



# The First Article of the Apostle's Creed

## Topic: The Fall into Sin

### Lesson: GENESIS 3:1-19

#### Read Genesis 3:1-5

If God was going to forbid Adam and Eve from eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, why did he create it in the first place? (see John 14:23 for help)

*It was to serve as a way for Adam and Eve to show they loved God enough to obey Him*

•Put an asterisks next to verses 4 and 5 and in the margin write, "See John 8:44." What does that passage tell us about the way that the devil tries to get us to fall away from God?



*He lies or twists the very word of God*

You know from Sunday School that the devil was using the form of the snake to tempt Adam and Eve. But did you know the Bible tells us that is was satan? Use your concordance in the back of your Bible to find the New Testament passage that tells us it was the devil in the snake's skin.

*Revelation 20:2  
Revelation 12:9*

### Where did the devil come from?

Read Colossians 1:16.

*For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.*

Where did the angels come from?

*God created them.*

Now check out Job 38:4-7.

*"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone- while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?"*

Did it appear that God created the angels early or late in the creation process?

*Seems to say that He created the angels before He created the heaven and earth.*

### How many angels did God create?

Read Hebrews 12:22 and Daniel 7:10.

*But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly,*

*<sup>10</sup> A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.*

Mathematicians, how many angels did Daniel say God made? What did he mean?

*A lot- can't count the number*

Read Luke 20:35-36.

*But those who are considered worthy of taking part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection.*



# The First Article of the Apostle's Creed

What do we learn about the number of angels?

*The number is fixed—there won't be more angels or less angels than when God created them.*

### Where do demons come from?

Read

Genesis 1:31. *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.*

And

2 Peter 2:4 *For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment;*

How do we know demons were once good angels that fell?

*Because on the 7th day God saw everything He had made was perfect, so that means the angels had not sinned yet.*

When did the fall of the evil angels take place?

How do we know?

*(For further study, read Ezekiel 28:12-19 and Isaiah 14:12-15.)*

*Some time after the 7th day of Genesis 1*

### How powerful are these fallen angels?

Read Mark 5:9 (and context)

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." <sup>10</sup> And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

How many evil angels are there?

*thousands*

What power do they display in this verse (and context)?

*They can possess people and control them*

What are some signs of demon possession?

*Strength, wildness, voices, knowledge of things beyond human limits*

Read

Matthew 24:24 *For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect—if that were possible.*

Acts 19:16. *Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.*

What powers do they display here?

*Ability to deceive and hurt people*

### What else do we know of them?

Look at the following verses and summarize what we know of the angels:

Ephesians 6:12 – *they struggle against us*

1 Timothy 4:1-2 – *deceive people with false teachings about God*

Matthew 12:24-26 – *not as powerful as Jesus*

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 – *can do all sorts of miraculous things*

•How do the devil's lies in Genesis 4 and 5 call God's truthfulness into question?

*-denied Adam and Eve would die if they disobeyed*

How do those lies call God's love into question?

*-made Adam and Eve doubt God's goodness in all that he gave them*



## The First Article of the Apostle's Creed

### Read Genesis 3:6-13

In what 3 ways did the fruit appeal to Eve (v6)?

1. *Good to eat*
2. *Pleasing to look at*
3. *Gives knowledge of good and evil*

### Read Genesis 3:14-19

- What was God's punishment upon the serpent?

*The snake would crawl on its belly*

- Since the serpent never ate the forbidden fruit, why did God punish him?

*He allowed the devil to use his body for the temptation*

- What are the punishments that Eve received?

*Pain in child birth  
Physical death*

- What are the punishments that Adam received?

*Ground wouldn't be as productive*

- *Physical death*

- Do we see people still suffering from these punishments in the world today?

*Yes*

What did Adam say when God asked him about his sin, and what did the woman say when God asked her? (Think: What lessons can we learn from this about blame shifting?)

*He blamed Eve and God.  
Even though we try to blame others for our sin, its still our responsibility*

What would happen between the serpent and the seed of the woman (v15)? Explain how this came true and explain the significance.

*There would be strife between those who believed in God (the seed of the woman) and those who reject God (seed of the devil). Ultimately the Savior (the Seed) would destroy the devil's work*

What else was cursed besides the man, the woman, and the serpent — v17?

*All creation was cursed*

Among all the cursing and punishments, there is one ray of hope and promise. What is it?

*The devil would be crushed by the woman's seed*

Who is God talking about here?

*This happened when Jesus died on the cross*

Before a sporting event opponents often boast how they're sure to win. How would you describe God's statement here?

*Not boasting but promise since God can make everything he says happen. Athletes can't*

Read Ephesians 6:11-17.

*<sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the*



# The First Article of the Apostle's Creed

readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

As scary and as powerful as the devil and demons are, why don't we have to fear them?

*God has given the spiritual weapons and armor to defend ourselves*



Multiple Choice. Circle the correct answer.

Adam and Eve fell into sin  
*after they were tempted by the devil.*  
by themselves.  
because they were not really perfect from the start.

God created man and woman with a free will  
by which they could choose only what was good.  
*by which they could choose good or evil.*  
by which they could choose only what was evil.

Eve's sin was so terrible because  
she tried to get smarter.  
*she disobeyed God.*  
she ate the apple.

The Fall into Sin Below are statements which describe things the way they were before the fall or the way they were after the fall. Put a **B** in the blank before the statements which speak of things as they were before the fall; put an **A** in the blank before the statements which describe how things were after the fall. Put **AB** in the blank before a statement

which describes things which did not change.

- A \_\_\_ Man felt shame.
- A \_\_\_ Man blamed woman for his sin
- B \_\_\_ Man was perfectly happy.
- BA \_\_\_ The devil tempts man
- A \_\_\_ Man was afraid to talk to God.
- B \_\_\_ Adam and Eve were without sin.
- BA \_\_\_ God wants his law obeyed...
- B \_\_\_ Man possessed the image of God

**EVALUATION.** Write your evaluations **and** your reasons for agreeing or disagreeing. Often you will find reasons to both agree and disagree with the same statement. The material in these questions generally follow the same order as it is presented in the catechism. When you can, include in your answers the numbers of the catechism questions that help you answer the question.

God created the devil.

*God created the devil as a good and holy angel.  
The devil himself decided to become evil by disobeying God.*

### For Next Time:

Complete this study packet

### Memory Work:

Review entire 1st Article and explanation

Ephesian 6:11

<sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.