



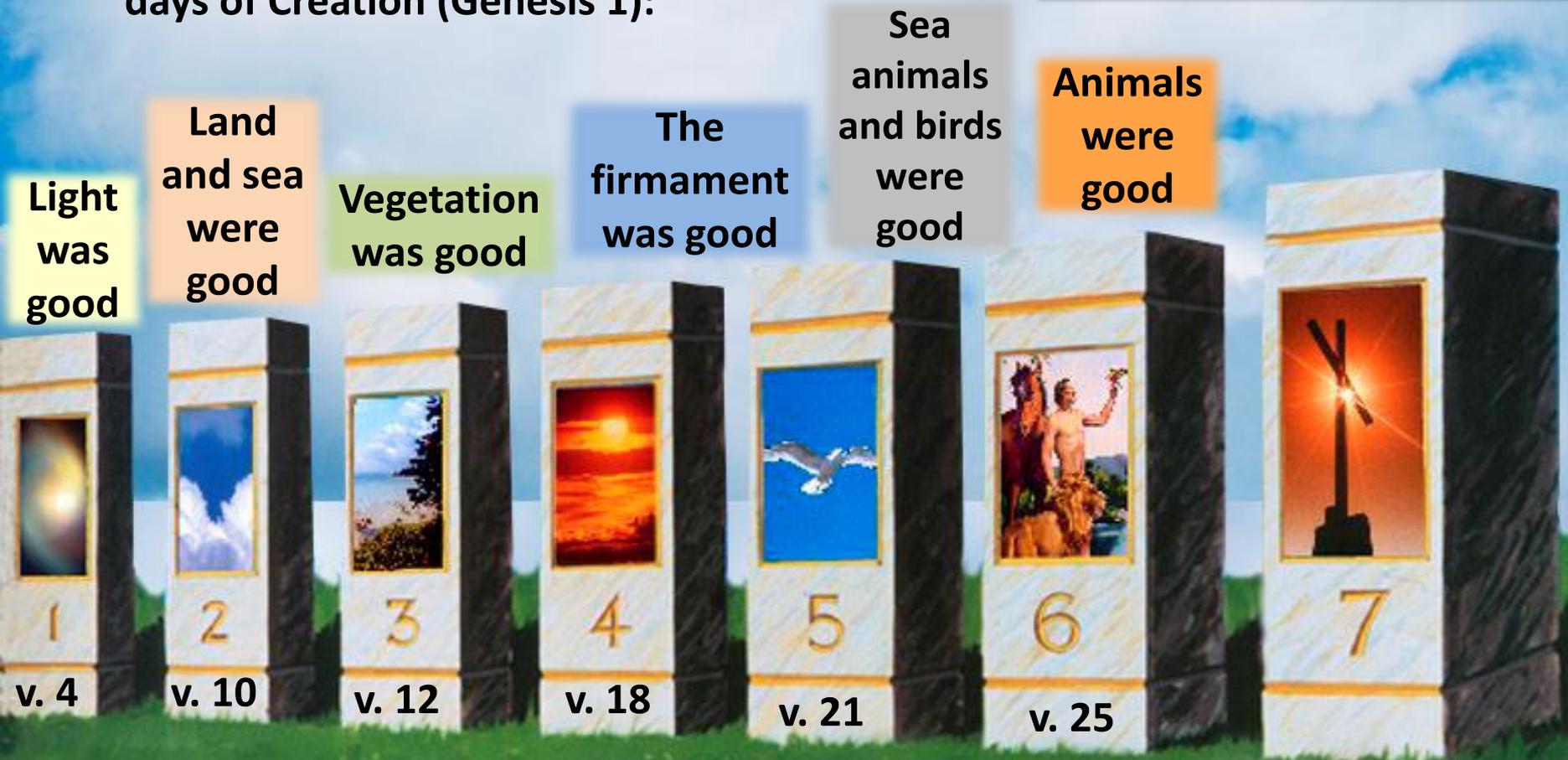
CRISIS IN EDEN

Lesson 2 for January 9, 2016

A PERFECT WORLD

God created six “good” things on the first six days of Creation (Genesis 1):

“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”
(Genesis 1:31)

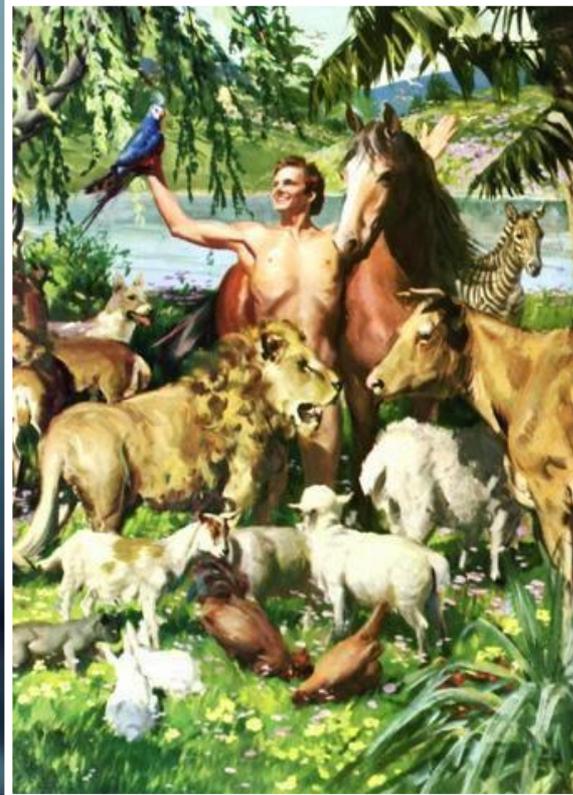


When God created Adam and Eve, Creation reached its highest level: “indeed it was very good.” (v. 31).

