



## God's Provision and Judgment; The Birth of Cain and Abel

### LESSON PREPARATION

This section is for you, the teacher.

The passages in the Scripture Reference column are for your own study in preparing for this lesson. Since they may contain concepts that run ahead of the lesson, they are not to be taught at this point.

**Note: If you have not taught previously from this series of lessons, please read carefully the note to teachers in the front of this book.**

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 3:21-24; 4:1, 2

### LESSON GOALS:

- To show that God knows everything and will punish all sin.
- To show that man cannot save himself from sin.
- To show that only God can make man acceptable in His sight.
- To show that the sin of Adam has been passed on to all men.

### THIS LESSON SHOULD HELP THE STUDENTS:

- To realize that they are sinners.
- To realize that no one can "get away with" sin.
- To realize that there is nothing they can do to make themselves acceptable to God.

### PERSPECTIVE FOR THE TEACHER:

This lesson introduces some basic principles that much of our society has chosen to blur or even totally reject. Sadly, among those who reject these truths are many so-called Christian groups who have chosen, as Paul said, "*another gospel*" (Galatians 1:6).

First of all, the Word is very clear in stating that God killed animals in order to make acceptable coverings for Adam and Eve. Although the blood of animals could never pay for sin, from this time until the death of Christ, God accepted the blood of animals as a type, or picture, of the punishment that all sin deserves. Romans 6:23 says, "*For the wages of sin is death...*" Hebrews 9:22 says, "*...without shedding of blood is no remission.*"

Secondly, the Word shows us that man cannot come to God on man's terms; man must come to God in the way that God has provided as His acceptable way. Adam and Eve's clothing of leaves was not acceptable to God; neither is anything that we might do to try to make ourselves acceptable to God.

Refusal or distortion of these two principles has given rise to many false religions. How tempted man is to follow a religion that overlooks the heavy penalty for sin! How tempted man is to try to find his own way to take care of his sin problem! How deceitful sin is! How deceitful man's heart is! And how deceitful the Enemy is!

If Satan can get us to "feel religious" and still miss the truth of God's Word, he has subtly cut us off from God and from eternal life. As long as a man feels adequately religious, he is not going to seek to know more about God. John 9:41

### OVERVIEW

This passage of Scripture emphasizes God's holiness and His grace. Here we see the first blood sacrifice for sin and God's gracious act of clothing Adam and Eve. God is establishing the fact of man's helplessness to save himself and providing an analogy regarding the coming Deliverer.

Some points:

- The clothing Adam and Eve had made for themselves was not acceptable to God.
- God made clothing of skins for them.
- God put Adam and Eve out of the garden and guarded the entrance so they could never return.
- God is the giver of all life.
- Cain and Abel were born outside of the garden; they were born sinners.
- All Adam's descendants were and are born sinners, separated from God



records Jesus' words to the Pharisees: "...If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth."

This is the story of the first blood sacrifice for sin, and it shows us that God will accept only those who come to Him in the way He prescribes.

Many religious groups would call this teaching "narrow." Jesus did, too! Matthew 7:13,14 quotes His words: "Enter ye in at the strait [narrow] gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait [narrow] is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

May we be faithful to help the children to see and to choose the narrow way! The truths in this lesson are an essential part of the foundation upon which the rest of the truths of that narrow way can be firmly established.

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## VISUALS:

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- Chronological Picture No. 6, "Fig Leaf Coverings"
- Chronological Picture No. 7, "Adam and Eve Driven from the Garden"
- Chronological Chart
- Poster 1, "Learning About God" — Use this to emphasize themes.
- Poster 8, "Adam and all his descendants are sinners"
- Poster 4, "God and Man"
- Visual "Separation between Adam and all Adam's descendants, and God"

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## SPECIAL PREPARATION:

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- Make copies for your class of the **Lesson 12 Review Sheet** and **Skit 12** (at the end of this lesson). Provide pencils for the children.
- Photocopy **visual** (at end of lesson) — use as small poster or for overhead transparency.
- Prepare for any activity you select from the **Suggestions for Activities** (at the end of this lesson). As you select activities, remember to allow sufficient time to teach the outlined lesson material.

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## ON TEACHING THIS LESSON:

You are carefully laying a scriptural foundation on which the Gospel will later be presented. Each lesson builds on previous lessons, so be sure to cover each point carefully.

