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**“Come, Let Us Reason Together” About the Bible**  
**What Is Salvation?**  
**Bible Study Series**

*“Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the Lord, “Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. (Isaiah 1:18)*

**LESSON TWO – Why Do You Need Salvation?**

*Estimated Reading Time: 6 - 9 minutes*

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The first lesson talked about how people in the world think of salvation. Many think of it as emotional healing, being saved from difficult circumstances, or finding some sense of peace or purpose. That’s common. Now look deeper and see why **spiritual salvation**, the kind described in the Bible, is different, and is something every person desperately needs.

To understand why you need salvation, go all the way back, to **the beginning**.

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**In the Beginning: God Created Perfection**

The Bible opens with these powerful words:

***“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*** (Genesis 1:1)

God made everything: light, water, plants, animals, the sun, moon, and stars. Then, as the crown of His creation, He made mankind:

***“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”*** (Genesis 1:27)

And God said that everything about His creation was very good!

***“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.”*** (Genesis 1:31)

God placed man and woman in a paradise, **the Garden of Eden**. It was a perfect environment. No pain, no sickness, no death. Adam and Eve had a close, personal relationship with God. They walked with Him. Talked with Him. They had everything they needed.

And God gave them one simple rule:

***“And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 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.’”*** (Genesis 2:16–17)

God gave them free will to choose and make their own decisions. He didn’t force obedience. He gave a choice. And then came the moment that changed everything.

## The Serpent's Deception: One Small Word, Big Consequences

In Genesis 3, you meet the serpent, Satan in disguise, who approached the woman.

***“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.”*** (Genesis 3:1a)

Satan didn't try to overpower Eve. He used a trick, **he twisted God's word**, just slightly. Listen closely:

***“And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden”?’”*** (Genesis 3:1b)

Eve responded:

***“We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, “You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.”*** (Genesis 3:2–3)

Then the serpent said:

***“You will not surely die.”*** (Genesis 3:4)

Did you catch it? One small word, “NOT”, changed everything. God had said, **“you shall surely die.”** The serpent said, **“you will NOT surely die.”** One three-letter word turned God's truth into a lie. And Eve believed it.

***“So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”*** (Genesis 3:6)

Eve was **deceived**. But Adam? Of his own free will, Adam **chose** to disobey God. The Apostle Paul wrote later:

***“And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”*** (1 Timothy 2:14)

They both sinned, but in different ways. And in that moment, everything changed.

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## The Entrance of Sin and Its Effect on Mankind

That one act of disobedience introduced **sin** into the world, in the form of disobedience to the command of God. And with sin came **death**, just as God had warned. Not just physical death, but spiritual death, **separation from God**.

Paul explains it clearly:

***“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.”*** (Romans 5:12)

Because of Adam's sin, the world became a place of sorrow, pain, and mortality. God pronounced consequences on the serpent, the woman, and the man. To the woman, pain in childbirth and conflict in relationships. To the man, hard labor and toil. and ultimately:

***“For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”*** (Genesis 3:19)

But worst of all, **they were cast out** from the presence of God:

***“Therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden... and He placed cherubim... to guard the way to the tree of life.”*** (Genesis 3:23–24)

Mankind's perfect relationship with God was broken. Sin, through the deception and lying of Satan, had created a divide.

The Prophet Isaiah later explained:

***“But your iniquities (sins) have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”*** (Isaiah 59:2)

Sin breaks man's relationship with God. It cuts mankind off from the One who made us. And that's why salvation is needed.

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***Sin breaks man's relationship with God.***

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## **Why God Cannot Tolerate Sin**

God is perfectly holy, righteous, and just. His nature is completely pure and without flaw. Because of this, **He cannot overlook, ignore, or coexist with sin.** Sin stands in direct opposition to His character.

***“God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.”*** (1 John 1:5)

God's holiness means that He is utterly set apart from evil. Sin is more than just bad behavior, it is **rebellion against God's will** and a violation of His holiness.

***“You (God) are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness.”***

(Habakkuk 1:13a)

Because of His justice, God must deal with sin. He cannot simply pretend it didn't happen. If He did, He would cease to be just.

***“For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright.”***

(Psalm 11:7)

Sin creates a barrier between man and God. It **separates** us from Him:

**“But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”** (Isaiah 59:2)

This is why sin brings death, **both physical and spiritual**. It removes one from the life and fellowship that only God can give, like Adam and Eve had in the beginning, in the garden of Eden.

**“For the wages of sin is death...”** (Romans 6:23a)

In short, **God cannot tolerate sin** because His holy and righteous nature demands justice.

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### **The Need for Salvation: A Universal Problem**

Every human being since Adam and Eve has sinned. No one is exempt.

**“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”** (Romans 3:23)

And the penalty? It’s not just hardship in this life. It’s eternal separation from God.

**“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”**  
(Romans 6:23)

Sin isn’t just a “bad habit” or “mistake.” It’s rebellion against God, and, It brings death. This is not just physical death, it is spiritual, eternal death.

Jesus said:

**“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”** (Matthew 10:28)

All people stand guilty before God. All people need saving, and that’s the point! ALL need salvation, not from trouble or sadness, but from sin, eternal separation from God, and final judgment.

