

Genesis 3:1-6c – The Serpent Deceives the Woman

<p>¹ Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, `You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'"</p> <p>² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;</p> <p>³ "but of the fruit of the tree which <i>is</i> in the midst of the garden, God has said, `You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'"</p> <p>⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.</p> <p>⁵ "For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."</p> <p>⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make <i>one</i> wise, she took of its fruit and ate. [The remaining part of verse 6 and all of verse 7 will be covered next week.] She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.</p> <p>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.</p>	<p>The devil using the serpent? (Form – upright?) The devil approached the woman, not the man. (woman’s influence cannot be overstated) The devil does not use the direct approach to tempt us. The devil deceives the woman through a process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questioning God’s command (1) • Questioning God’s truthfulness (4) • Questioning God’s goodness (5) <p>The woman reasons herself (6a-c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good for food – lust of the flesh • Pleasant to the eyes – lust of the eyes • Desirable to make one wise – pride of life <p>She took of its fruit and ate (6d):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [type of fruit unknown] – might have been good food, but chosen by God as their testing tree • Acted independently • Acted opposite of what she was told (by her own words) • [It appears that the woman – Eve – was never told directly by God about the tree. That was Adam’s job. Adam may have added “nor shall you touch it” as his added safeguard.]
<p>1 Tim 2:14 – And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.</p>	<p>“the woman was FULLY deceived” (stronger form that used for Adam)</p>
<p>2 Cor 11:3 – But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.</p>	<p>Possible to be deceived now.</p>
<p>James 1:13-15 ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.</p>	<p>Process of temptation. Focusing and feeding our own desires on something we shouldn’t have until we give in.</p>
<p>1 John 2:15-17 ¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that <i>is</i> in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.</p>	<p>We are tempted with the same 3 areas that Eve was tempted in.</p>
<p>Luke 4:1-13 Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. ³ And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Lust of Flesh ⁴ But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, `Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶ And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for <i>this</i> has been delivered to me,</p>	<p>Jesus was tempted with the same 3 areas that Eve was tempted in.</p> <p>Unlike the woman (Eve) and Adam, Jesus (God’s Son) obeyed what God the Father had commanded.</p>

and I give it to whomever I wish. **Lust of Eyes**

⁷ "Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

⁸ And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, `You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve."

⁹ Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here.

¹⁰ "For it is written: `He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,'

¹¹ "and, `In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone." **Pride of Life** (*miraculous arrival and worship that would have resulted*)

¹² And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, `You shall not tempt the LORD your God."

¹³ Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

1. **The serpent _____ the _____ (1)**

- He does not approach the man (who is responsible)
- He does not approach forcibly, but with false "logic"

2. **The woman _____ (2-3)**

- She knew of God's command (from Adam?)
- She stated it and even stated a harsher requirement (from Adam also?)
- She does not go to Adam for his help, leadership, protection, or guidance (even though this was an "Adam" area of responsibility)

3. **The serpent _____ the _____ by questioning God's:**

- _____ (1) – restrictions (pointing out, through a question, the one tree they could not eat of)
- _____ (4) – you shall not die
- _____ (5) – God is keeping something back from you

4. **The woman is _____, embracing all 3 avenues of temptation:**

- She was deceived by all 3 avenues of temptation:
 - Lust of the _____ – "good for food" – tastes good or feels good
 - Lust of the _____ – "pleasant to the eyes" – looks good
 - _____ of life – "desired to make one wise" – makes us feel important
- These were the **same avenues** that the devil used to tempt Jesus (Luke 4:1-13)
- These are the **same avenues** that the devil uses to tempt us today (1 John 2:15-17)
- The process of temptation – we focus on something we desire and keep feeding that desire until we give in. (James 1:13-15)

5. **KEY LESSONS (tell the story quickly and then focus on these):**

- Recognize the 3 ways the devil tempts us:
- We are to _____ what God clearly tells us
- We are to _____ the authorities God places us under (husbands, parents, pastors, leaders)
- We are to _____ temptation, not play with it or listen to what we know is wrong.