

## **Step By Step Through The Bible With Children**

**"All thy children shall be taught of the LORD;  
and great shall be the peace of thy children."**

(Isaiah 54:13)

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### **LESSON 6 -**

#### **THE FALL OF MAN**

Last week we learned of the wonderful life and covering of glory which GOD gave to the first man and woman, and how He wanted them to be lord and master over the earth, but He wanted to be LORD and Master over their hearts. They lived in a beautiful garden home, with the sky for a roof and the grass for a carpet. I like to think that the fish, the birds, and animals were GOD's pets, and what a host of pets He had. Perhaps some of you children have a pet bird, dog, or cat. Let us never forget that GOD made all these living creatures.

None of them were cross or ugly at first because there was no sin. When sin entered the hearts of Adam and Eve and robbed them of their glory-life, all of GOD's creatures were changed; not only the Creatures, but all Creation. But when JESUS comes again He will restore them to perfection as they were at the beginning. Can some one tell me what GOD said would surely happen if Adam and Eve disobeyed Him and ate of the tree of good and evil? Yes, they would "surely die." They didn't know what that meant. They had never seen death as you and I have. I suppose all of us have seen dead flowers, trees, birds, animals, and perhaps dead people. Adam and Eve never had; they lived in the midst of life.

Do you not think it would be wonderful to live where all was life; where nothing would ever grow old, become sick, or die? That is the way Heaven will be, and all who receive JESUS down here will be received into Heaven some day, because they possess the life that fits them for GOD's presence, which only JESUS can give.

GOD first warned Adam and Eve of the evil, and spoke to them of the punishment. It was necessary for Him to do this because He wanted to test them. Everything that is really worthwhile must be tested. Can you children name something which must be tested before it can be used? Yes, airplanes; trains; bridges; milk; goods of all kinds; in fact, everything in the world that is worth while must be tested.

Even boys and girls in school must be tested. Is it because the teacher wishes to punish you, or

be mean to you, that she tests you? No, of course not. It is for your good, isn't it? She wishes to see if you can take a step higher and go into a higher grade. You are all so happy, aren't you, when you pass the test and can go right on in your work?

GOD made Adam and Eve in His image and likeness, for they were to rule over His creation for Him. It was necessary for GOD to test them in order to see whether or not they were worthy to remain in that beautiful garden home, and rule the earth for Him.

One day GOD's enemy, Satan, came to Eve to tempt her to disobey GOD. He told her that she would not surely die if she ate of the forbidden fruit, but that her eyes would be opened (meaning the eyes of understanding regarding evil which she was not to know), and he said, "**ye shall... [know] good and evil**"

First, she *looked* at the tree. She saw that it was good for food; it was pleasant to look upon, and it would make her wise. (Wise to sin and death.) She *took* of the fruit, and gave some to her husband, and immediately their eyes were opened and they saw that they were naked. First, she looked; then she took.

Something dreadful had happened. Instead of closing their hearts to temptation and sin, they opened their hearts to sin, and their glory-life died. Adam's *body* lived nine hundred thirty years, but the glory-life died, and they knew they were naked.

Ashamed and afraid because they had lost the covering which GOD had given them, they sewed fig leaves together and made aprons to cover their naked bodies.

In the cool of the day the LORD GOD came to talk with them. They heard His gentle, loving voice, and were filled with fear, and hid themselves "**amongst the trees of the garden**" from the presence of the LORD. He called again to Adam: "**Where art thou?**" Adam said: "**I heard thy voice . . . and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.**"

Just like naughty, disobedient children, Adam and Eve had disobeyed GOD and they were afraid of punishment. GOD said, "**Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree?**" GOD knew all about their sin, and because they chose evil rather than good, they were not worthy to rule over His earth.

I think that GOD must have had a long talk with these disobedient children of His, just as your mother sometime talks to you when you do wrong. He had to tell them that they could no longer live in the midst of life, but that they had chosen death and they must be driven out into the midst of sorrow, pain, sickness, and death.

Already death (which means separation or parting) had separated them from their glory-life which covered their bodies (change figures). They must have felt great sorrow for their sin which caused them to lose their image and likeness to GOD. They were now unlike GOD, and unfit for Heaven.

Now they were sinners and needed a Saviour, and in order to help them to understand how some day JESUS must come to die for their sin, He taught them through an object lesson. Though He

never wanted anything to die, yet GOD slew animals, probably lambs, because of sin, and made coats of skins (turn figures over) to cover their bodies. (cf. Genesis 3:21).

