

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

James 1

22 Be doers of the word, and not hearers only.

Otherwise, you are deceiving yourselves.

23 For anyone who hears the word but does not carry it out is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror, **24** and after observing himself goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

25 But the one who looks intently into the perfect law of freedom, and continues to do so—not being a forgetful hearer, but an effective doer—he will be blessed in what he does.

Genesis 3

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

And he said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, 3 but of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You must not eat of it or touch it, or you will die.’”

Genesis 3

4 “You will not surely die,” the serpent told her.

5 “For God knows that in the day 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 tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it.

She also gave some to her husband, and he ate it.

What can we learn about Satan?

1. He is a deceiver
2. He has a strategy that he uses to deceive
 1. Causes us to doubt what God has said
 2. Causes us to doubt God's character
 3. Causes us to doubt God's punishment of sin
 4. He Lies
3. He uses our own desires against us

What can we learn about man?

1. Our desires are the gateway to sin
2. Sin brings death (decay and destruction)
3. Death produces blind, stubborn pride

What can we learn about man?

1. Desires are the gateway to sin

Genesis 3

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it.

James 1

13 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone.

14 But each one is tempted when by his own evil desires he is lured away and enticed.

15 Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death.

Romans 1

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Romans 1

24 Therefore God gave them up in **the desires of their hearts** to impurity for the dishonoring of their bodies with one another.

25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator, who is forever worthy of praise! Amen.

Romans 1:28 Furthermore, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, He gave them up to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.

29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed, and hatred. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, **30** slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant, and boastful. They invent new forms of evil; they disobey their parents.

31 They are senseless, faithless, heartless, merciless.

James 1

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow.

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16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

17 **Every good and perfect gift is from above**, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow.

What can we learn about man?

2. Sin brings death (decay and destruction)

Romans 5

12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, so also death was passed on to all men, because all sinned.

Genesis 3

7 And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed together fig leaves and made coverings for themselves.

8 Then the man and his wife heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the breeze of the day, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Genesis 3

9 So the LORD God called out to the man,
“Where are you?”

10 “I heard Your voice in the garden,” he
replied, “and I was afraid because I was naked;
so I hid myself.”

11 “Who told you that you were naked?” asked
the LORD God. “Have you eaten of the tree
from which I commanded you not to eat?”

What can we learn about man?

2. Sin brings forth death (and destruction)

- Our thinking is corrupted

Romans 1

21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking and darkened in their foolish hearts.

22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools,

What can we learn about man?

2. Sin brings forth death (and destruction)

- Our thinking is corrupted
- Our emotions are destructive
- Our conscience has been manipulated
- Our will has been compromised

Romans 8

7... the mind of the flesh is hostile to God: It does not submit to God's Law, nor can it do so.

8Those controlled by the flesh cannot please God.

What can we learn about man?

2. Sin brings forth death (and destruction)

- Our thinking is corrupted
- Our emotions are destructive
- Our conscience has been manipulated
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- Our motives are consumed with self

Genesis 6

5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

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What can we learn about man?

2. Sin brings forth death (and destruction)

- Our thinking is corrupted
- Our emotions are destructive
- Our conscience has been manipulated
- Our will has been compromised
- Our motives are consumed with self
- We have lost sight of the glorious purpose for which we have been created

What can we learn about man?

3. Death produces blind, stubborn pride

Romans 1

32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things are worthy of death, they not only continue to do these things, but also approve of those who practice them.

Genesis 3

11 “Who told you that you were naked?” asked the LORD God. “Have you eaten of the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?”

12 And the man answered, “The woman whom You gave me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

“The serpent deceived me,” she replied, “and I ate.”

Ezekiel 36

25I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols.

26I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

27And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My ordinances.

Ezekiel 36

31 Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves for your iniquities and abominations.

32 It is not for your sake that I will act, declares the Lord GOD—let it be known to you. Be ashamed and disgraced for your own ways, O house of Israel!’

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