

# A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW OF FALL & REDEMPTION: FREEDOM AND THE LIE OF BOUNDARIES

Matthew 11:28-12:8; Genesis 3:1-7

## INTRODUCTION

Worldviews revolve around three basic concepts:

1. Creation: *Where did we come from, and who are we?* This is addressed in Gen.1-2
2. Fall: *What has gone wrong with the world?* This is addressed in Genesis 3.
3. Redemption: *What can be done to fix the world?* The answer to this begins in Genesis 3:15 and is developed throughout the rest of the Old Testament.

## I. THE SERPENT, CREATED ON DAY 6, WAS PART OF GOD'S GOOD CREATION.

- A. Nowhere in the Genesis account is the serpent called Satan, although other biblical passages make it clear that Satan made use of the serpent to deceive Eve (Gen.3:-16; John 8:44; Rev.12:9; cf. Job 1:6ff. 2:1ff.; 1 Chron.21:1; Zech.3:1).
- B. We don't usually think of serpents as "*good* creatures," but they were because God made them.
  1. "Now the serpent was more crafty than any **beast of the field** which the LORD God had made" (Gen.3:1).
  2. Serpents were part of God's creation on the sixth day (Gen.1:24,25).
- C. "Now the serpent was more *crafty* than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made" (Gen.3:1).
  1. The word "crafty" is not primarily a negative term.
  2. In the Bible, the Hebrew word for "crafty" can mean wise and clever.
  3. In the Proverbs, the word has a positive connotation (Prov.12:16,23; 14:8,18; 22:3; 27:12).
- D. Of all the beasts of the earth, the serpent was the most wise and I believe that it was for this reason that Satan chose the serpent as the instrument for deceiving Eve.

## II. THE CREATION OF MAN

- A. Man was originally created upright (**Gen.1:31; Ecclesiastes 7:29**)
- B. *If man was originally created upright then why did things go wrong? What can account for his choice of sin?*

(OVER **Z**)

### **III. KNOW NO KNOWLEDGE WHICH KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES.**

- A. God has given us a desire to know, but He has also set limits and boundaries.
  - 1. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was a boundary (Gen.2:16,17).
  - 2. Satan appealed to Eve's desire to know (Gen.3:5)
- B. God gives boundaries because He loves us. Satan tries to remove those boundaries to murder us.
  - 1. Without boundaries we are left with nothing but lawlessness, chaos, and anarchy.
  - 2. God established boundaries at creation (Job 38:8-11).
    - a. Light and darkness have boundaries (Gen.1:4).
    - b. Day and night have boundaries (Gen.1:5).
    - c. The sky has boundaries (Gen.1:5-8).
    - d. The water and dry land has boundaries (Gen.1:9).
    - e. The reproduction of plants has boundaries: *after their kind* (Gen.1:11,12).
    - f. The reproduction of animals has boundaries: *after their kind* (Gen.1:24,25).

### **IV. THE LAW OF FREEDOM & LIBERTY**

- A. Just as God originally brought order from disorder through His 10 Words in creation, so too He brings order from disorder in our lives through the TEN COMMANDMENTS
- B. "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me... For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

**CREATION:** God created a world with boundaries. God created us with the desire to know. He created us with the desire to exercise dominion, to rule and to subdue. But God gave boundaries to our pursuit of knowledge and wisdom. That boundary was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

**FALL:** The biblical worldview of FALL says that what is wrong with the world is that mankind transgressed the boundary God had established.

**REDEMPTION:** The biblical worldview of REDEMPTION says that the pathway back to everlasting life is found only in Jesus Christ (Matthew 11:28-30).

One of the greatest myths of our culture today is the myth that freedom comes from doing what I want to. We have believed that lie that liberties include libertinism.

## **QUESTIONS FOR SABBATH DISCUSSION & MEDITATION:**

*Take what you have learned this morning and make it into a prayer for yourself, your family, the church and/or your nation. Remember that prayer consists in Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication (Feel free to use the outline for praying).*

*Was the serpent part of God's good creation?*

*Why was the serpent a suitable creature to tempt Eve?*

*If man was originally created upright then why did things go wrong? What can account for his choice of sin?*

*What accounts for the desire of people to "touch the top of the world?"*

*How would you explain to someone that rules and laws could be good and ensure liberty and freedom?*

*What is the rest that Jesus offers in Matthew 11:28-30?*

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Prepared by Pastor Aaron Goerner (1/13/2002). See Dt.33:8-10; Ezra 7:10; Malachi 2:7; Acts 17:11; Col.1:28,29; 1 Tim.4:12-16.  
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