

February 23, 2020

La Jolla Christian Fellowship

Genesis: Behind the Curtain: Ep. 5 The Serpent

Genesis 3:1-7

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Now the **serpent** was more crafty than any of the **wild animals** the LORD **God** had made. He said to the **woman**, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat **fruit** from the trees in the **garden**,³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'⁴ "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman.⁵ "For God knows that when 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 fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for **gaining wisdom**, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her **husband**, who was with her, and he ate it.⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

The Serpent —The Animals — God — Eve —The Garden
—The Fruit —Wisdom — Good and Evil — Adam

Sin is anything that transgresses the nature of God.

The Bargain: The serpent offers something for nothing.

WISDOM >FOLLY

Proverbs 9:1&3 *Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars.³ She has sent out her servants, and she calls from the highest point of the city.*

Proverbs 9 13-15 *Folly is an unruly woman; she is simple and knows nothing.¹⁴ She sits at the door of her house, on a seat at the highest point of the city,¹⁵ calling out to those who pass by.*

The Road To Sin: Sin often starts with a **desire** followed by a **question** which leads to **dissatisfaction** and morphs into **embrace**.

REALIZATION

Wisdom is realization before consequence.

Sin rarely follows contentment.

Phil 4:12-13 *I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*

Food For The Journey

Use these questions and challenges to go deeper in community groups or in personal reflection this week.

1. How does a culture that does not believe in Divine law define sin?
2. What do you see as the difference between the actions of Adam and Eve in this story.
3. Why do you feel that wisdom and folly in the scriptures are often portrayed as a woman?
4. Do you agree with the sermon point that sin rarely follows contentment.