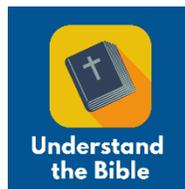


What is Christianity?

Part Two: The Fall



Video Summary



Key question: If the world is good, why is there so much evil in the world? Why do we sense that the world is not as it should be?

Genesis 3:1-19

- Understanding Genesis 1-3 is vital to understanding our world and the message of Christianity.
- God gave Adam & Eve one rule – not to eat the fruit from any tree in the garden. He wanted them to be happy and flourish.

What is sin?

- The Serpent causes Adam & Eve to doubt God's goodness – 3:1.
- Sin is a lie about God – that he doesn't want us to be happy, that we know better than God about what is best for us.
- It leads to disobedience.
- Sin is still with us today!

What does sin do?

- Adam and Eve are afraid of God and hide from him – 3:10 → they have a broken relationship with God.
- They have a broken relationship with each other – 3:16 (God's curses) E.g. the relationship between the man and woman.
- Even our closest relationships can be fraught with difficulty.
- And our relationship with the world is spoilt – e.g. working (3:17-19), childbirth (3:16).
- There is nothing which is not spoilt by sin in some way!

Genesis 3 makes sense of the world

- Genesis 3 helps us to make sense of why there is so much trouble in the world:
- Wars, pandemics, natural disasters, murder, slander, etc – all are as a result of sin.

The good news

- Even in Genesis 3 there is a glimmer of hope – 3:15 “He will crush your head”

Bible Study

- How many ways can you think of that the world has gone wrong?

- How do people explain the fact that there is evil in the world? Why do we have a sense that things are not as they should be?



Read Genesis 3:1-7

- Why did God give them the command not to eat the fruit of one tree?

- How does the Serpent convince Eve to sin?

- Compare what the Serpent says will happen (e.g. v5) with what does happen (v7). Do the Serpent's words come true? Are there any differences?

- Think about the temptations we often face. Does Genesis 3 help us to explain why we often find it easy to give in?



Read Genesis 3:16-19

- How much of the world is affected because of sin?

- Do you think the punishment was fitting for the crime? Why or why not?

- Does thinking about the world as “good but fallen” help to explain why the world is as it is?

Q: Did God, then, create man so wicked and perverse?

A. No, on the contrary, God created man good and in his image, that is, in true righteousness and holiness, so that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love him, and live with him in eternal blessedness to praise and glorify him.

Q. From where, then, did man's depraved nature come?

A. From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise, for there our nature became so corrupt that we are all conceived and born in sin. (Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 6-7)