# the book of

what it tells us about God and life

#### Genesis 3:1-21

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die."

4"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. 5"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it.

<sup>7</sup> then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. <sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

<sup>10</sup> He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." 11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" 12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

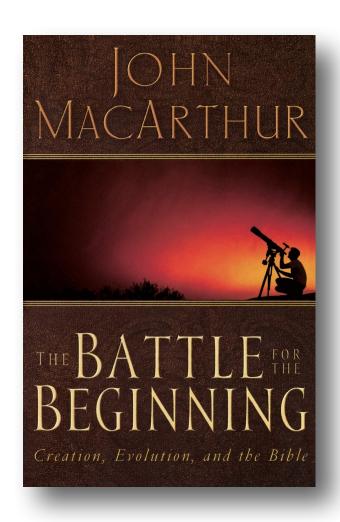
13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup> So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmitybetween you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." 16 To the woman he said,"I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

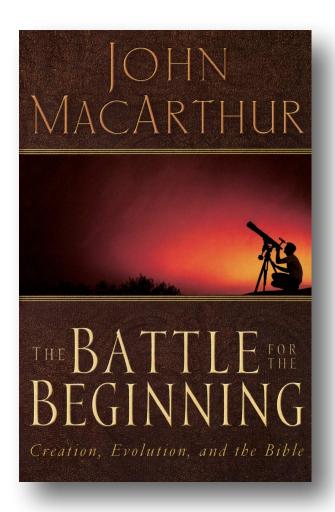
<sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

- <sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." 20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.
- <sup>21</sup> The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

Genesis 3 is one of the most important chapters in all the Bible... without it, little else in Scripture or in life itself would make sense. It explains the condition of the universe and the state of humanity. It explains how we got from that paradise of unimaginable perfection to where we are today.



It explains why we need a Savior. And it explains what God is doing in history... Every world-view that lacks this foundation is utterly and hopelessly wrong...



### What do we learn about Satan?

Most of our depictions of Satan are of a fiery, scary creature that you'd be repelled by. In contrast to this, Satan (introduced to us as "the serpent" in Genesis 3:1) uses subtle deception to entice. The thoughtful reader can see that just like Adam and Eve were easily enticed to reject God's authority, we are not far from the Garden's temptations.

# SATAN 3D STRATEGY:

1. DOUBT - "did God really say...?" (Genesis 3:1)

2. DENIAL - "you will surely not die..." (Genesis 3:4)

3. DECEPTION - "you will be like God..." (Genesis 3:5)

## What do we learn about Humanity?

Once Humans reject God's authority, life unravels very quickly. The things God intended to be enjoyable, become a challenge.

# What do we learn about Humanity?

A relationship with God becomes one they now fear (Gen. 3:10).

The honor and dignity experience in loyalty to God, gives way to shame (Gen. 3:7&10)

Marriage becomes a relationship of fault finding & a power struggle (Gen. 3:12-13&16).

Family multiplication becomes painful(Gen. 3:16)

#### What do we learn about God?

1. It's not like God doesn't know where they are or what they've done, but rather than starting with an accusation, God asks "where are you?", inviting them to come out and repent. God's desire is repentance not punishment (Micah 7:18; 1 John 1:9; Daniel 9:9; Isaiah 1:16-18; 2 Peter. 3:9).

# 2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is...

patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.



#### What do we learn about God?

2. History has proven that we can't undue or fix the evil that rebellion against God unleashed in the world. But from the moment Humans make a mess of things, God promised that evil would be confronted and crushed (Gen. 3:15)

#### What do we learn about God?

3. At first reading it may not sound like a big deal that God provided clothes for Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:21). The gift of clothes is among the best given gifts in the Old Testament and foreshadows the best outfit anyone could ever wear (Romans 13:11-14).

