

GENESIS

Lesson 2 – Man Sins – Genesis 3-11

NEAR THE BEGINNING, MAN... - GENESIS 3:1-7

- Last week, we learned that in the beginning, God created. God did not have a beginning, but mankind did. Mankind was created good and without sin into a world that was good and without sin.
- However, sometime near the beginning, mankind sinned. In fact, the very first people God created sinned. There are a few important truths we must understand about those first people and their first sins.

1. **God gave man responsibility, restrictions, and defined relationships** even in the garden. - Gen. 2:15-25
2. **Temptation to sin came from Satan.** - Gen. 3:1-5
 - Some would accuse God of tempting man to sin by even creating a “forbidden fruit.” God did not authorize their temptation. He had simply given them a way to understand their own finite nature (they were not God), and He had provided them a way to demonstrate submission, love and obedience.
3. **Mankind chose** to believe a lie and acted upon it in sin. - Gen. 3:1-5
 - Satan tempted man to sin by trying to place doubt in God.
 - a. Doubt in God’s goodness - 3:1
 - b. Doubt in God’s word and truthfulness - 3:4
 - c. Doubt in God’s intentions and plans - 3:5

*Personal/Family Note: Think or discuss how Satan and the sin in our nature cause us to doubt these same things today. Give a specific circumstance or example: _____

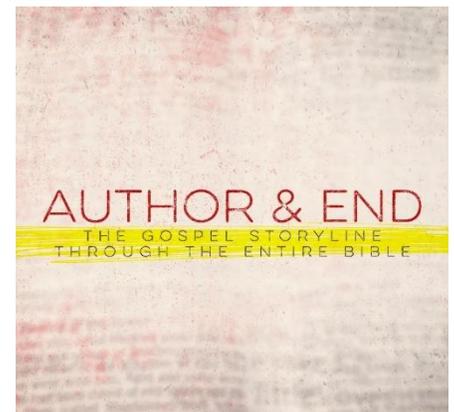
*Think about it: Satan created a feeling in Adam and Eve that they were being bound and that God was withholding some form of joy from them by giving them responsibility, restriction, and a defined relationship with Him (Creator/creation). How and where do you see this same lie being promoted today? _____

4. As it always has, sin proved to overpromise and under-satisfy. It brought shame, vulnerability, and brokenness on every level. - Gen. 3:6-7

MERCY IN JUDGMENT – GENESIS 3:8-24

Even from the first mention of God’s judgment toward man’s sin, we find mercy. God promised death because of sin. Adam and Eve could have experienced the immediate consequence of treason against the Creator. Instead...

1. They heard God’s voice - 3:8
2. God came into their presence - 3:8
3. God called to them specifically - 3:9
4. God brought them to an understanding of their sin - 3:9-13
5. God kept His promises and made a new one - 3:14-21
 - a. They would die.
 - b. A Savior would come
6. Physical death becomes a merciful end to a sin filled life. God would not make us live in brokenness forever. - 3:22-24



MAN SINNED AGAIN, AND KEPT SINNING - GENESIS 4-11

1. Adam and **Eve sinned because of what they thought**. Excuse not accepted. - Gen. 3
2. **Cain sinned because of how he felt** (about his sin and insufficiency). Excuse not accepted. - Gen. 4:1-15
3. Lamech **sinned because someone harmed him**. Excuse not accepted. - Gen. 4:23-24
4. All of mankind kept **sinning because they obeyed their sinful hearts**. Excuse not accepted - Gen. 6:5
5. Noah's descendants replenished the earth, but they continued to sin. They wanted to build to "reach unto heaven." They decided to settle in one place in the earth saying, "...lest we be scattered abroad on the face of the earth." (which is exactly what God had told them to do) **They sinned because they thought they understood what was best for themselves**. Excuse not accepted. - Gen. 11:1-9

*Personal/Family Note: Notice the phrases marked in bold print above. Do you ever find yourself sinning for these same reasons? Explain. _____

GOD SHOWED MERCY EVEN IN RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT - GENESIS 3-11

1. **God would not allow mankind to live in sin forever**. He kept His promise of physical death, but He made a new promise with the opportunity for eternal life. - Gen. 3
2. God showed mercy in marking Cain. **God established Himself as the judge of Cain's sin, not mankind**. - Gen. 4
3. God gave Adam and Eve another son even though their sin had destroyed Cain and Abel. - Gen. 4:25-26
4. God extended mercy to Noah. God used Noah's actions and obedience to build an ark that God would use to save the human race. (A picture of **how God used mankind, the nation of Israel and line of David, to provide an ark of salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ**.) - Gen. 6
5. After the flood, **God gave mankind the same responsibility to multiply and have dominion on the earth**. He promised not to destroy all creatures with a flood again. - Gen. 9
6. Rather than destroy mankind for their continued rebellion, He judged them in a way that **contributed to their fulfilling of His will in the first place**. He spread them across the earth. - Gen. 11

Salvation Through Judgment

Describe a way that you have seen the mercy of God in spite of your own sin...

Describe a way that God has used temporary judgment or chastening in your life to bring you to Him... _____

We are humans. We are sinners. We keep sinning. God is perfect. God is merciful even though we keep sinning. Describe what this truth does in your heart. _____

JUDGMENT	THE EVENT	THE MEANS	SALVATION
The Wicked	<i>The Flood (Gen. 6:9)</i>	<i>Floodwater</i>	Noah and His Family
The Egyptians	<i>The Exodus (Ex. 1-15)</i>	<i>The Plagues and the Red Sea</i>	The Israelites
Judah and Jerusalem	<i>The Exile (2 Chron. 36)</i>	<i>The Babylonians</i>	The Remnant
Sinners/ Jesus Christ	<i>The Cross (Rom. 5)</i>	<i>God's Wrath and Our Substitute</i>	Believers in Christ
God's Enemies	<i>The Final Judgment (2 Thess. 1)</i>	<i>God's Wrath and Hell</i>	God's People