

Lesson III.

MAN'S FIRST SIN

January 19, 1913

Genesis 3 : 1-12, 22-24. Study Genesis, ch. 3—Memory Verses, 22, 23.

Golden Text—Every one that committeth sin is the bondservant of sin.—John 8 : 34.

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the servant, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden :

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die :

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her ; and he did eat.

7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked ; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day : and Ad'am and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the Lord God called unto Ad'am, and said unto him, Where art thou ?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the gardens, and I was afraid, because I was naked ; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest

to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil : and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever :

23 Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of E'den to till the ground from whence he was taken.

24 So he drove out the man ; and he placed at the east of the garden of E'den Cher'ubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Adam and Eve were very happy in the beautiful garden which God had made for them, and every evening when the sun had set and it began to grow dark and cool God came to the garden and walked and talked with them.

But one day Eve was alone in the garden, and she came near the tree the fruit of which God had warned them not to eat. Beside the tree was a serpent, which had come into the garden to try to tempt the man and the woman to do wrong. "Why do you not eat some of the fruit of this beautiful tree?" he asked. "We may eat the fruit of every other tree in the garden," Eve replied, "but God has forbidden us to eat of this one, and if we do we shall surely die."

The serpent told her this was not true. "You shall not die," he said. "The fruit of the tree will only make you wise, so that you will be able to distinguish between good and

evil." Then Eve looked at the fruit, and it seemed so good that she thought what the serpent said must be true. At last she put out her hand and picked some of it and ate it, and then she gave some to Adam and he also ate it.

But very soon the sun set, and the time came for God to walk with Adam and Eve in the garden. But they were afraid to meet God now, for they knew they had done wrong; so they hid themselves among the trees. But God, who sees and knows all things, called to Adam and said, "Have you eaten the fruit of the tree which I commanded you not to eat?" Adam began to make excuses. "The woman whom Thou gavest to be with me," he said, "gave me the fruit, and so I ate it." And Eve said, "The serpent told me the fruit was good, and so I ate it."

God was very angry at this and said to the serpent, "Because thou hast done this, thou