

STEPS TO AVOID SIN

Genesis 3:1-24

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." 11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" 12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me-- she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." 13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." 14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." 16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." 17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." 20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. 21 The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. 22 And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." 23 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. 24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

INTRODUCTION

ERWIN LUTZER WRITES:

We have all experienced the cycle: enjoy a forbidden pleasure, feel guilty, determine never to do it again, take pride in brief moments of self-control, then fail once more. Each time we repeat the pattern the ruts are cut a bit deeper.

THERE WAS A GREAT SCOTTISH PREACHER WHO SAID:

The great tempter of men has two lies with which he plies us at two different stages. Before we have fallen, he tells us that one fall does not matter; it is a trifle; we can easily recover ourselves again. After we have fallen, he tells us that it is hopeless; we are given over to sin, and need not attempt to rise.

TYPICAL WAYS WE GIVE IN TO TEMPTATION: WHAT IS YOUR TEMPTATION?

Desiring to control our anger ... but then we explode.

Desiring to be more patient with our children ... but the verbal outbursts explode with every crayon mark on the wall.

Desiring to control our lusts ... but they never go away.

Desiring to find a godly mate ... but we end up lowering our dating standard.

Desiring to grow a Christian company or organization ... but compromises a stand due to a desire for financial backing.

Desiring to trust God ... but unable to sleep at night due to our fear and worry.

Desiring to give financially to God ... but each month the bills are just so much that we skip a month.

Desiring to quit smoking ... but by 10:00 am we have already bought our next pack.

Desiring to love our wife like Christ ... but the squabbling begins within 15 minutes of our arriving home.

Desiring to lose weight ... but after the second piece of dessert, we commit to beginning our diet tomorrow.

Desiring to read Scripture ... but the TV shows are so compelling tonight, and the extra sleep was so wanted this morning.

Everyone has temptations, and when you meet someone who feels they have arrived at the point of mastery over sin ... be careful ... pride goes before a destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.

TEMPTATIONS ARE TESTS FROM SATAN WITH THE INTENT THAT WE FAIL.

It shows our weakness.

It shows our sin nature.

It brings dishonor to the glory of God.

It defames us, the ones created in his image.

It is the path that leads to destruction.

TEMPTATIONS ARE TESTS FROM GOD WITH THE INTENT THAT WE PASS.

It is not a test so that He can see our faith. He already knows.

It is not a way to keep your salvation. Christ does this.

It shows us our loyalty.

It shows us our growth.

It shows us our maturity.

It shows us our faith.

And it shows Satan his failure.

Temptation is God's character development program.

TEMPTATION IS NOT A SIN ... IT IS A CALL TO BATTLE.

1. BE AWARE ... WATCH FOR THE PRESENCE OF TEMPTATION.

THE TEMPTER COMES TO ADAM AND EVE

Satan had enjoyed the glory of God in the past. But now he is only experiencing God's wrath and hatred.

Satan, according to Scripture, incited a rebellion, and then was defeated and cast out of Heaven.

Satan now comes to embark upon his fatal transaction with mankind.

Adam and Eve didn't wish for this temptation, trial or test.

Adam and Eve didn't sin and place themselves in this position. (They did not yet even have a sin nature.)

THE TEMPTER COMES IN A CURIOUSLY, PLEASING MANNER

Satan did not come in some sort of repulsive, devilish form.

Satan chose a most prudent instrument. Satan was "crafty." (subtle, carefully, prudently, sly, skillfully, slick)

Satan came as a talking serpent.

Satan, in the form of the talking serpent, was just one more curious "good creation" of God. This was a time of great exploration and excitement as Adam and Eve discovered the world God created for them. A talking snake would have been just one more wonder for them to behold.

THE TEMPTER COMES IN A PLEASING MANNER WITH MALICIOUS INTENT

Satan's end goal is not to get men to sin. Sin is simply a means to an end.

Satan's chief goal is to so defame God's image so that God's glory is defaced.

Satan realizes that he is no match for God. He is a whipped puppy.

Satan then, acknowledging that he cannot touch God's essence, seeks to corrupt God's image.

