Forbidden Fruit

Forbidden Fruit

Genesis 2:8 - 9

"The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil."

Genesis 2:15 - 17

Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Genesis 3: 1-7

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he



- 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;
- 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, "You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die."

Genesis 3: 4 -7

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

WHAT the "Forbidden Fruit" was is NOT important;

What WAS the "Forbidden Fruit" in the Garden of Eden?

NO ONE KNOWS!

The Bible NEVER SAYS!

Human guesses include:

Apple, Tomato, Pomegranate

But WHAT IT REPRESENTED IS IMPORTANT!

- 1. It was God's "test" of human free will.
- 2. It was a "test" of human desire.
- 3. It was a "test" of the line between obedience to God and obedience to the Devil.
- 4. It was a "test" of whether God's "good" would be more appealing than the Devil's "evil".

We are "tested" every day over whether we choose what God made "in the beginning" or not!

James 1:13 - 14: 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.

"Forbidden Fruit" Today Man's Place

1. "To tend and keep it" = WORK

Genesis 2:15; Genesis 3:19

"In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground."

FF = Laziness Proverbs 19:15

"Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, And an idle person will suffer hunger."

"Forbidden Fruit" Today Man's Place

2. Physical intimacy should only be in Marriage

Genesis 2:18 - 24

FF = Physical intimacy without Marriage

2 Corinthians 12:21

"I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practiced."

Woman's Place

1. "A helper comparable to him"

Genesis 2:18

1 Corinthians 11: 7 - 9 "For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man.
8 For man is not from woman, but woman from man. 9 Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man."

Woman's Place

2. To be "Homemakers"

Titus 2:4 - 5

"Admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, **5** to be discreet, chaste, **homemakers**, good, **obedient to their own husbands**, that the word of God may not be blasphemed."

"Nakedness" Only Between Husband & Wife

Genesis 2:25

FF = Nakedness Outside of Marriage Leviticus 18:1 - 19; Habakkuk 2:15

Revelation 3:17: "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' — and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked

Saved From "Forbidden Fruit" Today

Luke 24:46 - 47: Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Mark 16:16: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."