

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011  
Speaker: Stephen Whitmore  
Reading: Genesis 3:1-5  
Subject: Hath God said?

A challenge of Satan that comes down through the centuries is, Hath God said? The devil will continue to question us with the same thing.

1.

God gave man the commandment, the devil spoke to the woman. God held man responsible, “As by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin” (Rom 5:12). “Shall not the judge of all the earth do right” (Gen 18:25).

Satan will question if God is unjust in His judgements. God is not unjust in his judgement. He gave judgement against Sodom and Gomorrah for they did not heed the warning (Gen 18).

2.

The woman says it is the tree in the midst, God had said (Gen 2) the tree of life, the woman says (Gen 3) the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The woman's affections were wrong.

“Set before you this day life and death, .. choose life” (Deut. 30:19)

The desire of God is that people would have life. “I am come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly”. (John 10:10).

God set life before the people but the woman wanted something else.

As a result mankind was brought into bondage. “There is a way that seemeth right unto a man but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Pr 14:12), “In the beginning God..”(Gen 1:1), “God spake and it was done”(Ps 33:6) “By faith we understand...”(Heb 11:3). Creation and also the course of history is controlled by God.

Man and woman must one day stand before God. Either in the life that the Lord Jesus gives or in the condemnation that the devil gave.

The head of the list of those outside heaven (Rev 21:8) are the fearful, they are more afraid of what people will say than what will happen as they stand before God.

If you refuse the offer of mercy available in the Lord Jesus Christ there is no other way God can forgive sin.

3.

God never said not to touch the tree, the woman adds that on.

We could put our life against the 10 commandments (Ex 20). Paul the great apostle could go through 9 until he came to the 10<sup>th</sup>.

“man looketh on outward appearance but the Lord looketh on the heart” (1 Sam 16:7). God knows every thought of the heart.

People had twisted the commandments to suit themselves. In the incident of the man with the withered hand – the Lord healed on the sabbath – the people didn't like it, it suited them to say you couldn't heal on sabbath day (Mark 3).

God's word is sure- when we stand before Him He will judge according to all He has said.

4.

The woman said “**Lest ye die**”, God had said “**surely die**”.

The judgment of God is certain.

“**All have sinned...**”(Rom 3:23).

“**All world guilty before God**”(Rom 3:19).

By the word of God we stand condemned.

“**Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation..he that believeth shall not make haste (be ashamed)**”(Isa 28:16). 1 Pet 2 – this was about the Lord Jesus Christ.

God sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ to lay the foundation on which our life could be built. That was the only righteous way God could save the sinner.

“**While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us**”(Rom 5:8).

Everyone who believes in Him is saved without any doubt. Everything we can do is to be swept away. (Isa 28:17).

“**Look unto me and be ye saved, all ye ends of the earth**”(Isa 45:22).

If you put your trust in Him you will be saved.

“**I have sworn...**” (Isa 45:23)

“**At the name of Jesus...**”(Phil 2:10,11).

John 5:24

“**If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved..**”(Rom 10:9).