Satan turns all his force and furious anger and directs at mankind, created in the image of God. (Not the world, nor the heavens, nor the animals, not even the angels, but men.)

Satan, fuming with hatred, comes to man, offering something sweet and soothing, desiring to kill, maim and destroy.

CHRISTIAN, TEMPTATION WILL COME.

It has nothing to do with sin, or how carefully you walk, or with your measure of separation.

Adam and Eve were tempted in God's perfect garden.

It is pride and arrogance to think that this sermon does not apply to you. Even the best Christians are tempted.

Christ was tempted as he walked about in perfect righteousness.

You will be tempted.

CHRISTIAN, TEMPTATION WILL BE VERY PLEASING, CURIOUS AND INVITING.

Notice in this chapter the three good instruments that Satan used: serpent, apple, woman.

Be careful less you become a tool of Satan in his desire to cause your brothers to fall.

What will the crafty and skillful Satan use to tempt you?

Prosperity	Good Health	Free Time	New Computer	Friendship
Spouse	Security	Counsel	Job Promotion	Pleasurable Feelings
Curiosity	Religious Acceptability			

Christians should expect Satan to inhabit that which is pleasing to the senses and curious to the intellect.

CHRISTIAN, TEMPTATION COMES WITH A LOOKING BENEFICIAL, BUT HIDING DESTRUCTION.

Never fall for Satan's lie.

He is a fraud and his friendship is a farce.

He is like the wicked witch that offers Snow White that delicious, beautiful apple.

2. BE FAST ... RUN! DO NOT PERSIST IN THE PRESENCE OF TEMPTATION.

When the man and woman heard the first words of accusation against their Creator, they should have fled.

They should have said, "Who is this that seeks to discredit our Great Creator?"

Adam and Eve persisted in the presence of temptation.

But they did not.

They persisted in the presence of temptation and began to carry on a dialogue with the God-hater.

Christian, what does Scripture advise men and women to do when encountered by temptation?

Scripture admonishes us to flee, run, or get out of Dodge.

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

You may not be able to avoid all temptation, but you can flee from its' presence.

Know thyself! Know where Satan longs to attack you.

You do not get heavenly bonus points for remaining in the presence of temptation.

Do whatever it takes, not to sin.

If there are certain individuals who are used as instruments of temptation, stay away.

If there are certain place you go where Satan buffets you, go somewhere else.

If you are tempted when you are alone, be around people.

If you are tempted to overindulge in good or bad things, stay away.

Many times Christians endure temptations that they don't have to.

Don't date. Don't own a TV. Don't drink alcohol. Eat Lean Cuisine meals only.

Give your money to someone else. Talk to your Pastor. Get a room mate. Have an accountability partner.

Quit your job.

But wherever there is temptation, run!

3. BE PRAYING ... RUN FROM SIN TO GOD.

Adam and Eve sinned because the man and woman did not seek the wisdom of God.

This point is not taken directly from this passage, but from common sense.

Adam and Eve had the privilege of walking with God in the garden.

Adam and Eve could have a conversation with God at any time.

Adam and Eve were just one divine dialogue away from having this whole affair brought into proper perspective.

It helps us at this point to remember that Adam and Eve walked with God in the garden.

Wouldn't this have been a great opportunity for Eve to have sought the presence of God.

Temptation will come, you must run ... but run to your Protector, Shield, Defender, Friend, Wise Counselor.

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

The victory over sin that you seek will come from your relationship with God.

Galatians 5:16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

That is why we sing the song this morning about the "Fruit of the Spirit"

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control

Personal prayer and corporate prayer.

4. BE KNOWLEDGEABLE ... STUDY! KNOW THE TRUTH CONTAINED IN SCRIPTURE.

Satan first attacked the knowledge of Adam and Eve.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Has God really put restrictions on your freedom?

Genesis 3:3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'

Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-- his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Psalms 1:1-2 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

John 8:32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Ephesians 6:14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

The only way to discern the truth of God from the lies of Satan are to know the truths of God.

