

THE FALL OF MAN

The relationship of God and man before the Fall.

When God created the other living creatures He spoke to the earth.¹ However, when He created mankind, God spoke to Himself.² God also blessed mankind to multiply and gave them dominion over His creation.³ God gave mankind every plant yielding seed and tree yielding fruit for food.⁴ God gave every green plant to the animals for food.⁵ God's creation was "good".⁶

God blessed the seventh day and made it holy – so the Sabbath of rest was instituted. It didn't rain, but a mist rose from the earth and watered the plants.⁷ God created a garden called Eden where He placed Adam to maintain and guard it. His wages were to eat from any tree in the garden, except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Man was allowed to eat from the tree of life and therefore enjoyed perfect health and immortality. Mankind had neither sin nor shame.⁸ Since they were naked, we may presume that the weather had no extremes of heat or cold too. There was peaceful harmony between mankind and the animal kingdom.⁹ Man's work was nearly effortless and fundamentally simple.¹⁰ There was also harmony between a man and his wife and childbearing was easy and caused only minor discomfort at most.¹¹

Most importantly, man had a daily fellowship with God that gave him essentially unlimited access to his Creator. Genesis 3:8

The State of Mankind After the Fall

After the judgement of God on Adam, Eve and the Serpent, they were all cast out of the garden. It is not stated if the garden continued to be worked, but thereafter the garden was guarded by an cherubim with a flaming sword to prevent any person from entering the garden and eating from the tree of life.¹² Man's newly ordained work included both agriculture and animal husbandry.¹³ Sin increased (with the introduction of murder) mankind moved away from the presence of God. Out of the presence of God¹⁴, mankind began to dwell in cities.¹⁵ Mankind dwelled in tents, had to make their own music and learned to fabricate artifacts. This including the tools to work with. Men began to perpetrate violence on each other and take their own revenge.¹⁶ In the third generation from Adam, men began to call upon the

¹ Genesis 1:11,24,24

² Genesis 1:26

³ Genesis 1:28

⁴ Genesis 1:29

⁵ Genesis 1:30

⁶ Genesis 1:31

⁷ Genesis 2:5,6

⁸ Genesis 2:25

⁹ Genesis 3:15

¹⁰ Genesis 3:17-19

¹¹ Genesis 3:16

¹² Genesis 3:24

¹³ Genesis 3:4-5

¹⁴ Genesis 4:16

¹⁵ Genesis 4:17

¹⁶ Genesis 4:20-24

Lord (as opposed to having God come to them.) Approximately 900 years after the Fall, men began to die a “natural” death.

As the population grew, the Sons of God took wives of the daughters of Adam, and a hybrid race, the Nephilim came about. Evil mindedness increased and eventually dominated the whole culture. God was grieved and to limit the scope of personal evil set the limit on the human lifespan at 120 years.¹⁷ Through mankind’s sin, all flesh became corrupt, leading to God’ decision to wipe out all human and animal life, except for the family of Noah and the few remaining uncorrupted animals. Note, at this time animals became divided into two types: clean (not likely to be demonized), and unclean (prone to be demonized).¹⁸ After the flood, there were distinct seasons on earth: spring, summer, autumn and winter.¹⁹

After the Great Flood, mankind was given a limited dominion over the animal kingdom in that all creatures would fear man. However, the harmony that was before was not realized. Man was also given the responsibility to avenge bloodshed.²⁰

¹⁷ Genesis 6:1-5

¹⁸ Genesis 7:2,3

¹⁹ Genesis 8:21, 22

²⁰ Genesis 9:1-6

REFERENCED SCRIPTURES

“And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so.” Genesis 1:11 ESV

“And God said, ‘Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.’” Genesis 1:20 ESV

“And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so.” Genesis 1:24 ESV

“And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.” Genesis 1:29 ESV

“And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.” Gen 1:30 ESV

“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.” Genesis 1:31 ESV

“So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.” Genesis 2:3 ESV

“When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—“ Genesis 2:5,6 ESV

“And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.” Genesis 2:25 ESV

“And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.” Genesis 3:8 ESV

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” Genesis 3:15 ESV

“To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.” Genesis 3:16 ESV

“And to Adam he said, ‘Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.’” Genesis 3:17-19 ESV

“He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.” Genesis 3:24 ESV

“And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.” Genesis 2:8-20 ESV

“In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.” Genesis 4:3-7 ESV

“Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.” Gen 4:16 ESV

“Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch.” Genesis 4:17 ESV

"Adah bore Jubal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. Lamech said to his wives: “Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold.” Genesis 4:20-24 ESV

“To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.” Genesis 4:26 ESV

“Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.” Genesis 5:5 ESV

“When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son and called his name Noah, saying, “Out of the ground that the LORD has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the **painful** toil of our hands.” Genesis 5:28, 29 ESV

“When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. Then the LORD said, My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.’ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown. 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.” Genesis 6:1-5 ESV

"These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.” Genesis 6:9-13 ESV

“Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth.” Genesis 7:2, 3 ESV

"And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.” Genesis 8:21, 22 ESV

“And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.” Genesis 9:1-6 ESV