

# God-The Ultimate Humanitarian

## Chapter 2: A Humanitarian In the Face of Rebellion

It's easy to give of our time and money when we like what we are doing and giving to. The biggest humanitarians give a lot of time and money to the causes that they think are worth it.

But when something changes and we don't like the cause we are giving to or the thing we are spending our time on, we will usually give up on it.

It's easy to show love when everything is going well, but what about when things aren't going well? Do we still show love then?

Even after the fall into sin, after God's creation rebelled against him, God chose to love the people who turned their back on him anyway. This is true love.

1. What did you learn from chapter 2?

2. While some do not believe the hell and evil angels are real, the Bible presents them as very real and very dangerous. What is one thing we learn about angels and demons from the following passages?

- ⌘ Hebrews 1:14. Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation? **The angels are created beings that serve a purpose. They serve the Lord and at the Lord's direction they serve God's people. These are special creations, not people who have died and gone to heaven.**
- ⌘ Psalm 91:11-12. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; <sup>12</sup>they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. **The angels work at the command of the Lord to watch over us and protect us.**
- ⌘ 2 Peter 2:4. <sup>4</sup>For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment. **There was a group of angels that rebelled against the Lord. Led by Satan they lost this war and were cast out of the glory and presence of heaven to hell. These are now the enemy of God and us.**
- ⌘ 1 Peter 5:8-9. <sup>8</sup>Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.  
**The devil is real. His job is very different. Instead of wanting to help us with his power, he tries to tempt us and lure us away from the Lord in sin and unbelief.**

3. What can you learn about Satan from Genesis 3:1-4?

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’ ”

<sup>4</sup> “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman.

**He is clever and crafty. He is the king of half-truths and lies. He makes promises of good, but leads us into evil.**

4. Life without sin and life with sin were very different for Adam and Eve. But sin was new to them. What can you learn about sin from the following passages?

✦ 1 John 3:4. <sup>4</sup> Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

**Sin is more than a mistake or a goof-up or a flaw in judgment. Lawlessness is knowing the rules are and choosing to break them anyway. When we sin we are missing God’s mark of perfection. We are breaking his Law.**

✦ Psalm 32:5. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD”— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**In case, we want to try to change the meaning of sin, or try to rationalize our way out of the evil the Psalmist uses 3 different words that have slightly different meanings in order to show us that sin is very deep and very bad. Transgressions, iniquity, sin**  
**Yet, even with sin being so terrible, these sins can be forgiven.**

5. Think about it..... one of effects of sin was an awareness of themselves. This is not something that we struggle with. We are well aware of ourselves, our strengths and weaknesses. Can you imagine if we lived truly thinking and living to serve others and not serving ourselves. What were the further consequences of Adam and Eve's sin?

**A. On their relationship with each other and with God. See Genesis 3:8-13.**

<sup>8</sup> Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

<sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

<sup>10</sup> He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

<sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

**The perfect relationships were gone. Adam is no longer praising God for Eve, now he is blaming both of them. This relationship was replaced by something else. Hiding and Excuses**

**B. On the world in which we live. See Genesis 3:17-18. Think about it. Not only people were affected, but also God’s perfect world and the perfect balance he instituted. We often think of the Fall affecting us and our perfection. But it affected something else too? In God’s eyes,**

<sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil

you will eat of it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

C. On them individually. See Genesis 3:16-19.

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup>To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’

“Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

D. On their descendants.

✦ Genesis 5:3. <sup>3</sup> When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. **This son was in the image of sinful Adam. This was in the line of the Savior.**

✦ Psalm 51:5. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. **Babies are not innocent. From the moment we are conceived, we are already under the Law. Adam’s sin is passed down to all. We are now sinful from conception to death.**

✦ Matthew 15:19. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. **Often, we think that the root of sin comes from outside of us. We want to think that we are inherently good people. However, this passage says that we want to sin. These sins are already things that we want to do.**

✦ Ephesians 2:1. As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **We are helpless. There is nothing that we can do. We cannot choose God, we cannot work towards God or be God-like. We are dead in sin.**

✦ Romans 5:18. .... the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men **Even if we sin once, we are condemned. There is no overcoming that even one sin damns us to hell. We cannot undo the sins that we have done.**

✦ Romans 8:7. the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. **Not only do we sin, we do not want to do what it God’s way. We want to fight against God. We want to do what is against his will.**

5. We see true love in what God did after the fall. The God of the Old Testament is the same God in the New. Jesus called himself the Good Shepherd. He told the parable of the shepherd going out and looking for the lost sheep. How are God’s actions with Adam and Eve this parable of the Lost Sheep in action? How does it show his love? **God went and searched out for Adam and Eve like the shepherd did. He didn’t wait for them to come to him.**

6. How does Genesis 3:15 demonstrate God to be the Ultimate Humanitarian?

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

**The devil hadn't won anything when Adam and Eve sinned. God sent Jesus to defeat the devil. He showed his love by saving us even though we sinned.**

I will put hatred between the devil and people/man. And between your offspring (which is) sin and eternal death and hers (which is) Jesus, forgiveness and heaven. Jesus will crush the devil's head and the devil will strike Jesus heel.

**Assignment:** Please read Chapter 3 of *God-The Ultimate Humanitarian*