5. BE SUBMISSIVE ... REMEMBER YOUR CALLING TO OBEY YOUR GOOD CREATOR WHO PRESCRIBES WHAT IS GOOD.

SATAN NEXT ATTACKED THE TRUTHFULNESS OF GOD.

Genesis 3:4-5 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

SATAN NEXT ATTACKED THE GOODNESS OF GOD.

Genesis 3:4-5 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Satan is in fact denying the goodness of God. In effect he is saying, "God is holding out on you."

Satan is saying, "If you have one restriction placed upon you, then you are not really free."

SATAN IS IN EFFECT CALLING EVIL "GOOD" AND GOOD "EVIL".

Satan is distorting good and evil. Here we see Satan's perversion. He turns something wrong into something good.

SATAN PROMISES WHAT HE CANNOT SUPPLY.

Genesis 3:5 "God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

THE FALL OCCURRED BECAUSE ADAM AND EVE DISCOUNTED GOD'S REVELATION AND SUBSTITUTED IT FOR ANOTHER.

The man and woman at this point begin to doubt the wisdom of God and exalt their own logical conclusion.

We see what happens when for even a brief moment, men and women decide to be independent of God.

Christians may not hear the voice of Satan, but they hear his message coming through culture, "Scripture is an antiquated book of lies".

Christians further hear, "Scripture is too constrictive. It takes away man's freedom to enjoy life."

Christian, your job is to obey God, regardless of feelings, regardless of worldly counsel, regardless of your understanding of God's purposes.

God commands for your good, and your answer is "Sir, Yes sir!"

Often we desire release from one area of sin, while holding on to another. God does full house-cleanings. A desire for a partial house-cleaning is not submission.

6. BE HEDONISTIC ... REALIZE THAT GOD HAS YOUR LONG-TERM PLEASURE IN MIND.

ADAM

The fall occurred because the man and the woman thought on their own and then decided to satisfy their senses.

Genesis 3:6a When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it ...

Feelings are terrible guides for life.

You don't determine doctrine based upon what you feel, desire or want.

You don't make life choices based upon what you feel at that point in life. (No one would go to work.)

SATAN'S ORDER

Fun, happiness, the sorrow.

GOD'S ORDER

Obedience, the joy.

THERE IS ANOTHER WAY TO LOOK AT THIS.

You do not deny your desires and long for that which brings sorrow.

Christian Hedonism:

Rather, you deny the lesser things to embrace that which only satisfies your desires.

Don't settle for bologna when God offers prime rib.

The woman settled for less than God's best.

7. BE DILIGENT ... GUARD YOUR FAMILY.

THE FALL OCCURRED BECAUSE THE MAN REMAINED SILENT.

Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Genesis 3:17a To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you ...

The man was led by the woman.

APPLICATION:

Lead and Be Proactive!

8. BE STRONG ... REALIZE YOUR POWER.

THE MAN WAS LED BY THE SERPENT.

God had created man to have dominion and authority over all living creatures.

Here we see a reversal of the roles.

THE SAVED MAN HAS POWER TO SAY, "NO!"

Your Power is Your God.

1John 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

God gives victory over sin.

Sin cannot have dominion over the believer.

Satan is the Father of Lies.

His goal is to tell you that you are an addict.

You are free in Christ, but the Devil can convince you that you are not.

We see that men are often enslaved by the good gifts of God which are to be under their control.

9. BE FEARFUL ... REMEMBER THAT GOD CONDEMNS THE HEATHEN AND PUNISHES CHRISTIANS.

THE MAN AND WOMAN DOUBTED THE SEVERITY OF GOD'S JUDGMENT.

Genesis 2:15-17 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Satan discounted God's judgment, and Adam and Eve bought his lie.

Genesis 3:4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

God had made a Covenant of Works with Adam and Eve. If you obey, you will live. If you disobey, you will die.

FALL MIGHT NOT BE THE BEST CHOICE OF TERMS.

A fall is something that normally happens by accident. It is almost something that happens to you.

This was no fall. This was a rebellion. This was a coup.

What we see here is more obstinacy than accident.

APPLICATION

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

CONCLUSION

WHO'S THE MAN?