The fig leaves could not cover their sins nor their bodies. This shows that there is nothing that the sinner can do to cover sin. But there was something that GOD could do, and that day so long ago, GOD promised Adam and Eve that someday the Lamb of GOD would come and die for their sin.

We know that they believed and trusted in that wonderful promise, because they accepted the coats of skins which GOD made to cover their naked bodies, and the blood of the lamb COVERED their sins until JESUS came to die that He might take their sins away.

The little animals, which had done no wrong, had to die for those who had done wrong. Adam and Eve learned the lesson, that JESUS was to die for their sins. This time they believed GOD's Word and instead of eternal death, they received the promise of eternal Life.

GOD's Word tells us that ever since that day "**All have sinned, and come short of the glory of GOD**" (Romans 3:23). You and I, and everybody, have been born without the glory-life. We are sinners, and unlike GOD. You little children may not feel like a sinner, nor look like one, but GOD tells us that we are all sinners, because we quarrel, cheat, lie, and sometimes steal.

I am sure that He knows, for He knows all things, and best of all, He knows that we need JESUS, that is why He sent Him to die for us.

Perhaps some one here today would like to say, "I believe GOD's Word, and I take JESUS now as my Saviour."

Lesson: Genesis 3.

Memory verse: John 1:12

NOTE TO TEACHER: Never tell the children that they are sinners without showing the simple way to be saved and obtain life. Then help them to accept Him in their childlike, trustful way. They are much more sincere about it all than adults are.

The Illustration: Just what is meant by Adam and Eve being created in the image and likeness of GOD is perhaps, not fully known. We do know that GOD is a Trinity, Three Persons in One, GOD the Father, GOD the Son, and GOD the HOLY SPIRIT. Man is also a trinity, spirit, soul, and body. GOD has a free will, man also has a free will.

Some of our outstanding Bible expositors believe they had a glory-life within, which covered their bodies with a mantle of glory without, This seems very probable, as man is the only creature that is unclothed. Fish have exquisitely colored scales and fins, birds plumage of great beauty, animals soft, silky coverings of fur, all growing from inside out. Of all GOD's creatures, man, His highest creation is naked, and for his covering must resort to lower life, and in every case life must be sacrificed to provide clothing for man, except in the case of wool which comes from live sheep. The cotton, flax, silkworms, cattle, and beasts all die to furnish cotton, linen, silk, hides and furs to cover man's nakedness, because, "**All have sinned and come short of the**

**glory of GOD"** (Romans 3:23),

We have been born without the glory of GOD, but in II Thessalonians 2:14, we read, "**He called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ,**" and in II Corinthians 3:18, we read that glory is progressive, and as we grow in grace we "**are changed into the same image from glory to glory.**" "**When he shall appear we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is**" (1 John 3:2), which means we shall be fully glorified.

We believe that explaining the loss of their original glory helps children to understand the change sin brought about in man's nature, and how it unfitted him for the presence of GOD. Because of that, all must receive a new nature, the very life of our LORD and SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST, which truly is a glory life, given us that it might shine out in this dark, sinful world, to be seen by others.

Trace off the figure on rather heavy paper then color the body light yellow, for the rays next to the body use orange, then orange yellow, and at the extreme edge use light yellow. Blend the colors carefully, so it will not appear gaudy, but bright and colorful enough to be seen at a distance. Use black to outline the body and the outer edge of the glory. Make another figure, but slightly smaller, to represent Eve. To make a good-looking figure, one that is clear-cut and lasting, go over the outline with India ink or black water colors; the great improvement will be worth the effort.

Make another set of the figures, showing the outline of the figures without the glory. On one side paste a small piece of flannel to represent aprons, and color bright green. On the other side cover figures with white flannel, then color brown to represent coverings of skins. As you tell of GOD slaying the lambs, the blood of which covered the sin of Adam and Eve and the skins covered their bodies, turn the figures over so the coats of skin show.

Know your story perfectly, and use your objects, just where they belong in the story. If you are not able to make the illustrations, interest a high school student to do them for you.

Tell the children Adam and Eve did not look like the figures you made, they are only object lessons to help them understand that the glory of the life within, no doubt, covered their bodies without.

Learn to use the objects you have on hand repeatedly, in all the reviews and wherever there is a reference to a lamb, or to the glory-life, in future lessons. Children like familiar things, and must see and hear them over and over again, therefore, we must repeat these great fundamental truths many times, using simple illustrations to impress them for time and eternity.

Note: Do not fail to prepare yourself to teach these lessons, by first reading the lessons and the material in the back of the book through until the line of truth is quite familiar. You will then be able to give the lessons as your very own, and in a way more suitable for your class, than another could write it for you.

~ end of chapter 8 / Lesson 6 ~