

## **The Sin Problem**

### **Romans 5:12**

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

This is one of the saddest passages in the Bible.

It refers back to Genesis chapter 3. In that chapter Satan through the serpent beguiles Eve to take the fruit of the forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

She takes it because it seems to her that God is holding out on them and not giving them the best things. Satan has convinced her that God is not good and He is withholding from them that which God has, the knowledge of good and evil.

So she takes and eats the fruit. She gives it to her husband and she eats. The question is why did Adam eat it when he knew it was not allowed. Paul tells us that Adam was not deceived but Eve was.

The best explanation is that Adam chose to side with his wife against God.

But anyway they both ate and because of that they committed the first sin of this new world.

There were consequences for their rebellion. God had told them that they both would die if they ate of the tree. Satan had said that they would not die.

They did not die physically that day but they did die spiritually. And as a consequence of that every person born into this world is born spiritually dead. But Adam did begin to die physically that day. And so each one of us begins to die the day we are born. Adam lived 930 years after he was created. Many of the people back then lived long lives like that.

So in our text this morning Paul give us a partial commentary on what took place there in Genesis chapter 3. What did Adam and Eve give up when they found this knowledge of good and evil. They may have gained something but what did they lose in the process.

- I. Sin entered the world that day.
  - A. What is sin?
    1. Sin is missing the mark.
    2. Romans 3:23 (NKJV) 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
  - B. Sin has a process.
    1. James 1:13 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. 16 Do not be deceived, my

beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

II. Sin brought death.

A. God had told them that they would die if they ate of that tree.

1. They did die.
2. But Paul says that that sin and its death has been passed down to all mankind.

III. As a result the grace of God is our only hope.

A. Romans 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." 14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

B. We have missionaries coming to be with us next week.

1. Their bio is in the bulletin.
2. They are headed to Papua New Guinea.
3. The people there, although very backward and living very different than us, are no more lost than your neighbors that live around you.
4. God has saved you for a purpose and usually it is not the one we think.
5. It is glorify Him and to tell other how wonderful He is.