You are either “in Adam” or “in Christ.”

OLD ADAM

The one who used his free will to “fall”.

Adam's Descendents: The world is full of men who follow in Adam and Eve's steps.

NEW ADAM

There is one who modeled this plan I have given you this morning.

There is one who offers hope.

“The purpose of the cross is to repair the irreparable.” (Lutzer, 44)

New Adam's Descendents:

See their sin.

Confess their sin.

Hate their sin.

Gain eternal victory over their sin.

Evidenced by daily growth in sanctification.

SAYING “YES” TO GOD IS HABIT FORMING.

OTHER WORK

GOD CREATED EVERYTHING, AND EVERYTHING WAS PRONOUNCED “GOOD”.

God created the “tree of life” and the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil”

Before the fall, man knew all through God

After the fall, man knows about life apart from God

God’s command (2:15-17)

“You shall not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil”

“In the day you eat of this tree, you will die”

Evidently, it was OK to eat from the tree of life because God did not prohibit this; and later, Adam and Eve are kicked out of the garden so that they will not eat of the tree of life. (3:22)

THE SERPENT’S APPROACH

The serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which God had made

Definition of “cunning”:

Wrought with, or exhibiting skill

Crafty, sly, or artful

Keen, clever

Prettily or piquantly interesting

Synonyms: clever, sly

THE SERPENT’S QUESTION

The serpent asked Eve about God’s commands

Eve answered Satan truthfully by stating that God said we shall not eat of the tree in the midst of the garden

Eve also added to God’s command by stating that we shall not touch the tree. This does not appear to be part of God’s command.

THE SERPENT’S DISTORTION AND DECEPTION

Satan’s Discount - discounted the threat of God - “You shall not surely die.”

Satan's Deception - perverts evil to look good - "Your eyes will be opened"

Satan's Distortion - questions God's goodness - "God knows you will be like Him."

EVE'S DECISION

The Thought Process

Tree was good for food

Pleasant to the eyes

Desirable to make one wise

The Action

She looked toward the tree

She took the fruit

She ate

She passed on the fruit to someone else (Adam)

The Consequences

Their eyes were opened

They were no longer blameless (they saw their nakedness)

They made clothes

They hid from God (afraid of God)

The Judgment

They both gave excuses for their sin

The woman that you gave me

The serpent deceived me

God gave no response to their excuses

The serpent was condemned

The serpent will be cursed more than any other animal

God will start a war.

Satan will be utterly destroyed by the seed of woman (Jesus Christ)

The woman (Eve) was condemned

Pain in childbearing

Submission to man (husband)

Cast out of the garden

The man (Adam) was condemned

Work and toil are required to eat (the ground is cursed)

Cast out of the garden

Lest they eat of the tree of life and live forever

Man will die

Man will die and return to the dust from which he came from

THE DEEPER MEANING OF CHAPTER THREE

THROUGHOUT ALL OF HISTORY, GOD HAS BEEN CREATING A PEOPLE FOR HIMSELF.

God's purpose is to make a people for Himself.

The Immanuel Principle

God with us.

"I shall be your God and you shall be My people."

Example (Gen. 17:7) "to be a God to you and to your seed after you."

Example (Ex. 6:6-7) "special treasure among all the peoples."

Example (Lev. 11:45) "I am the Lord ... to be your God."

Example (Deut. 4:20) "to be a people for His own possession."

Example (Deut. 29:13) "to enter into a covenant ... establish you today as His people ..."

Example (Ez 34:24) "I will be their God ..."

Example (Zech. 2:11 and later in Hebrews) "they will be to me for a people, and I shall dwell ..."

Example (II Cor., 6:16) "I will be their God and they shall be my people."

Example (Rev. 21:3)

The Immanuel Principle Demonstrated

God is dwelling in the midst of his people.

God dwelling with His people in the tent, to the tabernacle, to the temple, to the city.

God's people actually become the temple of God. (Rev. 7:15)

The Immanuel Principle Fulfilled Ultimately in Christ

Christ becomes the unifying focus of all Scripture.

