
Journey Through the Bible- Week 2

2/15/26

MESSAGE NOTES

THE ONE WORD THAT SUMS UP THE BIBLE: REDEMPTION

To redeem - to buy back, to regain, to recover by payment

The eight-week framework:

Adam - Potential

Zedekiah - Pride

Abraham - Promise

Jesus - Payment

Moses - Passover

Me - Patience

David - Passion

God - Presence

Bottom Line: My potential is fulfilled when I understand my place in God's Kingdom.

Adam's potential was not just moral perfection, it was representative authority.

Created in God's image

Given dominion language

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Genesis 1:26 (ESV)

Tasked with guarding and cultivating

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 2:15 (ESV)

When potential is lost, it's not just personal failure, it's the breakdown of God's original purpose.

Placed in a sacred space (Eden)

Not just a garden, it's a meeting place between heaven and earth

This was the one place where God and humanity overlapped without fear

But the Lord God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die." Genesis 2:16-17 (NLT)

"Knowledge of Good and Evil" isn't trivial, it is moral authority.

Tov va ra' does not mean learning more information; it means claiming the authority **to decide for yourself** what is good and what is evil.

Merism - a pair of opposites used to describe total moral authority.

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "**Did God really say** you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?" Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied. "It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'" "**You won't die**" the serpent replied to the woman. "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, **knowing both good and evil.**" The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and **she wanted the wisdom it would give her.** So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, **and he ate it too.** At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. Genesis 3:1-7 (NLT)

4 STEPS TO A BIG FALL:

1. Deception - replaces God's Word

"Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

Genesis 3:1 (NLT)

When God's voice is no longer the reference point, a competing voice enters the conversation.

2. Distrust - Questions God's Character

"**You won't die!**" the serpent replied to the woman. "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, **knowing both good and evil.**" Genesis 3:1-7 (NLT)

When God is no longer seen as generous, but as restrictive, trust gives way to suspicion.

3. Disobedience - Rejects God's Authority

The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and **she wanted the wisdom it would give her**. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and **he ate it, too**. Genesis 3:1-7 (NLT)

When God's authority is no longer trusted, obedience collapses.

4. Death - Separates from God's Presence

When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. **So they hid from the Lord God** among the trees. Genesis 3:8 (NLT)

Death is not the loss of breath first, it's the loss of God's presence.

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. Romans 5:12 (NLT)

REGRET

Then the Lord God called to the man, **"Where are you?"** Genesis 3:9 (NLT)

This isn't an interrogation for information, it's an invitation for relationship.

After sin, the first move isn't judgment - it's pursuit

And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife. Genesis 3:21 (NLT)

The real problem wasn't the fruit they ate. It was the broken trust between God and humanity. The distance that entered the relationship.

"For **this is how God loved the world**: He gave his one and only Son, so that **everyone who believes** in him will not perish but **have eternal life**." John 3:16 (NLT)