**“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”** (Hebrews 10:31)

Thanks to God, that He didn’t leave mankind in that condition.

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### **God’s Love and the Promise of Redemption**

Even back in the Garden, when sin first entered, God gave a glimpse of hope, the promise of a coming Savior:

**“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”** (Genesis 3:15)

That “Seed” is Christ. From the very beginning, God had a plan to redeem mankind.

Why? Because He loves His creation, and in particular the man and woman (mankind).

**“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”** (John 3:16)

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But before you can truly appreciate that gift of eternal life, you must first understand the **problem**. You must understand the **need**:

Sin entered through Adam and Eve. It spread to all. It separates you from the Creator. ~~And~~ Only God can restore what was lost.

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*Sin entered through Adam and Eve. It spread to all. It separates you from the Creator. Only God can restore what was lost.*

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## In Summary

### So, why is salvation needed?

Because sin is real. Sin separates you from God. God is holy and people are not.

Here's the good news. God wants His children back. He has made a way. But before there's talk about that way, you need to fully grasp how far man has fallen.

In the coming lessons, you will be able to understand what God did about it. Other aspects of salvation will be discussed, including grace, mercy, faith, obedience. You'll see how He made salvation available to everyone, and through whom salvation comes.

**We need salvation, because without it, we are lost.**

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*"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." —  
Romans 6:23*

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## Questions to Confirm Understanding

*Estimated time to answer the questions: 5 minutes. With scripture lookup: 20 minutes.*

Read and answer the following set of questions about this lesson, and circle your answer: "True | False" or "Yes | No". Look up the scriptures provided to confirm your answers. Then compare your answers with the Answer Key provided after these questions.

1. **True | False** Adam and Eve were created in God's image and placed in a perfect environment without death or suffering. (Genesis 1:27; 2:8–9)
2. **True | False** God gave Adam and Eve no restrictions in the Garden of Eden. (Genesis 2:16–17)

3. **True | False** The serpent deceived Eve by directly contradicting what God had said. (Genesis 3:1–4)
4. **True | False** Adam was deceived by the serpent just like Eve was. (1 Timothy 2:14)
5. **True | False** Sin entered the world through Adam, and as a result, death spread to all men. (Romans 5:12)
6. **True | False** God’s holiness allows Him to overlook or ignore sin because He is loving. (Habakkuk 1:13; 1 John 1:5)
7. **True | False** Sin separates mankind from God and causes spiritual death. (Isaiah 59:2; Romans 6:23)
8. **True | False** Every person since Adam has sinned and is subject to the penalty of sin. (Romans 3:23)
9. **True | False** Salvation is needed primarily to improve our emotional well-being and quality of life. (Matthew 10:28)
10. **True | False** God promised a Savior even in the Garden after sin entered the world. Genesis 3:15

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### **Answer Key , Lesson Two: Why Do You Need Salvation?**

*Estimated time to read the answers: 4 - 5 minutes. With reflection and contemplation: 18 - 22 minutes.*

1. Adam and Eve were created in God's image and placed in a perfect environment without death or suffering. **True**  
*“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”* (Genesis 1:27)  
*“Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.”* (Genesis 2:15)  
Adam and Eve lived in a perfect paradise before sin entered, no pain, sickness, or death, just fellowship with God.
2. God gave Adam and Eve no restrictions in the Garden of Eden. **False**  
*“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat...”* (Genesis 2:16–17)  
God gave them one clear restriction. Disobedience to that command led to sin entering the world.
3. The serpent deceived Eve by directly contradicting what God had said. **True**  
*“Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.”* {Genesis 3:4}

The serpent twisted God's word, directly contradicting His command and making God out to be untrustworthy.

4. Adam was deceived by the serpent just like Eve was. **False**  
*"And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression."*  
(1 Timothy 2:14)  
Adam knowingly chose to disobey. Unlike Eve, he wasn't tricked, he sinned willfully.
5. Sin entered the world through Adam, and as a result, death spread to all men. **True**  
*"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."* (Romans 5:12)  
Adam's disobedience brought sin and death into the world, affecting all who came after him.
6. God's holiness allows Him to overlook or ignore sin because He is loving. **False**  
*"You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on wickedness."* (Habakkuk 1:13)  
*"God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."* (1 John 1:5)  
God's love doesn't cancel His holiness or justice. He must deal with sin because He is righteous.
7. Sin separates mankind from God and causes spiritual death. **True**  
*"But your iniquities have separated you from your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you."* (Isaiah 59:2)  
*"For the wages of sin is death..."* (Romans 6:23)  
Sin causes a break in fellowship with God, resulting in spiritual death and lostness.
8. Every person since Adam has sinned and is subject to the penalty of sin. **True**  
*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23)  
All are guilty of sin, and therefore all are in need of salvation.
9. Salvation is needed primarily to improve our emotional well-being and quality of life. **False**  
*"But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."* (Matthew 10:28)  
Salvation is not just about feelings or a better life, it's about being saved from eternal judgment.
10. God promised a Savior even in the Garden after sin entered the world. **True**  
*"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."* (Genesis 3:15)  
This is the first prophecy of Christ, God's plan to redeem humanity began the moment sin entered the world.

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