

### Satanic Duplicity & Deceit

We can note in Genesis 3:3 that the woman follows Satan's lead and attributes the prohibition to Elohim rather than Jehovah Elohim. The importance of this subtility can be noted from the following sources:

**Keil, C. F. and F. J. Delitzsch. "The Pentateuch." Vol. 1 of Biblical Commentary on the Old Testament (94). Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1968:**

*The serpent calls God by the name of Elohim alone, and the woman does the same. In this more general and indefinite name the personality of the living God is obscured.*

**Lockyer, Herbert. All the Divine Names and Titles in the Bible. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1975; p. 20:**

*"Jehovah" and "Elohim" are combined for the first time in the Creation narrative, and express man's relationship to God as his Creator. Combined, then, "the two names provide the truth of the majestic, omnipotent God, the Three in One, deigning to call into existence one creature called man, who, while made in the likeness of "Elohim," should also possess moral and spiritual power to apprehend Jehovah."*

**Thieme, R. B., Jr. Satanic Plot. Houston: Berachah Tapes and Publications, 1974, pp. 18-19:**

*By using ELOHIM only, Satan purposely ignored the relationship between God and man and merely recognized a Supreme Being. Satan always has and always will ignore God, insofar as it is possible to do so. The Satanic innuendo was this: "You can recognize the existence of a Supreme Being, but don't ever get the idea that God is interested in you personally or that there can be a relationship between you and God!"*

Having now distracted the woman with regard to who is being quoted, he hits her with his first volley of deception. In a tone of disbelief, he asks:

**Genesis 3:1c – "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?'"**

This is the first recorded account of Satanic prestidigitation and legerdemain against a member of the human race. From previous studies we have learned that these two words are synonymous and refer to the manual skill and dexterity in the execution of tricks by magicians. Prestidigitation literally means "fast fingers." However, since the magician's success is dependent upon visual deceit, these words later took on the additional meaning of verbal deceit. This question is Satan's opening foray with the woman. He pretends ignorance of exactly what Jesus Christ commanded her and her husband not to do.

The truth is he knows precisely what Jehovah Elohim has commanded. He wants to see if the woman does. He sets her up by misquoting the mandate. The grammar of the Hebrew demands a reading of his question as one showing surprise: "You shall not eat from any tree of the Garden?" The way this question is presented not only is deceitful, it also implies that such a policy is silly, unnecessary and therefore not worthy of compliance.

The woman now responds with her understanding of the Lord's policy:

**Genesis 3:2 - So, the woman replied to the serpent, "From the fruit of any tree in the Garden we may eat;**

**Genesis 3:3 - but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the Garden, Elohim has said, 'You shall not eat from it [except for the error in attribution, the quote, to this point, is accurate] or touch it [liar, liar, pants on fire] lest you die.'"**

Please note that she understands the Lord's provision to her and her husband of daily logistical grace—they may freely eat from the trees of the Garden. Also remember that when Jehovah Elohim issued the prohibition in Genesis 2:17 Ishah had not yet been created.

Could then her ignorance be blamed on a failure of Adam to properly communicate to her the divine policy?

The Lord's imperative of prohibition in Genesis 2:17 is in the second masculine singular. Ishah quotes it to the serpent in Genesis 3:3 in the second masculine plural. The mandate was imposed upon Adam before Ishah's creation, yet she knows about it. She quotes the Lord's prohibition in the plural rather than the singular. Therefore, the Lord has continued to review the prohibition for both Adam and Ishah within the context of His daily theology classes.

So, she understood the command but she failed to understand the penalty clause. As a result, she thought that death lay in the property of the tree, therefore either touching or eating its fruit would be fatal.

The true issue which had escaped her was that spiritual death resides in the negative volition of the soul. Once the volitional decision is made to eat, then the commandment is violated. This is a wrong choice and once made the perfection of the soul is destroyed.

What follows is the knowledge of good and evil. Good is not eating, evil is eating. Error is introduced into the equation. Wrong is now a reality. Violation of divine will has now taken the playing field alongside compliance with divine will. Knowledge of the difference is perceived in the conscience.

Apples are often suggested as the forbidden fruit but the issue is not in the fruit itself but the fact a prohibition has been established. The prohibition could have been against any fruit of any tree. Or, the Lord could have said, *"From the flesh of any beast in the Garden you may eat, but from the flesh of cows which graze in the middle of the Garden you shall not eat from them, for in the day you eat from them dying you shall surely die."*

You see the issue is compliance versus noncompliance with imperative moods. As long as this one prohibition was upheld, there was no possible wrong that could be committed by Adam or Ishah. Thus, until they decided to eat, their respective consciences remained *"tabulae rasae."* Up until that moment for each of them they remained in perfect innocence. At the moment of their negative decisions however, they instantly knew right from wrong.

Please learn to distinguish between the souls of our original parents who were created and the rest of us who were born. When the Lord created the souls of Adam and Ishah and imputed them to their physical bodies, the streams of consciousness were programmed with all the data necessary for the function of an adult mentality.

For example, their frames of reference were cognizant of the facts necessary to orient to their circumstances and perceive meaning from their environment. Their memory centers contained information that enabled them to recall data not previously learned. Their vocabularies contained a complete knowledge of a language, its grammar, and its syntax.

Categorical storage was programmed with information in various disciplines necessary to function in the Garden including knowledge of animal husbandry and crop cultivation. Their momentum department was equipped with the motivation to continue to learn and progress.

Wisdom enabled them to clearly understand what to do, when to do it, and how. But their consciences remained unprogrammed. The compartment existed for each but it was *"tabula rasa."*

All spiritual growth was dependent upon being exposed to the truth from an impeccable source. That Source was Jesus Christ. When it came to their spiritual streams of consciousness, all seven categories were *"tabula rasa."* Their conscience remained in this status until the moment they decided to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

In the case of all Adam and Eve's progeny, each and every one of us are born into this life with a soul whose stream of consciousness is completely "*tabula rasa*" in both the human and spiritual sense. Everything we learn must come from inculcation, and metabolization from outside sources. Conscience is that mental faculty by which we distinguish between right and wrong. It urges us to do what we recognize to be right and to not do what we recognize to be wrong. The only thing that makes a Christian conscience work is Bible doctrine.