

# 6

## Fall of Man to Sin

Basuru is a good student in Grade 9, who loves God, the Father. He was being praised by all, because of his good qualities. They often advised others, saying: “Look at Basuru, he is a good student. You should be like him. You are a bad lot. You do not follow our instructions. You are senseless.”

Some of the students, who were regularly blamed by the Principal and the teachers, decided to mislead Basuru. After school, on the way home, they showed beautiful scenes from the mobile telephone to Basuru. They compelled him to watch good scenes first and then bad scenes. Finally he got addicted to the mobile phones.

He not only failed at exams, but also he was despised by many. All abandoned him. Then he remembered the loving God, the Father. He met the Parish Priest and made a good confession. Having listened to his advice and got his blessings, he decided to live a good life. He made a firm decision not to do any wrong afterwards.

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God, the Father settled Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden so that they may cultivate and look after it. He gave a commandment to live in that garden:

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 die.

(Genesis 2:17)

This shows that He is a loving father and He gives us advice to lead a good life. He speaks to us especially through our conscience. Therefore, we should listen to the divine voice within us.



Picture 6.1 - Falling of Adam and Eve into sin

Man and woman lived in the Garden. They had enough food. They lived happily because they were in friendship with God. The serpent was cunning more than any other animal. It tempted the woman. It questioned from the woman whether God forbade eating any of the trees in the Garden. She said that they can eat from any tree except the tree in the middle and that if they ate, they would definitely die. Yet, the serpent said that they would not die, and instead their eyes would be opened and would see that they were equal to God, and would be able to know good and bad.

Having listened to the serpent's misleading words, she thought that the fruit would be tasty and would give intelligence. She ate some fruits and gave some to the husband and he too ate them.

This shows how Adam and Eve fell into sin. Even if we are not close to God, the Satan may tempt us as he tempted Adam and Eve. Especially we must listen to the conscience when we are tempted. We have to overcome temptations. We have to follow Lord Jesus, who overcame temptations.

### To the Serpent

1. Curse
2. All through life creeping

### To Eve

1. Increase pains in child bearing
2. In pains brings forth children
3. Though desire for husband, he will rule over her

Punishments as  
consequences of  
sin  
(Genesis 3:14-19)

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graph TD; A((Punishments as consequences of sin  
(Genesis 3:14-19))) --> B[To the Serpent]; A --> C[To Eve]; A --> D[To Adam];
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### To Adam

1. Cursing of the ground
2. In toil he shall eat all the days of his life
3. Thorns and thistles earth shall bring forth
4. Eat the plants of the field
5. By the sweat, he shall eat bread until he return to the ground, for out of it he was taken; he was dust, and to dust he would return.

God punished the first parents not out of anger but out of love. We have to understand that when we do a wrong, even our parents punish us out of love.

Even though Adam and Eve were disobedient to God, God was merciful to them and gave a promise of salvation. God, who loved the fallen man unceasingly, promised to send a saviour to save man from sin. That promise is found in Genesis 3:15:

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

(Genesis 3:15)

In this promise, the offspring of the woman is humanity. The serpent is the Satan. There is an eternal enmity between man and the devil.

In the phrase “he will strike your head,” “he” means Lord Jesus, the Saviour of the world. God so loved the disobedient man that He promised to send a saviour to redeem man.

And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

(Genesis 3:21)

Making of garments of skin shows the love and protection of God. In the face of human weaknesses, God shows His mercy towards us. Therefore, we too should be merciful to others.

### Activity



1. Write three guidelines that you give to your friend in the school, who has gone astray.
2. Write how you overcame one of the temptations that you faced.
3. Write Genesis 3:15 and one of messages that can be derived from it.
4. Describe three instances that you showed mercy to others as God showed mercy to Adam and Eve.



### For Life

- Let us always listen to God's voice.
- Let us overcome temptations.
- Let us share divine mercy with others.