

God Asking Four Questions

^d 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 certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.⁵ “For God knows that when you eat from 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.” (Genesis 3:1-13)

There is a common question people keep asking: ‘Why God created man?’ Our God is a social God and He created man so that He can fellowship with him and spend good time together. God had created us out of His love to us and He lavished on us all His blessings in order for us to enjoy life and live in the joy and the peace of the Lord. God created us that He will enjoy the fellowship with us and rejoice over the work of His hands. Our God is a social God and love fellowship is the reason that He existed in three persons; God the Father, God the Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), and God The Holy Spirit: “**For there are three that testify in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.**” (1 John 5:7-8) ^u Late manuscripts of the Vulgate

Everything God had created is good, and all His arrangements are perfect. The Lord created man on His own image and He placed Him in the garden east of Eden, “¹⁶ **And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.’**” (Genesis 2:16-17) This particular instruction that God gave to man was to protect him and would enable him to continue to enjoy the presence of God and His blessings in life.

In the same arrangement the serpent, the devil, entered the scenario and questioned the woman in a crooked way telling her “**Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’**” That question of the devil had raised up a point that God is so strict and unfair; why He would not allow them to enjoy anything. The woman answered was correct and told the devil, “**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.**” Now here the devil give the next lie when he told the woman, “**You will not certainly die,**” and give the malice thought against God “**For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.**” What the devil had said raised the pride of the woman and she got

the false assurance to sin against God by eating from the fruit of the forbidden tree especially when she *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.* The woman also enticed her husband who was with her to do this sinful act. Once they had done that their eyes were opened and they saw their nakedness and their weaknesses and shamefulness when they acted independently from God’s Word. Then both of them they hear the Lord walking in the garden in the cool of the day so they hide from God. But the Lord was looking for them to fellowship with them. Therefore He called the man and the man answered, and God asked four questions to the fallen man in order to save him.

1- Where are you?: God had no intention to harm man or to punish him, he want him to have the best and to have life to the full. God was not expecting the answer of Adam, “**I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.**” God did not ordained it that Adam is naked. God’s plan that Adam would have a glorified body, how come now Adam is naked, or without money, or without house, or without job, or without ... , etc. Surely Adam and Eve had done something evil. So ‘Where are you,’ it mean you are in a wrong place. The pain is in the heart of God, he was in pain of what Adam would be wearing since he was naked? He is a God of concern and saying to you, “**Where are you?**”

2- Who told you that you were naked?: God did not say it; it means Adam was hearing from somebody else. Who was there around them? Satan, and they were giving a listening ear to Satan. That is what will be happening when you hear the Word of God and the precise and the correct instruction but you still prefer to adapt what people are saying and there will come the voice of Satan.

3- Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?: God is telling to Adam if you had done the thing that I said to you don’t do it then this is the consequences of your disobedience. God is confirming to Adam that the disobedience to single instruction can ruin man’s life. God when He confronted Adam His intention that Adam would repent and got restored. But man’s pride prevails and that is why blessings would be far away. Adam put it on his wife and his wife put it on Satan. The same to you, you will put it on someone else and refuse to repent then you will found yourself out of the green pasture of God.

4- What is this you have done?: God is telling them and to everyone who sins whether they are aware of the sin that they are doing. Are you aware of your disobedience and what are the dire consequences of your sinful acts? This will dictate a long term suffering and miserable life.

My Dear and Beloved: Some would say it is all about the serpent and why God should create that creature. But have you thought about man’s pride and his non willingness to listen to God’s Word and to keep His instructions? It is not Satan but man’s pride and his persistence to live independent from God’s Word and His commands. Don’t be like Adam and Eve and put the blame on one another or on someone else. This will not help you, it will keep you naked and in shame and you will be driven from God’s blessings. Do one thing please, acknowledge your sins and renounce them and come to God in repentance and you will be blessed as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I thank you for your Son the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from my sin _____. It is my fault and my shortcoming, restore me and bring me back to you, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.