All covenant workings are united in Immanuel.

"Because Jesus, as the Son of God and mediator of the covenant, cannot be divided, the covenants cannot be divided. He himself guarantees the unity of the covenants, because he himself is the heart of each of the various covenantal administrations." (Robertson 52)

CHRISTMAS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE END

Christmas is a huge event in the World (But not for the same reason as Christians)

Just as the world missed Him the first time, they miss him each Christmas.

Steve Brown reminds us of the Brueghel painting, The Census, which portrays the census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria and recorded in the gospel of Luke. The painting shows a great crowd of people, with a long line waiting to be registered. We observe busy shops and active commerce. At first glance you think that it is a painting of a crowd - until you look in the lower right part of the canvas and notice a man pulling a donkey which is carrying a pregnant woman. "If you have ever seen that painting, you know that it is easy to miss Mary and Joseph," Brown explains. "You have to look hard, because their part seems so insignificant and unimportant in relationship to what is going on in the painting. Christmas is a sad time for me because so many people miss the real point...and at Christmas they are so close."

How could God allow His Son to be born and no one notice?

Because he wasn't coming to reign. He was coming to serve, suffer and save His people.

JESUS WILL COME BACK ONE MORE TIME TO FINISH WHAT HE STARTED

But someday, God will come again – and it will not be a stealth mission

God's prophecies concerning his first coming came true.

In his book, Science Speaks, Peter Stoner applies the modern science of probability to just eight prophecies regarding Christ. He says, "The chance that any man might have ...fulfilled all eight prophecies is one in 10 to the 17th. That would be 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000." (one hundred quadrillion) Stoner suggests that "we take 10 to the 17th silver dollars and lay them on the face of Texas. They will cover all of the state 2 feet deep. Now mark one of these silver dollars and stir the whole mass thoroughly... Blindfold a man and tell him he can travel as far as he wishes, but he must pick up [that one marked silver dollar.] What chance would he have of getting the right one?" Stoner concludes, "Just the same chance that the prophets would have had of writing those eight prophecies and having them all come true in any one man,...providing they wrote them in their own wisdom."

God's prophecies concerning his second coming will come true.

SATAN'S APPROACH

Now the serpent was more cunning than any ...

The Questioning

The opening ploy of Satan's temptation raises a question about the Word of God.

You shall not eat from every tree in the garden.

He knew this is not what God had said.

Questioning the Freedom of Man "If you have one restriction placed upon you, then you are not really free."

Can you have a free, human creature coexisting with God?

Divine sovereignty and human freedom are not mutually exclusive categories.

Human sovereignty and Divine sovereignty are mutually exclusive categories.

Divine sovereignty and human autonomy are mutually exclusive.

Autonomy means "self rule." Not subordinate to anyone.

Our freedom is limited by God's freedom.

We never have absolute freedom, or absolute autonomy.

John Paul Sart, "If a person is not truly autonomous, then man is not free."

Premise is wrong. Freedom does not require autonomy.

Satan is offering Eve autonomy.

The Contradiction

Contradicting the Word of God "You shall not surely die."

The Bold Lie

You shall be like gods.

Temptation of Adam		Temptation of Christ
	<i>Dissimilarities</i>	
Beautiful Garden		Wilderness of Judea
Un-fallen Companionship (Support / Witnesses)		Solitude
Tempted in the midst of plenty (Buffet)		Tempted in the midst of need (Fasting)
Succumbed to the temptation		Jesus did not succumb to the temptation

	Similarities	
Attacked the trustfulness and truthfulness of God "Hath God said ..."		Attacked the trustfulness and truthfulness of God <u>If you are</u> the Son of God turn these stones ... Last word Jesus heard from God, "This is my beloved Son ... Satan is questioning the Word of God. Jesus' reply: Man lives by every word from the mouth of God
		Attacked the trustfulness and truthfulness of God. Offering Kingdom without Pain Satan departed for a season. Later offered again through Peter
		Attacked the truthfulness of Scripture That said, you shall not tempt the Lord God.

The question is not do we believe in God. The question is do we believe God?