Adam and Eve

God gave Adam and Eve a beautiful garden named Eden in which to live. They had all the fruit and vegetables they could possibly want to enjoy. They were to tend the garden and have dominion over it and the animals. Some people say that work is part of the curse, but the actual curse is that work would be difficult and laborious.

God gave Adam and Eve many beautiful plants and trees to enjoy for food. But He also gave them one tree from which they were not to eat. This was the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God’s command to them was that if they ate from that tree they would die.

The Bible says that the Devil entered into a serpent and tempted Eve (Genesis 3:1). He got Eve to doubt God’s Word. Satan told her that God knew that Eve would become enlightened and possess the same knowledge as God had if she ate from the fruit of the tree. This is much like Satan’s temptation to man today—that he does not need God.

The fruit was beautiful and Satan was cunning. Eve fell to the temptation and took the fruit from the forbidden tree. Finding it delicious she took it to Adam. Adam also ate from it. At the time he ate their lives, and that of all future humanity, changed. They immediately knew they had done wrong. They disobeyed God and would be punished.

As was God’s custom, He came to visit Adam and Eve in Eden. They tried to cover their nakedness with fig leaves. Their nakedness was something they had never even noticed before. When they heard God coming they hid from Him. God searched for them. Of course we know that God is all knowing. He was not looking for them because He didn’t know where they were, but to give Adam and Eve a chance to return to Him and acknowledge their sin.

God spoke with Adam, Eve and the serpent. Each one had a specific punishment from God. Adam was told that his work would be hard. It would become toilsome (Genesis 3:17-19).

The woman would bear children with great pain (Genesis 3:16). God intended that Adam and Eve would have children because He talked about man and woman leaving father and mother to get married (Genesis 2:24). Adam and Eve had no father or mother. It was a pronouncement for future generations which God fully intended to come with time. Eve’s punishment was that the bearing of children would be painful.

To the serpent he was given the punishment of crawling on the ground and that he would be cursed more than any other creature (Genesis 3:14). This punishment was given to the animal and not just to Satan. We don’t know if snakes had feet before this punishment, but God changed the animal in some way. To Satan God said that he would be punished in the future by the promise God would