

WAR OF THE WORLDS #2

How should Eve have decided (about who is right, or whose is telling the truth), the serpent or is it **LORD**?

By **empiricism**, (1) that all knowledge is derived from the subjective experience, (goose bumps, cold chills, by what seemed, or feels right to them) or (2) **by rationalism**, that human reason, unaided by divine revelation, is an adequate guide to all attainable religious truth, or (3) **by human reasoning**, unaided by divine revelation, is considered adequate, the sole guide to all attainable religious truth, or (4) **by Faith**?

There is only **ONE standard** -to which **EVE**, or we should have appealed, The **WORD** of God, regarding the **ONE** prohibition given by God – **Gen 2:16-17** "...And the LORD God **commanded the man, saying**, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; **v17** 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."

Instead of looking to GOD's revelation, Eve decided she needed to investigate the matter further, "so when ...**EVE** saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate it and gave some to Adam" **Genesis 3:6**.

Make no mistake --the fall of Adam and Eve was not just a matter of eating an apple, "the fruit of the tree! **NO**, it started before **EVE** ate from the fruit ---it began the very moment she rejected what **GOD** had said, being True! **Eve decided** ---that the serpent was telling her the truth, not God.

- **Ironically**, this same dilemma persists in this world every day.
- **Most believe** --that the human race fell because Eve ate the forbidden fruit. **NO!**

It **FELL** - Because Eve began to think, to believe something differently about what God originally said!

Eating the fruit --was merely the byproduct of her thoughts, and unbelief – **EVE began to think** (to believe) that **GOD** didn't, or wasn't telling her the truth, but the Serpent was!

This problem still exists – There are only two kinds of people, believers and unbelievers.

- **There are people** who believe in God, and those who don't.
- **There are People** who believe the Bible is God's Word, and those who don't.

There is this one commonality --that Satan, his fallen angels, and unbelievers alike all have in common: are you ready? **They all HATE the TRUTH!**

Truth doesn't disappear --just because people get uncomfortable hearing the truth, truth is truth:

- **Even when people** --don't want the truth. **Even when people** --don't like the truth, **Even when people** --don't know the truth

Truth remains--even when people exchange the truth for a lie – claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal **GOD** for images resembling mortal man, birds, animals, and creeping things” **Romans 1:23**

John 3:18-20 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God, **v19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil, **v20** For everyone practicing evil **HATES** the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed

This deception and **HATRED** for the **TRUTH** --began in Paradise, and it continues to this day. **Satan - the father of lies** – Gave birth to the first lie ever recorded, which resulted in the fall of the human race.

Genesis 3:1, "Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made, and the serpent said to Eve, '**Indeed, has God said** you shall not eat from **any tree** of the garden?'"

Satan's Battle Plan – Began to unfold quickly, – It begins in **vs1b** - With what appears to be a seemingly harmless question, "**Indeed, has God said**, surely God **didn't say** you shall not eat from '**any**' tree?"

Notice the idea behind the question -Did God really say that?

The Serpent introduces Eve --to the possibility that maybe there's something wrong with God's "one prohibition."

The question posed --is stated in such a way as to start Eve on the downward slope of doubting God's Word, the root essence of sin.

So, for the very first time, the most deadly spiritual force was covertly smuggled into Paradise and all human life.

It is the assumption that what God said is now somehow subject to human judgment!

God said, "You can eat from any tree except **ONE** tree: (just **ONE** prohibition) **Gen 2: 6-17**, "...From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall NOT eat**: for in the day that you eat from it, you shall surely die."

Notice, just one prohibition, clear, concise, and obvious in its statement.

Now the Serpent (cunningly) asks Eve to make a judgment - On what God said, "**Did God really tell you not to eat from any tree of the garden?**" The implications are:

- Why would God put this one restriction on you?
- Why would GOD limit you so?
- Why is He being so hard and narrow?

- Isn't God for free will?
- Isn't God pro-choice?
- Isn't God ok with living together without marriage, as long as you love one another?
- Isn't God ok with you having same-sex partners?
- Isn't God ok with you pretending to change your biological sex?

In the question, we are able to see how the Serpent said from **ANY** tree of the garden," as if **the ONE prohibition** was very big and extensive.

The subtle suggestion is --that God tampers with our freedoms, that:

- God is very narrow, hard, and restrictive
- God might be unkind, taking away things that make us happy
- God may even be cruel, and you might not be able to trust him?

Notice vs2 - How Eve weakly defends God, "Well," Eve said to the serpent, "from the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat."

She narrows it down, in v3, "But from the fruit of the tree, in the midst of the garden - **NO**, it's not that we can't eat from any tree? It's really just this **ONE** tree we can't eat from! –

Now, it is important that you notice closely how Eve says in v3 "...**God has said**, 'You shall not eat from it **OR TOUCH IT**'"

Did you CATCH that - Did God say that? – **NO**, God didn't say you couldn't touch it - God said, "If you eat it, you will die."

Notice how Eve --is already falling victim to the Serpent's progressive temptation.

"...Yeah, you know, it's really just one tree -but Eve says that God said we shouldn't eat from it and that **we shouldn't even touch it.**"?