### DON'T COMPLICATE THE MESSAGE!

As you teach, keep in mind that this is a directed study — not an exhaustive survey of the Bible. Keep your lesson on track and moving ahead by limiting and directing any discussion.

**Carefully follow the outline. Emphasize the doctrinal themes.**

LESSON FORMAT: The **center column** below contains the lesson material to be taught to the students. The **bold outline headings** are only for reference and need not be spoken, as they are incorporated into the outlined material that follows. The material in the **side columns** is for the teacher's own reference and is not intended to be included in the lesson.

## TO BE TAUGHT TO THE STUDENTS (Center Column Only)

### LESSON OUTLINE:

REVIEW Lesson 11, using Lesson 12 Review Sheet.

PERFORM Skit 12. Note: "Uncle Don's" part should be read by an adult.

#### A. Introduction

Do you want to understand why things happen as they do in this world?

Study the Bible!

The things recorded in Genesis 3 affected **all** mankind — every person who has ever lived — including you and me.

God cares about us and wants us to know Him.

So let's open our Bibles again and continue to study Genesis 3.

#### B. God refused the clothing which Adam and Eve had made.



**Theme: Man is a sinner. He needs God and is helpless to save himself.**



**Theme: Man can come to God only according to God's will and plan.**



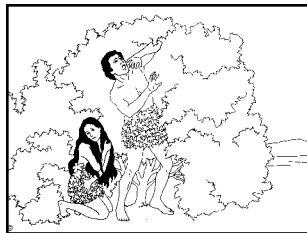
READ Genesis 3:21.

Let's read again what Adam and Eve had done to try to cover their nakedness.



READ Genesis 3:7.

*Suggested Visual:*



CHRONOLOGICAL PICTURE NO. 6.  
"FIG LEAF COVERINGS."

- They made themselves coverings of leaves.
- Because they had disobeyed God, they were embarrassed to have God see them naked.

But God refused to accept the clothes which Adam and Eve had made.

- Why?

Isaiah  
64:6Ephesians  
2:8, 9

He wanted to teach them that they couldn't do **anything** to make themselves acceptable to God.

God will not accept anything that is done according to man's ideas.

God only accepts whatever is done according to His way.

No one can do anything to make himself acceptable to God.

POINT TO POSTER, "GOD AND MAN."


People today still do many things to try to make themselves acceptable to God; they try to "cover" for their sins, just as Adam and Eve did.

— Example:

*Some people think that if they go to church or do a lot of good deeds, it will help to make up for the wrongs they have done.*

*You can probably think of lots of other examples of this kind of "do-it-yourself" covering for sin. God sees right through it, and it is completely unacceptable to Him.*

### C. God killed animals.

 **Theme: God is holy and righteous. He demands death as the payment for sin.**

The first death in the world was brought about by sin.

— God killed animals.


The animals' blood was shed.

God then took the skins off the animals.

— Adam and Eve did not do this; God killed the animals, and He took the skins off.

— God was reminding Adam and Eve that disobedience to Him brought death into the world.<sup>1</sup>

### D. God provided clothing for Adam and Eve.

 **Theme: God is loving, merciful, and gracious.**

Why did God kill the animals?

To provide clothing for guilty Adam and Eve.

— God provided them with clothing made from the skins of the animals which He had killed.

— God did this for Adam and Eve, even though they did not deserve it.

Only God could supply them with clothing which would make them acceptable to Him.

### E. God put coats of skin on Adam and Eve.

God put coats of skin on Adam and Eve.

— He didn't just give them clothing and tell them to put it on.

— God put the clothing, which He made, on Adam and Eve.

<sup>1</sup> Here God is preparing a redemptive analogy of the truth presented in Isaiah 61:10, "...he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...." Later, we will draw on this analogy to reveal the truth of substitution and the covering of the righteousness of Christ received through faith. Do not apply this truth to your students yet by telling them the Gospel. Just make it clear that God would not accept what Adam and Eve had made but that God provided them with clothing, and that what we do outwardly cannot make us pleasing to God. This is all you need to say at this point. You are laying foundations and establishing spiritual principles. Later on, when teaching the Gospel, you will point back to this illustration. □

## F. God put Adam and Eve out of the garden, away from the tree of life.



**Theme: God is holy and righteous. He demands death as the payment for sin.**



READ Genesis 3:22,23.

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit said this.

They were talking about Adam and Eve.

