

Key to Unit 1

THE BIG ISSUE

Here are our suggested answers for Unit 1.

with some additional information and a brief summary of that unit.

Question 1. Why did Eve want the forbidden fruit ?

Gen.3:6: She was tempted by physical desire: it "was good for food". She was tempted by her eyes: "it was pleasant to look at". She was tempted by pride: desired it "to get wisdom".

Supplementary information:

We are always tempted in one or more of these three ways. That has not changed in 6,000 years.

In 1st.John 2:16 these three ways are stated:-

1."The desire of the eyes". We feel we must have what we see.

2."The desire of the flesh". We feel we must have what is nice to taste or touch or smell.

3."The boastfulness of lifestyle". Pride. We want to be seen to be important.

Question 2. Why did Adam accept the forbidden fruit?

Whereas Eve was conned by Satan, Adam was not [see 1 Timothy 2:14]. He knew that Satan was lying. We suggest Adam succumbed to Eve's allurements. See Genesis 3:12 "The woman that you gave me – it was she who gave me fruit from the tree and I ate it", and Genesis 3:17 "God said to Adam: because you listened to your wife's voice ...".

Supplementary information:

It appears that he was under pressure. He had the choice of being faithful to God or of pleasing his wife. 1 Corinthians 7:32-33. He accepted the fruit from his wife showing that obeying God was of less importance to him than pleasing Eve. The outcome was: Adam failed God, his wife and all his offspring. Romans 5:12.

Question 3. How did Adam and Eve's sin affect their personal friendship with God?

Gen.3:7-8,10 They were riddled with guilt, and tried to cover themselves. Their sin formed a barrier between them and God (See Isaiah 59:2).

Question 4. What kind of person is Satan?

Gen.3:1-5 He is crafty. He pretends to be doing a favour. He sows doubt (verse 1 "Did God indeed really say ..."). He lies (verse 4 "you will not begin to die"). He slanders God (verse 5 "for God knows ..."). He obviously resents God.

Supplementary information:

Satan claims he holds the moral high ground (2 Corinthians 11:14), but he is really trying to drag everyone down to his level (1 Peter 5:8). We are advised not to be outwitted by him (2 Corinthians 2:11).

RECAPPING

1. God created everything perfectly.
2. To incite man to sin, Satan slandered God.
3. God predicted that a virgin would give birth to a son – **the woman's seed**.
4. The virgin's son would defeat Satan and restore the status-quo.

Understanding the Bible

Unit 2 GOD'S FAITHFUL PRESERVED

Looking for Clues

Would a virgin really give birth to a male child?¹ How would He defeat Satan? Would He restore man's friendship with God? Devout men longed for His coming.² He was known as "the coming one".³ The OT leads towards His coming. We use **bold italics** to emphasise what we think were clues to His coming and what would happen then.

God made clothes for Adam and Eve. He could have made them from wool or cotton but He chose to use animal skin. ***An innocent animal killed for the benefit of guilty man.***

Adam and Eve are sent out of the garden. From now on they have to sweat to grow food – a constant reminder to take notice of God.

But Does It Improve?

Their sons – Cain and Abel – offer sacrifices to God – Abel's ***animal sacrifice*** was approved but Cain's vegetable sacrifice was rejected.⁴

[For more comment on sacrifices ask for our free leaflet: "THE ODD PHENOMENON OF OFFERING SACRIFICES."]

In a rage – Cain slew his brother Abel. This was the first murder. Because of this God made the soil less fertile, making it still harder to grow food. Would this make mankind respect God as he should?

Eve had another son. He replaced Abel. ***Eve named him Seth, which meant "designated"***. Evidently Eve understood that Seth was designated to be ancestor to **the woman's seed**.

Seth's son, Enosh, began formal devotions.⁵ and his great-great-grandson, Enoch, was so devout that God took him directly to heaven. Even so - as the earth's population grew, wickedness increased, until the whole world was riddled with violence. Only one decent person remained, Enoch's great-grandson, Noah. He was a very good man who gave the people sound advice but no-one took any notice of him.⁶

God's Judgement

God decided to drown all life on the earth **except for Noah, his family** and live specimens of every kind of animal. God told Noah how to build an enormous vessel ("ark"). It was approximately 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high with 3 decks a volume of 1.5 million cubic feet. In this they were kept safe when the flood came. The water covered the whole earth rising 23 feet above the highest hills. After 12 months they were able to come out of the "ark" and Noah *offered sacrifices to God*.

The earth's environment was much harsher than before.⁷ This could be why God authorized them to eat meat. Also it could be why mankind's life expectancy gradually went down from over 900 years to about 75 years. The oldest man on record is Methuselah, Enoch's son. He lived 969 years and died in the same year that the flood started. Seth, Enosh, Enoch, Methuselah, and Noah were all ancestors of **the woman's seed**.⁸

Approximate Time-scale Before year 2,000

Year zero	The Creation	6,000 years
Year 1,650	The Flood	4,350 years

(Reference Ussher)

Methuselah was 250 years old when Adam died.
Noah was 600 years old when Methuselah died.

The World Re-populated From Noah's Sons

Mankind refused to disperse around the world.

Instead they decided to establish a city with a large tower as the focal point. So God scattered them everywhere by making them speak different languages. Despite man's persistent rebellion God always has a faithful "*remainder*".⁹

Reading Matter

Before answering the questions, please read carefully Genesis chapter 3 to chapter 11 verse. 9 and then re-read this unit.

Questions:-

1. Explain how the ancestry of **the woman's seed** was nearly wiped out.
2. Explain in which of the three ways Cain was being tempted [Gen.4:2-9].

Useful References:-

- 1 A virgin birth had to be supernatural. Luke 1:34-35.
- 2 Matt.13:17, Luke 24:25, John 8:56, 1.Pet.1:10-12
- 3 Matt.11:3 AV "he that should come" & 23:39 AV "he that cometh" Greek: 'ο ερχομενος =
- 4 Hebrews 11:4 ["the coming one"]
- 5 Gen.4:26, 12:8, Joel 2:32, Acts 2:21, 22:16. Appealing to the LORD's name. ("LORD" - Hebrew: Yahweh = "He who exists")
- 6 1 Pet. 3:20, 2 Pet. 2:5 7 Gen.2:5-6
- 8 Luke 3:23-28, Psalm 90:10
- 9 Isaiah 1:9, Joel 2:32, Matt.22:14

Send any queries to:-

Please include your name and address and state the unit and question with each query.

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Understanding the Bible

Unit 2

GOD'S FAITHFUL PRESERVED

[From Adam to Babel]

with

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