

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 8 -

THE SERPENT

Children, while we are getting quiet and ready for our story, we will say together: "**Be still and know that I am GOD.**" Now altogether. Once more. I want all of the children to say it, even these little children on the front seat. That is very good.

Now we will see how well we remember some of the hard things we have been learning. Who would like to tell us whom Lucifer wanted to be like? You may tell us, Mary, Yes, Lucifer wanted to be like GOD. The *creature* wanted to be like the *CREATOR*. I wonder if some of you children are always wanting the first place - the best place - some other child's place, or something he has? What do we call such persons? Selfish.

Lucifer wanted to be like GOD - and have the angels worship him. To whom only does worship belong? Yes, to GOD only.

Lucifer was perfect in wisdom and beauty - until *iniquity* was found in his heart. You see - GOD made Lucifer *very good* - sin made him *very bad*.

Adam and Eve were in GOD's likeness until *unbelief* was found in their hearts. GOD made them *very good* - sin made them *very bad*. *Sin* spoiled Lucifer - the highest creature in Heaven and *sin* also spoiled Adam and Eve, the highest creatures on earth (show figures of Adam and Eve).

Today we are to learn how the Serpent, the wisest and most beautiful of all of the beasts of the field, allowed Satan to use his lips to speak to Eve against GOD and His Word.

The serpent was not a creeping, crawling snake or reptile when GOD made him; but some have imagined he became a snake or serpent such as are seen in some countries today. (The brazen figure of the seraph, or fiery flying serpent - a native of Egypt and the deserts of Arabia is supposed to be a type of our Redeemer.) Look up the word serpent in a Bible Encyclopedia for further study.

Satan took possession of the serpent's body and used his lips because he wanted to tempt Eve to do wrong. If Satan had talked to her face to face she might have known that he was GOD's enemy and then she would have refused to listen to him.

Perhaps some of you children have wanted to do wrong but you did not want anyone to know that it was you who did the wrong, so you sent another child to do or say the wrong thing for you. I hope you never have done that, but that is just what Satan did - he spoke to Eve through the lips of another. He transformed himself "**into an angel of light**" (II Corinthians 11:14).

The beautiful Serpent spoke to Eve for Satan and said, "**Ye shall not surely die**" - if you disobey GOD's law." You see, he spoke against GOD, who said - "**Thou shalt surely die**," if you disobey my law." The law was that they could eat of *all of the trees* in the garden *but one*. There were things in the garden which they *were to do*, and other things which they *were not to do*.

GOD wanted Adam to know that he did not belong to himself - he belonged to GOD, and GOD had the right to tell him what to do and what not to do.

Just as you children belong to your parents and they have a right to tell you what you can do and what you cannot do. GOD's Word says, "**Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the LORD**" (Col. 3:20).

Children learn to obey GOD by first obeying their parents. I am sure that if you love to obey your earthly parents you will want to obey your heavenly Father.

Adam and Eve could please GOD only if they obeyed Him. The serpent said, "**Ye shall not surely die . . . your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil**" (Genesis 3:4, 5).

They were in the image and likeness of the living GOD already, but Satan wanted them to disobey GOD and become like him - a false god. (Spell **GOD** and god out on the blackboard, if you have one). He knew that if they ate of the tree of good and evil they would *know evil* but have no power to keep from doing evil.

You remember the story, do you not? How instead of obeying GOD they disobeyed Him and lost their glory-life, and hid themselves because they were naked. Instead of running to GOD and confessing their sin they ran away and tried to hide their sin from Him.

GOD knew all about their disobedience just as He knows when you and I do wrong. Immediately GOD came to the garden to look for them, and called unto Adam, "**Where art thou? . . . What is this that thou hast done?**"

GOD came to find Adam and Eve not because He wanted to *punish* them but because He wanted to save them, and GOD has been calling sinners ever since.

Adam blamed the wrong on his wife. Eve blamed the wrong on the serpent, who allowed Satan to use his lips.

You see, children, how very much like Adam and Eve we are today. It is so easy for us to blame others for our wrong doings. We say: "Well it was sister's fault," or "It was brother's fault," when the wrong was really in our own heart.

We have been learning how ***GOD made everything good and sin made everything bad.*** How very good GOD was to make a way for sinners to be made good again.

All of these stories I have been telling you are here in the very front of the Bible, which is GOD's Word. (Open Bible). And away over there (open towards back) it tells us that these stories "**were written for our learning.**" (Romans 15:4).

GOD wants us to know that - "**All have sinned, and come short of the glory of GOD**" (Romans 3:23). And that "**The wages of sin is death**" (Romans 6:23). DEATH MEANS SEPARATION FROM GOD.

GOD does not want anyone to lose their way to Heaven and be separated always from Him. Some of us know that we belong to JESUS because we believe that JESUS died for our sin, and that He rose again and lives in our hearts.

If there is one here who has never taken JESUS as his or her Saviour, will you say, "I believe JESUS died for me. I now take Him as my Saviour." (Help the child repeat the words).

Sing: "Into My Heart" - with bowed heads.

Lesson: Genesis 3.

Memory verse: Romans 6:23.

FAITH

***To dare believe when none else dare,
That in your class before you there,
So restless and so bold,
Is one that you and GOD can take,
And into GOD's great herald make,
To tell the story old,
Is Faith.***

- *Anonymous*

~ end of chapter 10 / Lesson 8 ~