- When God first made Adam and Eve, they didn't know anything evil or bad.
- They only knew what was good.
  - Everything God made and gave to them was good.
  - Everything God told them to do was good.
- But when they disobeyed God their Creator, they found that not everything was good. <sup>2</sup>

Satan had deceived Eve so she thought the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil would be good for food.

But as soon as Adam and Eve ate that fruit:

- They were ashamed and afraid.
- Now they knew that not everything was good but that some things were evil.

Adam and Eve should have trusted God.

- God knew what was good and what was evil.
- Adam and Eve should have trusted Him to tell them instead of finding out for themselves.

God had given them every good thing to eat — He had even offered to them the opportunity to eat from the tree of life.

But they had **chosen to disobey God** and to eat, instead, from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil — the one tree from which God had forbidden them to eat.

Now, because they had disobeyed God, **He would not allow them to eat of the tree of life.**

- Consider:

*Genesis 3:22 says that the reason God put them out of the garden was so that they would not eat of the tree of life and live forever.*

*This was actually an act of God's mercy.*

*God did not want men to physically live forever as sinners. (Can you imagine what the world would be like if all the evil men that ever lived were still alive now?)*

Because they were separated from God, they would also have to die physically.

Therefore God put Adam and Eve, the father and mother of us all, out of the garden, away from the tree of life.



**Theme: God is greater than all and more important than all; He is the highest authority.**

<sup>2</sup> Someone may ask, "If God created everything perfect, how could anything be bad?" You might remind them that Satan had chosen to disobey God. He became evil. □

— Compare:

*When Satan sinned, God put him out of his wonderful position in Heaven. Now, because of God's hatred for sin, He also put Adam and Eve out of the garden.*

God doesn't ask anyone what He should do; He is the supreme One in the whole universe.

— No one can fight against God and win.

— We cannot trick or deceive God.

He hates disobedience to His commands and will not allow any disobedient person to live with Him.

### G. God put cherubim and a flaming sword to guard the way to the tree of life.

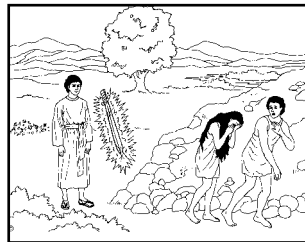


**Theme: Man is a sinner. He needs God and is helpless to save himself.**



READ Genesis 3:24.

*Suggested Visual:*



CHRONOLOGICAL PICTURE NO. 7,  
"ADAM AND EVE DRIVEN FROM THE  
GARDEN"

At the east of the garden of Eden, God put some of His good angels called cherubim and a sword of fire which turned every way to make sure that Adam and Eve could not return and eat the fruit from the tree of life.

— If they had tried to go back, the good angels of God would have seen them, and Adam and Eve would have been killed by the sword of fire.

— There was nothing they could do. <sup>3</sup>

— When God put them out of the garden, that was the end.

— There was absolutely no way they could get back to the tree of life.

They would now grow old and die.

### H. God is the giver of life.



**Theme: God is greater than all and more important than all; He is the highest authority.**



READ Genesis 4:1.

Eve said this because she knew that God is the giver of all life.

— God made Adam from the dust of the ground and breathed into him to give him life.

<sup>3</sup> When teaching that man was put out of the garden, we must stress that there was no way back. Through the teaching of God's Word, we are laying the foundations for our students to realize that, if God doesn't make a way back to Him, they are destined for eternal punishment. □

Scripture  
References

Psalm  
100:3

Acts  
17:25

- God made Eve from Adam's rib.
- Every person is given life by God.
- Your life was given to you by God.
- Psalm 100:3 says, "Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves...."

CHRONOLOGICAL CHART: Point to the names "Cain and Abel."

**I. Cain and Abel were both born outside of the garden.**



**Theme: Man is a sinner. He needs God and is helpless to save himself.**



READ Genesis 4:2.

Because Adam and Eve had sinned against God, they were put outside of the garden, away from the tree of life.

- Cain and Abel were born outside of the garden, away from the tree of life, because Adam, their father, was outside of the garden.
- Cain and Abel were born sinners because their father, Adam, was a sinner.

Had Adam not sinned, Cain and Abel would have been born with the ability to know, love and obey God. Instead, they were born under Satan's control.

