In all cases, the central issue is the WORD OF GOD VERSUS THE WORD OF ANOTHER...a clash of two kingdoms, two “seeds”...with man in the middle.

7. Only what God does for in Christ is powerful enough to overcome what the Devil did to us in Adam!