

Step By Step Through The Bible With Children

**"All thy children shall be taught of the LORD;
and great shall be the peace of thy children."
(Isaiah 54:13)**

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LESSON 5 -

CREATION OF MAN

Who can tell us where the book of Genesis is found?

Yes, it is the first book in the Bible.

About what does it tell us? "The beginning of all things."

It tells us how GOD, the great Life Giver, gave life to the trees and flowers; to the fish of the sea, and the fowl of the air; and to all of the animals and creeping things of the field.

After all the creatures of the earth were made, GOD said: **"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over"** all the creatures of the earth. So GOD took the dust of the ground and formed man's body.

Then GOD did a wonderful thing. He **"breathed into his nostrils (or nose) the breath of life; and man became a living soul."** He was different and far more beautiful than the other creatures, because he was made in the image and likeness of the living GOD.

Some of you children are the very image of your mother or father. You aren't just like them for you are much smaller, and you do not have their wisdom, or their strength, but you were born in their likeness.

Adam, the first man, was not just like GOD, but he was made in His image and likeness. He was created pure and innocent, and he had a life very different from the life which you and I have. It was no doubt a beautiful glorylife within, which shone out through his body, making a raiment, or covering of glory, which fitted him for the presence of GOD.

Perhaps if we look at this electric light bulb we may better understand how Adam's body was clothed without with the glory of the life that was within. Can you children see the naked, black

wire inside of this bulb? (Have an extension cord and use a CLEAR glass bulb, if possible.)

This bulb is of no use this way, it was made for something better. It was made to dispel darkness, and to glorify dark and gloomy places. Now we will turn on the electric power, for this bulb was made for power. We no longer see the naked black wire, because the power floods the wire and glorifies it.

Although GOD saw that the earth which He had made was "**very good**" it seemed not good enough for Adam who was made to be lord and master of the earth, so "**God planted a garden eastward in Eden: and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food: the tree of life also in the midst of the garden** (set up a bright colored tree) **and the tree of knowledge of good and evil** (set up another with large black spots, representing evil)"" (Genesis 2:8, 9). (Explain as follows, as you hold a figure of Adam in your hand. (your figure of Adam can be placed in front of the sun you created earlier, to show forth the light that covered him - and then after his fall, you take him away from the sun background - to show that he had fallen into darkness).

To all of the lower creatures of earth GOD also gave beautiful coverings, which grew from inside out. To the fish He gave scales and fins, to the birds soft downy feathers, to the animals coats of fur, but to Adam and Eve He gave His own likeness, then gave them dominion, or rule over all the creatures of earth.

"The LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it (set figure on board). **And the Lord GOD commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die"** (vv. 15-17).

And GOD took a rib from Adam's side and made a woman and brought her to him (set up figure) to be his wife. And Adam said, . . . "**She shall be called woman**" (v. 23).

"So God created man in his own image . . . male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27). This is GOD's own true story of how He created man. We also have man's story, and even lessons in our school books that tell us that man came from animals of lower life, even from a monkey.

You children should always remember that GOD, who cannot lie, has told us that man was made in His image, but sin spoiled man and made him unlike GOD.

GOD made Adam and Eve to rule the earth, but He wanted to rule their hearts. To prove whether or not they wished Him to rule their hearts, He tested them.

He told them they could eat freely of all the trees in the garden, **"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil."** He said, **"thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die"** (Genesis 2:17).

The tree of life of which they could eat freely and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil

stood for two masters, this one (right) false, this one (left) true (continue to point as you speak of each). In this one there was no light, in this one no darkness. This one is the father of lies, this one cannot lie. This one is mighty, this one is Almighty. This one is the author of death, this one the giver of life. This one stands for Satan; this one stands for GOD. Adam and Eve had to choose between Satan and GOD just as every boy and girl today must choose.

GOD's law and warning of death was for their good and given to help them to choose the right way. That is what all of GOD's laws (and all other good laws) are for - to warn people of wrong and danger and help them to do right.

GOD talked to them first, then He allowed Satan, the devil, to speak to Eve. Because Satan is a coward, he came to Eve when she was alone and spoke to her as a serpent, or through the lips of a serpent, which no doubt, was the most beautiful of all earth's creatures.

He was not then a creeping, crawling serpent, or snake, but came to her as an angel of light (II Corinthians 11:13-15) and said, "**Yea, hath GOD said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?**" (Genesis 3:1). In this way he caused Eve to doubt the goodness of GOD and also His truthfulness.

Eve told him that GOD said, "**Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die,**" which meant they might die if they touched the tree or ate of it. You see, she added something to GOD's word when she said, "**neither shall ye touch it.**" GOD did not tell them not to touch it. She also misquoted Him, when she said "**lest ye die**" which means, you might die. What GOD said, was, "**thou shalt surely die.**"

Satan then said to her, "**Ye shall not surely die. 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**" (Genesis 3:4, 5).

Eve was already like the true GOD, and He wanted her never to know about evil. But Satan wanted her to obey him and become like him, knowing evil, but without power to keep from doing evil, and knowing good without power to do good.

Eve listened to the temptation from Satan to disobey GOD, which was wrong. She then looked upon the forbidden tree with a desire to take the fruit, which was also wrong. When we listen to and look upon that which is wrong, the way is made easy to do wrong. And that is what caused Eve to disobey GOD, after which she helped Adam to do wrong.

Adam and Eve did not have to obey Satan. They had free wills, just as you children have. That means wills of their own with which they could choose to obey, or disobey, and the law and warning of death was given to help them to obey GOD.

They set their wills against GOD's will and disobeyed His law which warned them not to eat of the tree of good and evil. Their glory-life died immediately and they became unlike GOD because they disobeyed His law.

No one is to blame because he is born in sin and unlike GOD, but he is to blame if he remains in

sin and continues to be unlike GOD.

You and I were born without GOD's likeness and we have to choose just as Adam and Eve had to choose between eternal life (JESUS) and eternal death. It was very easy for Adam and Eve to lose eternal life, and it is very easy for us to gain it.

It is GOD's gift to all who believe in JESUS and will receive Him into their hearts. You see our wills have to do with our likeness and image to GOD. We may say I will receive JESUS into my heart, or I will not receive JESUS into my heart.

Boys and girls, it is very easy to receive a gift, isn't it? Some one else pays for it, then they give it to you and all you have to do is to receive the gift and say, "thank you."

Is there one here who knows that he or she is unlike GOD? One who knows that his or her thoughts, and deeds are wrong for Heaven, but who would like to have JESUS' life which fits sinners for Heaven? Yes, I see several who wish to receive GOD's gift of eternal life.

You may bow your heads and those who raised their hands may repeat after me these words: "I believe that JESUS died for me." (Let the children repeat this phrase - repeat it again to children if necessary, for sometimes they do not understand just what they are to do.) And I take eternal life as a gift and thank Thee, dear Heavenly Father (repeat). Amen."

Sing: "Into My Heart."

Lesson: Genesis 2.

Memory verse: John 1:3, 4.

Illustration: Out of tissue paper cut trees of different shapes, sizes, and colors-dull brown, green, yellow, and purple. Arrange them on your board to represent the Garden. Use fish, birds and the animals as the six creation days are reviewed.

~ end of chapter 7 / Lesson 5 ~
