# Human Failure - God's Faithfulness

*The Book of Genesis – Part 5  Gen. 3:1-21*

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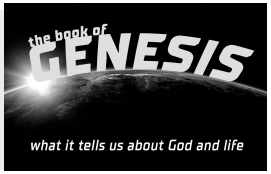


## 1. What do we learn about Satan?

Most of our depictions of Satan are of a fiery, scary creature that you'd be repelled by. In contrast to this, Satan (introduced to us as "the serpent" in Genesis 3:1) uses subtle deception to entice. The thoughtful reader can see that just like Adam and Eve were easily enticed to reject God's authority, we are not far from the Garden's temptations.

Satan 3D strategy:

1. DOUBT - *"did God **really** say...?"* (Genesis 3:1)
2. DENIAL *"you will **surely** not die..."* (Genesis 3:4)
3. DECEPTION *"you will be like God..."* (Genesis 3:5)

## 2. What do we learn about Humanity?

Once Humans reject God's authority, life unravels very quickly. The things God intended to be enjoyable, become a challenge. Adam & Eve's incredible relationship with God becomes one they now fear (Gen. 3:10). The honor & dignity they experience through loyalty to God, gives way to shame (Gen. 3:7&10). Marriage, intended to be "one flesh" becomes a relationship of fault finding & a power struggle (Gen. 3:12-13&16). Family multiplication will become painful (expressed by pain in childbirth - Gen. 3:16).

## 3. What do we learn about God?

*God's Response to Rebellion:*

1. It's not like God doesn't know where they are or what they've done, but rather than starting with an accusation, God asks "where are you?", inviting them to come out and repent. God's desire is repentance not punishment (Micah 7:18; 1 John 1:9; Daniel 9:9; Isaiah 1:16-18; 2 Peter. 3:9).

## 3. What do we learn about God? *(continued)*

*God's Response to Rebellion:*

2. History has proven that we can't undue or fix the evil that rebellion against God unleashed in the world. But from the moment Humans make a mess of things, God promised that evil would be confronted and crushed (Gen. 3:15)

3. At first reading it may not sound like a big deal that God provided clothes for Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:21). The gift of clothes is among the best given gifts in the Old Testament and foreshadows the best outfit ***anyone*** could ever wear (Romans 13:11-14).

## *Community Group Questions:*

1. What did you hear? What hit home from the message? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?

2. God often portrays his relationship with us as a parent to his children (2Cor. 6:18 Ps. 103:13). What can we learn about being a parent or friend to others from God's response to Adam & Eve?

***Notes:***