

How it Began

- *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned — Rom 5:12-13*
- A Summary: The Actual Event:
- *Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 1Tim 2:14-15*

The Events Unfolded

- Eve was deceived, by the crafty serpent
- *the serpent **deceived** Eve by his craftiness, 2 Cor 11:3*
- Adam “**with her**” NKJV “**was with her**” ESV
- *saw that the tree was good for food, was pleasant to the eyes, and to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*
- Eve was deceived and Adam was not deceived.

Sin & Deception

- Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. 1Tim 2:14-15
- the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, 2 Cor 11:3
- Paul was also deceived: “For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.” Rom 7:11-12

Sin & Transgression

- the woman, deceived became a transgressor.
- do you dishonor God through breaking the law?
- where there is no law there is no transgression.
Rom 2:23; Rom 4:15
- who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, Rom 5:14
- every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; Heb 2:2

A Transgressor

- dishonors God
- Break the law
- no law = no transgression. ∵ Breaking a Law
= transgression.
- sin = transgression
- transgression = disobedience
- Doesn't matter whether you are deceived or not
- Doesn't matter if you are ignorant or not!

Sinning Without Law

- *For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves,*
- *show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) Rom. 2:12-16*

Sinning Without Law

- *sinned without law = perish without law*
- *sinned in the law = judged by the law*
- *Gentiles = no law,*
- *by nature = where my own assessment of good and evil mirrors the law.*
- *show work (effects) of the law written in heart*
- *conscience also bearing witness (**A 2nd Witness**).*
Proof: *thoughts accusing or excusing.*
- When my thoughts mirror God's Law, God can use my conscience to prove my sin.

Sinning Without Law – By Violating A Conscience

- *7 However, there is not in everyone that knowledge; for some, with consciousness of the idol, until now eat it as a thing offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled...*
- *will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols?*
11 And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? 12 But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. *1 Cor 8:7; 10-12*

Sinning Without Law – By Violating A Conscience

- Here, their conscience and God's Law match.
- But don't yet have full knowledge.
- Have not yet learned there is nothing behind idols
 - *consciousness of the idol, eat as offered to an idol; weak conscience defiled*
 - *A conscience emboldened to eat things offered to idols will perish*
- Any violation of conscience whether under the law or without the law is sin/transgression

When Growing Up

- *I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. 11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me. 12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good. Rom 7:7-13*
- Doesn't matter if we knew the basis of this law.
- When we knew it was wrong, chose to do it, then felt guilty after we did it ... Sin was born.

Complications

- Why does a lie after accountability = sin and a lie before accountability = no sin?
- What is accountability?
- As our mind develops, a moment in time occurs when the act shifts from disobedience to parents or culture to a sin before God.

God Holds – Over 20 Accountable

- *29 The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. ... 31 But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised.*
Num 14:29-31
- WHY??? Paul: I was alive... until command came... when does it come ... > 20. Dt. 29:29

At Some Time < 20

- We became responsible and died as Paul did.
- Look for those things that violated conscience
- Possibly when concern for sin leaves parents / teachers and moves to God and eternity.
- may never identify all we did prior to baptism
- But we must identify them now and fight them to the death.

The Battle Commenced

- *Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, 1 Peter 2:11*
- Our personal battles are based on the decisions we have made.
- Each lust was separate from our own heart until we activated it.

The Battle Commences and Widens

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. 16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. *James 1:13-17*

The Battle Commences and Widens

- *I find then the law, that, to me who would do good, evil is present. 22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin which is in my members.. Rom 7:21-23*