# **New Beginnings Part 5**

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Genesis / Temptation; Sin; Fall of Man / Genesis 3:1–6

### Intro:

1. We have spent the last several weeks talking about who God is and why He created.

2. We have seen up to this point, perfection.

3. Now if we were unfamiliar with the Genesis story and we were to stop here we could look at [Genesis 1](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ge1)&2 and then look at our world today and it would cause us to think something had to have happened.

**Genesis 3:1 NIV**

1. Immediately there are all sorts of questions that could be asked.

a. Where did the serpent come from? How did it gain access to paradise? How could it talk? Why weren’t Adam and Eve seemingly surprised that it could talk? Could all animals talk before the fall?

2. We can conclude from [Revelation 12:9](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Re12.9) where Satan is referred to as “that ancient serpent” that the serpent is probably the devil or at the very least a representation of him.

1. So far in our text leading up to this point, we’ve seen how God works.

a. We’ve seen His intention for us through creation, marriage, His design for us to dwell and rest in Him.

b. Now the story is going to shift and it’s going to show us how the enemy works and how and why we fall into sin repeatedly.

**BIG IDEA: Chasing temptation will take you further and hold you longer than you would ever dream.**

2. If we are called to spiritual warfare, it would be wise to know the tactics of the enemy.

### First, we will see that temptation to sin is often subtle.

1. I think it’s clear that both Adam and Eve were not expecting the day to go as it does.

2. The serpent was truly cunning in its approach but temptation typically is.

a. It typically comes when we least expect it.

3. **Temptation is often subtle and unexpected.**

**Genesis 3:1–3 NIV**

### Temptation will shift your theology.

1. Now I don’t think that while we are being tempted we often think about our theology. But, whether we think of it this way or not, it’s true.

b. Really it boils down to: **How well does Eve know the Word of God?**

2. He says, “Did God really say?” Did he really? Are you sure?

3. In her response, Eve makes 3 mistakes.

a. #1 she downplays the permission.

b. #2 she adds to the prohibition.

c. #3 She minimizes the judgement she would receive if she disobeys.

#### She downplays the goodness of God, she oversells His restrictiveness, and she minimizes the consequences of her disobedience.

##### If this is how the enemy attacked Eve then this is the watch-out for us when it comes to our theology of God.

1. #1 We will easily fall into sin if we do not think that God is for our good and after our joy.

2. #2. We will easily fall into sin if we believe that all God is, is restrictive.

3. #3 We will easily fall into sin if we think that it’s minimal.

4. So, we must always see the goodness of God, always view his prohibitions as His love, and always feel the weight of our sin.

**Genesis 3:4–6 NIV**

### Temptation will cause doubt and will heighten your desire.

1. Now we see that the serpent openly and directly denies what God said.

a. In the Hebrew this reads, “Not, surely you will die.”

2. The serpent implies that God is holding something back from Eve that would make her happier.

**1 John 2:16 NIV**

1. Her response reveals how clever the enemy really is. He has her on 3 different levels.

a. Practically.

i. It says that she saw that the fruit was “good for food”. (Lust of the flesh)

b. Emotionally.

i. It was pleasing to the eye. (Lust of the eyes)

c. Spiritually.

i. desirable for gaining wisdom. (The pride of life)

2. Here is what we see.

a. The serpent has Eve right where he wants her before she ever even commits a sin.

b. What happens is we begin to fall into a game of self-pity.

3. We see Eve eat the fruit and it says, “She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”

a. Now Adam finally makes his way onto the scene. But where has he been? It says he was with her so it’s as if he was there the whole time. But there in the background. Taking a back seat in a scene he should have been leading.

### *Let’s talk some takeaways and reminders from this passage:*

1. Remember in [Genesis 2:15](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ge2.15) that God commanded Adam and Eve to care for the garden or guard it.

a. When the serpent started to question the Word of God Adam and Eve’s immediate response should have been to drive the serpent out of the garden.

2. If you’re going to be good at spiritual warfare (which we are all called to) you better know the Word of God.

3. Don’t become isolated in your attempt to fight temptation.

4. Don’t talk to temptation. Run from it! We don’t flirt around with something that leads to sin, we flee from it, resist it, fight against it.

**The last thing we see from temptation is that temptation leads to sin and the result of sin is always catastrophic.**

1. This is what we will discuss next week.

2. But it’s important to note this morning that the original sin is the continual sin.

a. When we fall into temptation and sin what we are saying is that I am a better god than God himself.

**Take Away: God is the only one fit to be God.**

**Andrew Farley - “when you are in conflict with God, you are wrong.”**

1. There is a God in heaven who is perfect!