

## **FLESH AND FAITH : AND THEIR ENERGIES FROM THE FIRST.**

(GEN. III, IV, V.)

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These are very important chapters. They shew us the production of the two great energies which, to this day, animate the whole moral scene around us ; and also shew us these two energies doing their several businesses then, as they are doing still.

They are remarkable chapters ; wonderful in exhibiting so much various moral action so distinctly and yet so concisely, leaving, I may say, nothing unnoticed, and yet in so short a space.

I would notice the production of these two great energies and their workings, the energy of flesh and the energy of faith, i. e., of the old nature and of the renewed mind.

The lie of the Serpent prevails to produce the first of these.

The Serpent gains the attention of the woman to words in which there was some suggestion injurious to her Lord and Creator. It was a lie, though subtly conveyed ; the only instrument by which he could reach and tempt her. She listens and answers—and her faculties thus enlisted are soon in action in the cause of her seducer, and she falls.

The principle which is called the “flesh,” or “old man,” is produced at once, and at once begins to work. Confidence in one another is im-