

## The Devil in the Garden

Mark 14:32 -50

They came to a place named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here until I have prayed." 33 And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be very distressed and troubled. 34 And He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death; remain here and keep watch." 35 And He went a little beyond them, and fell to the ground and began to pray that if it were possible, the hour might pass Him by. 36 And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." 37 And He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? 38 "Keep watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." 39 Again He went away and prayed, saying the same words. 40 And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. 41 And He came the third time, and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough; the hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 "Get up, let us be going; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!" 43 Immediately while He was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, came up accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs, who were from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. 44 Now he who was betraying Him had given them a signal, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the one; seize Him and lead Him away under guard." 45 After coming, Judas immediately went to Him, saying, "Rabbi!" and kissed Him. 46 They laid hands on Him and seized Him. 47 But one of those who stood by drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear. 48 And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me, as you would against a robber? 49 "Every day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me; but this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures." 50 And they all left Him and fled.

# The Devil in the Garden

Both Adam & Jesus, as Sons of God, were tested as to their Love of their Father in a Garden.

Adam was tested in the Garden of Eden. Eden = paradise (no pressure)

Jesus was tested in the Garden of Gethsemane Gethsemane = oil press (severe pressure)

The test was exactly the same: "**Do as God says.**"

The temptation was exactly the same: "**Do as you choose.**"

The circumstances were exactly the same: "**The Devil in the Garden spoke to both.**"

Adam was given every opportunity for him to succeed and failed miserably.

Jesus was given every obstacle for Him to fail and He succeeded triumphantly.

**The DIFFERENCE was in how they listened to the Devil in the Garden.**

The difference in whether each of us will fail like Adam or succeed in Christ depends on how you hear the Devil.

When the devil came into the Garden of Eden, Adam & Eve had plentiful food & water, an easy job, plenty of free time & the absence of war, hatred, evil & sin. The Devil in the Garden told them: "**You need more!**"

**Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"**  
**2 The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.' "**  
**4 The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! 5 "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."**

His FIRST message to Man was: "What God has provided & ordained cannot be enough for smart people like you to be content & satisfied. [You need more and you deserve it!](#) Has his message changed at all?

What does Satan tell a thief? A liar? An adulterer? Fornicator? Workaholic? Someone who covets?

What does Satan tell the poor? the rich? middle class? Someone who breaks their marriage vows?

What does Satan tell children? Teenagers? Parents? Friends?

What does Satan tell preachers? Elders? congregations? People looking for a congregation?

What did Satan tell the children of Israel? David watching Bathsheba? The Pharisees seeing Jesus?

What does Satan tell every person who is constantly unhappy & frustrated & angry? [Why do we listen?](#)

What has listening to this message EVER brought into our lives? [What did it bring Adam & Eve?](#)

What did the Devil in the Garden of Gethsemane tell Jesus, Who knew all that was about to happen?

[What God has supplied & ordained cannot be right! You need more than this & you deserve it!!](#)

What was Jesus' response?

[Mark 14:36 And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will."](#)

Jesus says that [whatever God has supplied & ordained is what is best](#), no matter what I think I deserve.

What if Adam had said this? The children of Israel? The Pharisees & Saducees? Peter? Judas? You?

Did Jesus DESERVE what God had ordained for Him? Did that change how He treated God's Word?

Do we DESERVE what God has provided for us? Ordained for us? How do we treat God's Word?

Is God's Word perfect & complete as written and we will strive to change our ways daily to follow it?

Or does God's Word need our help in ways to be more than what is written to fulfill what we deserve?

That is the SECOND message to man: "[God's original message needs some improvement!](#)"

[Gen 3: 4 The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! 5 "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."](#)

# The Devil in the Garden

When God's original message does not provide what we know is better, we improvise with God's message!

What did Satan tell Saul after becoming king over Israel?

1 Samuel 13: 8 Now (SAUL) waited seven days, according to the appointed time set by Samuel, but Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattering from him. 9 So Saul said, "Bring to me the burnt offering and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. 10 As soon as he finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him and to greet him. 11 But Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the appointed days, and that the Philistines were assembling at Michmash, 12 therefore I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not asked the favor of the LORD.' So I forced myself and offered the burnt offering." 13 Samuel said to Saul, "You have acted foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, for now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 "But now your kingdom shall not endure."

What did Satan tell Moses as he was going to get water from the Rock?

Numbers 20: 11 Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came forth abundantly, and the congregation and their beasts drank. 12 But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you have not believed Me, to treat Me as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."

What did Satan tell Peter before his rebuke? Judas before his betrayal?

What does Satan tell preachers & elders & teachers as they try to improve their congregations?

What does Satan tell groups with women preachers? extra doctrines? different gospels?

**Scripture replies: Their kingdoms will fail and they will not enter in to God's promised land.**

What did the devil in the Garden of Gethsemane tell Jesus about improving on God's Word? (same as Adam)

What did Jesus do in response?

Mark 14: 41...It is enough; the hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 "Get up, let us be going; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!"

How much was Jesus willing to improve or improvise on what God had written in Scripture? NONE!!

John 18: 11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?"

Matt 26: 52 Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. 53 "Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 "How then will the Scriptures be fulfilled, which say that it must happen this way?"

How much are we willing to improve & improvise on what God has written? **Is that "Christian?"**

The Devil is still in the Garden today where EVERY HUMAN BEING is tested as to the Love they have for their Father in heaven. It is EXACTLY the same test given to Adam in his garden & Jesus in His.

The test is: **Do as God says.** *And there is NO excuse for not knowing what God has said to all mankind!*

The temptation is: **Do as you choose.** *And there is NO excuse for not knowing you're following Satan!*

**The Devil in the Garden** always tells you:

**You need more than you have to be happy and you deserve it!**

**God's Message will not provide what you must have, improve & improvise to achieve success!**

And if Satan can get you to believe these first two lies, he gives you a final comforting promise:

**Be confident that God will do as you say!** Come into my heart! Save me! Heal me! Give me!

His promise to all is the exact opposite of what God expects from us all in the Garden!

God allows the devil in His Garden so people can show how much they love their Father in Heaven.

Adam listened to the devil and lost everything. Jesus refused to believe one stroke of God's Word could fail and won everything His heart desired. We are no different. What is your response to the Devil in your Garden?