

## *The Detrimental Effects of Sin*

*“<sup>1</sup> 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?’”<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,<sup>3</sup> 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.’”<sup>4</sup> “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.<sup>5</sup> “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”<sup>6</sup> 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 3:1-6)*

Nothing in life has ever increasing destructive effects more than sin. As we read Genesis chapter 3 we can observe the following detrimental effects of sin:

**1- Spiritual death:** God truly when He created man He said to Him, *“<sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden;<sup>17</sup> 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)* The warning of God was clear, the day that man will eat from the fruit of the forbidden tree he will die. Adam and his wife truly they pass from life to death as they disobeyed the LORD. They died spiritually and the evidence of that death is that their eyes were opened and they realized their nakedness, *“<sup>7</sup> 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.” (Genesis 3:7)* When you break the commandments of God your fellowship with God will be broken and you will pass into spiritual emptiness as the Holy Spirit would be grieved with your sin, *“<sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:30)* In addition to the spiritual death the following bad effects we can see in man’s life.

**2- Fear:** *“<sup>8</sup> 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.<sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?” (Genesis 2:8-9)* When you sin against God you will be full of fear because you had disobeyed God. You will be like a thief who is always afraid from the police. Sin bring fear and defeat in your life. Sin will cause you to lose your courage and go to hide.

**3- You will be in need:** When man sinned against God, he and his wife discovered their nakedness and their inadequacies before God. *“<sup>10</sup> He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”<sup>11</sup> And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” (Genesis 3:10-11)* Obedience bring satisfaction, but sin bring more needs and inadequacies. Those who live in sin are always in need because they are away from God’s presence and God’s provision in their lives. Every time you sin against God there will be a need in your life. That will be the fine of your disobedience.

*<sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”<sup>13</sup> 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 3:12-13)* Here we found another sin at work in the life of man and that was their pride that made both of them unwilling to confess their sins and acknowledged their shortcomings. But instead they started to blame others for their sins but that non repentance attitude brought more harms in form of curses in their lives.

**4- Crawling:** God cursed the serpent who got involved to entice man and caused her to crawl, *“<sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, “Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.” (Genesis 3:14)* Sin will cause you to be grounded and hardly be able to move. You may observe that when you sin against God you find yourself grounded and not able to do as you were doing before.

**5- Liable to be attacked:** God also made the serpent be liable to be attacked and harmed, *<sup>15</sup> 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.” (Genesis 3:15)* When you sin, it makes you liable to destruction and to be attacked. God also said that when Achan stole one of the devoted things: *“<sup>11</sup> Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions.<sup>12</sup> That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.” (Joshua 7:11-12)*

**6- Pain, suffering and oppression:** *<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.” (Genesis 3:16)* Sin bring suffering and pain in your life, and put you under the oppression of rules and authorities.

**7- Hard work:** *<sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life.<sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.<sup>19</sup> 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.” (Genesis 3:17-19)* Sin makes us suffer and makes you work more hard to earn your living. Sin will make the ground so hard to yield its fruit to you. Many they struggle for living, and the more they work hard the more the struggle is increasing due to sin in their lives that makes the ground cursed under them, *“<sup>23</sup> The sky over your head will be bronze, the ground beneath you iron.” (Deuteronomy 28:23)*

**8- Banished from God’s presence:** *“<sup>22</sup> 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.”<sup>23</sup> So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.<sup>24</sup> 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.” (Genesis 3:22-24)* Just imagine how much it will cause you from suffering to live without God?

**My dear and beloved:** Think twice before you sin or continue to sin, *“<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)* As you repent Jesus is there to receive you and restore you back to what God had ordained for you to be as you agree to pray. **My prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_ . Lord I need your help and grace to be restored to what you ordained to me to be. Take my hand and lead me back into your presence in Jesus name, Amen.*