A PERFECT WORLD

God gave three blessing during the Creation process:

1. He blessed the sea animals and the birds; He encouraged them to fructify (1:22).
2. He blessed Adam and Eve and gave them dominion over all created things (1:28).
3. He bless the Sabbath day, so Creation and Creator could have a close relationship (2:3).



The Creator invited our first parents to be coregents with Him to uphold and care for the created realm.

All that kindness and blessing was designed for the human beings.



RESTRICTIONS

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 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.'" (Genesis 2:16-17)

God set clear restrictions during Creation. Those restrictions made Creation perfect.



Genesis 1:4

He divided the light from the darkness.



Genesis 1:12

He made vegetation according to its kind.



Genesis 2:3

He set one day aside.



Genesis 1:7

He divided the waters under the firmament from those above it.



Genesis 1:14, 18

He divided day from night.



Genesis 1:9

He divided the land and the sea.



Genesis 1:21, 25

He made living beings according to its kind.

God set a place aside for humans to live in. He also set a tree aside in Eden; they shouldn't eat its fruit. That way God made them free so they could choose their way.

E.G.W. (That I may know Him, January 8)

“Adam and Eve were permitted to partake of every tree in the Garden save one. There was only a single prohibition. The forbidden tree was as attractive and lovely as any of the trees in the Garden. It was called the tree of knowledge, because in partaking of that tree, of which God had said, ‘Thou shalt not eat of it,’ (Genesis 2:17) they would have a knowledge of sin, an experience in disobedience.”

THE FALL

"So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate." (Genesis 3:6)

How did Satan distort God's character before Eve (Genesis 3:1-5)?

- ❖ God doesn't want our welfare. Why does He prohibit to eat all these delicious fruits?
- ❖ God is a liar. You won't die.
- ❖ God is selfish, He doesn't want you to be like Him. If you eat from this fruit, you'll be like Him.



Eve and Adam accepted that distorted image of God's character. Their eyes were opened. They knew evil. They saw themselves naked. They got away from their Creator.

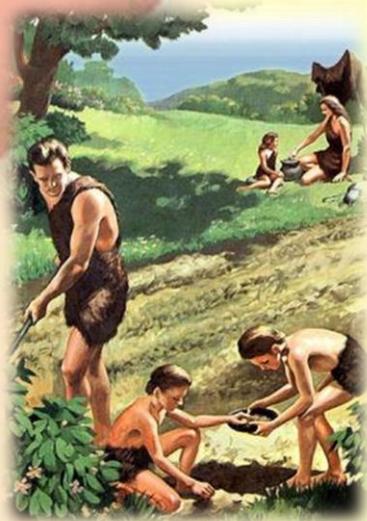


“Our first parents chose to believe the words, as they thought, of a serpent; yet he had given them no tokens of his love. He had done nothing for their happiness and benefit, while God had given them everything that was good for food and pleasant to the sight. Everywhere the eye might rest was abundance and beauty; yet Eve was deceived by the serpent, to think that there was something withheld which would make them wise, even as God. Instead of believing and confiding in God, she basely distrusted His goodness and cherished the words of Satan.

After Adam’s transgression he at first imagined that he felt the rising to a new and higher existence. But soon the thought of his transgression terrified him... Satan exulted in his success.”

THE CONSEQUENCES

“In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3:19)



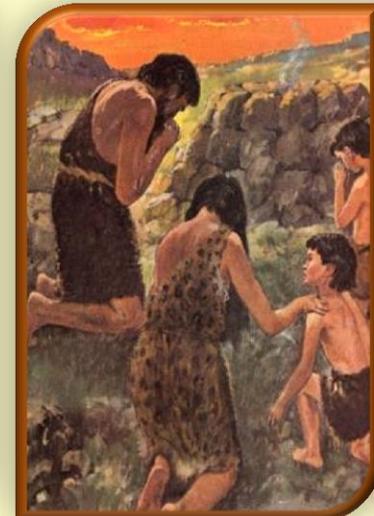
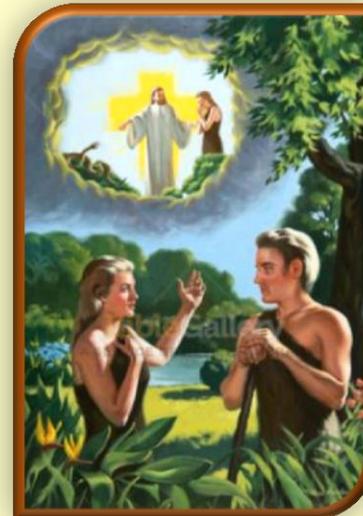
Sin began to bloom just after the fall, in Genesis 3. The human couple lost their purity and began to excuse themselves and to blame one another: “She gave me of the tree”; “The serpent deceived me” (v. 12-13).



Their relationship with God changed (v. 10). Their relationships with one another changed (v. 16). Their relationship with nature changed (v. 18).

They couldn't restore their broken relationships or repair their sin.

Nevertheless, there were good news. God promised a Redeemer who would spill his own blood for their sake (v. 15). He also taught them to sacrifice an animal as an example of that Redeemer, and He dressed them with its skin (v. 21).



«Nothing can man devise to supply the place of his lost robe of innocence. No fig-leaf garment, no worldly citizen dress, can be worn by those who sit down with Christ and angels at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Only the covering which Christ Himself has provided can make us meet to appear in God's presence. This covering, the robe of His own righteousness, Christ will put upon every repenting, believing soul...

This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us.”

E.G.W. (Christ's Object Lessons, cp. 24, pg. 311)