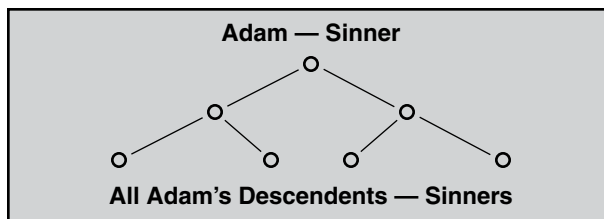
Not only was Adam the father of Cain and Abel, but he was also the father of the whole human race.

- Adam was your forefather.
- He was my forefather.
- He was everyone's forefather.

Romans  
5:12

Therefore, because Adam disobeyed God and was separated from Him, all people in this world are born sinners, cut off from God and with Satan as their ruler.

SHOW POSTER, "ADAM — SINNER."



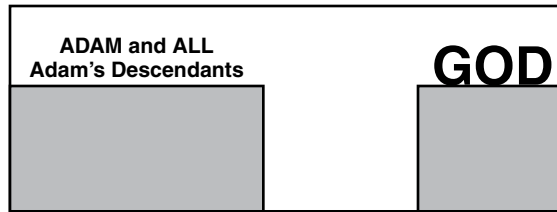
- Explain:

*We do not like to think of being born with a disposition to sin. But think for a moment about the little children you know — do you have a little brother or sister? Do they always obey? Do you always obey? No. Children are not born with a nature to obey; they must be taught. Have you ever heard a baby learn to say yes before he learned to say no? Have you ever seen a little child who wanted to do everything that his parents asked him to do, just when his parents asked him to do it? No.*

*We are, in many ways, a product of our parents, and of their parents, and of their parents' parents, and so on, all the way back to Adam. We have inherited many things, like the color of our eyes and hair, and we have learned a lot about how to behave from our parents. But we have also inherited the nature to sin. We are the product of sinners; and the line of sin can be traced through every generation right back to Adam, the father of the human race.*

God is the One who gives life to all people, but we are not born in friendship or oneness with God.

*Suggested Visual:*



- Satan has taken God's place as our spiritual father.

What does this mean?

It means that we, too, just like Cain and Abel, were born unable to know, love, and obey God.

From birth we are under Satan's control.

- It is important that we realize we were born sinners.
- We were born separated from God, with Satan as our ruler, just as every other human being is born separated from God.

We must also remember that, even though we are born sinners, it is God who has given us life.

- All life comes from God.
- All life is owned by God.
- He created everyone and everything.
- Contrast:

*Some people like to think that we are "all God's children." That sounds good, doesn't it! But that's not what the Bible says.*

*The Bible tells us that God created us. But Adam's sin put all men into Satan's family. So we are not born "God's children," but under Satan's dominion, cut off from God.*

## J. Conclusion

What we are reading from the Bible is true history.

- Adam and Eve were real people, and we are their descendants.
- God mentions their story and their names even in the New Testament.
- Adam and Eve's sin affected all of us.

God has written these things for us so we can know Him.

I Chroni-  
cles  
29:11  
Job  
41:11  
Psalm  
24:1



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## QUESTIONS:

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1. Why did God refuse the clothes which Adam and Eve made? *Because God wanted to teach Adam and Eve that they couldn't do anything to make themselves acceptable to God.*
2. Can a person make himself acceptable to God by anything that he does? *No.*
3. What are some of the things you can think of that men do to try to make themselves acceptable to God?
4. Will God accept any of these things? *No.*
5. Who is the only One who could make Adam and Eve acceptable to God? *God.*
6. Why did God kill animals to make clothing for Adam and Eve? *Because God was reminding Adam and Eve that the punishment for sin is death.*
7. Why did God make them clothes? *Because, even though they had sinned, He still loved them, and He wanted to show them that He was the only One who could make them acceptable to Him.*
8. In what way did Adam and Eve become like God after they ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? *They now knew that there was evil as well as good.*
9. Why did God put Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden? *So that they wouldn't be able to eat the fruit from the tree of life and live forever in sin.*
10. How did God make sure they wouldn't be able to return? *He placed angels called cherubim and a sword of fire flashing every direction to keep them away.*
11. Can anyone trick or deceive God? *No.*
12. Who gives every person his life? *God.*
13. Where were Cain and Abel born? *Outside of the garden of Eden.*
14. Why were Cain and Abel born sinners and separated from God? *Because of their father, Adam.*
15. Why were we all born sinners and separated from God? *Because Adam is also our father.*