

3.2.20 - What If (Part II)

What If Some of Adam's Children Ate the Forbidden Fruit

This is a continuation of last week's article where we asked the question "What would the world be like if Adam and Eve had not eaten the forbidden fruit as Satan suggested." There we described life in the Garden with a growing family. Here we want to look at the trouble that would erupt when someone took of the fruit and ate it. With a free will, someone sometime will make the wrong choice eventually if only to see what will happen.

It would have been interesting if God had included for our knowledge a timeline from the creation of Adam until the eating of the forbidden fruit. I am guessing at least a few months between the two events and a few years at the most. God does record that Adam named the animals as God brought them to him. That they enjoyed sweet fellowship. That God saw Adam's need for a human partner and put him to sleep and created Eve. God just doesn't record in His Word how much time all of that took. We're guessing that God was probably waiting for Adam to pass at least his first test of obedience to avoid problems that would arise from people with a sin nature living beside those without. In this article we are going to imagine what would happen if there were both groups on earth at the same time.

We will imagine that Adam's family has increased to 100 persons and no one had eaten of the forbidden fruit up to that time. Judging from Bible stories and people today, that number is too high, but we need a number to work with. This would take about 50 years. With that many people and that much time, the serpent will talk someone into trying the forbidden fruit. Maybe the serpent will not be needed. Just one rebellious child wanting to see what would happen if he tries the forbidden fruit would get the problem started...

Does this one sinner ruin it for everyone? The question that Abraham asked about Sodom could be asked here: **Gen 18:23 And Abraham**

drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? We would only need to replace "destroy" with "curse" and maybe "wicked" with "disobedient". Yes, God knew when and how Adam would sin. He knew that He did not need a plan for our hypothetical situation, but He could easily put one together. We are left guessing how He would handle the situations that would result.

The disobedient person would surely be thrown out of the Garden. If there was enough room for 100 people in the Garden then the Garden would be spared from the curse and it would apply to the world outside the Garden. The righteous would be allowed to come and go, but the disobedient would not be allowed in much like the new Jerusalem will be open to saved people but not to the unsaved. The disobedient person could be sent to a cursed area prepared for such people. He could just be isolated from the other 99 people in a cursed section of the earth. It is certain that if one person eats the forbidden fruit and does not die instantly, others will try it also. They would suffer the same curse. We will assume the carnal people will form a colony some distance from the Garden.

The carnal people will try to get their righteous friends to join them if they are not completely isolated, which we do not think is likely. Their friends would have to come out of the Garden to visit, which seems likely. This would be far more pressure than the serpent was able to exert on Eve. The carnal people would be barred from the Garden since that is what happened to Adam and Eve. Eventually even some of the righteous would choose to live outside the Garden and be allowed to come and go at will.

God would instruct the carnal people on how to please Him with offerings. This would be animal sacrifices as a symbol of the price of their disobedience. The animal dies in their place. The innocent for the guilty as Jesus paid our sin debt.

People would certainly begin to divide themselves into groups as they do now. This group would require more clothing and this would demand less due to the temps and environment. Legalism would get a start by claiming how much needed to be covered to please God or after a long time, gods.

Someone would want to see what happens if they gave their best fruits and vegetables as an offering in place of an animal sacrifice. When God favors the animal sacrifices over the fruits and vegetables, there will be tension between the groups. Satan will encourage the fruit and vegetable group to stop the blood offering group, maybe even to murdering some and the first human deaths would occur. Next is revenge and the crazy cycle begins making another division in what we think would be a small group.

As the carnal group grows by birth or recruiting it will contain some lazy people who will expect others to provide for them. When they become too much of a burden, the workers might move to another area and leave them behind since land would be unlimited. According to **Genesis 3:17-19** **And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.** The carnal people would have to work to eat. Animals did not seem to be much of a threat till after the flood. Watchmen to protect the group from wild animals would not be needed. A worker could take his family and move to a remote area and provide for only his family instead of also helping the lazy people. This would work until the lazy people resort to force to take food from the workers. That would force the workers to band together for protection. Now we have more groups with tension between them.

The worker group will soon find lazy people in their group also and the cycle repeats.

Along the same line, the carnal people would try to get food and other stuff from the colonies of righteous people outside the Garden assuming there were some. The colonies would become necessary at some point as the population expanded and the Garden became too small for all of them to stay in the Garden. The colonies would need ways to defend themselves, which we believe God would supply ideas for. Supernatural protection would only happen on unusual occasions. The carnal people might get a lot of spoil on the first raid, but they are very likely to meet with some unpleasant surprises on latter raids. Eventually they will return empty handed. With larger groups these raids become wars.

When the raids did not bring enough reward for the effort, the carnal people would try trading with the righteous people in the colonies. This would introduce a lot more rules for the righteous to break and be forced into the carnal group. The righteous would have to be honest in all their trade deals regardless of how many times they were cheated by the carnal. The righteous could not use the sensuous clothing of the carnal as an excuse for fornication or adultery. The righteous would not be allowed to lie about their products or anything else. The righteous would not be allowed to steal from the carnal even though they had been robbed by carnal thieves. The rules and the apparent freedom from them in the carnal group would increase the "cost" of remaining righteous.

God would have to allow the righteous to defend themselves against violence from the carnal. The righteous would not be allowed to revenge themselves, so there would need to be a rule for when self defense becomes revenge. Carnal people caught in criminal acts, like rape or kidnapping, would need to be punished. They could be sure of a fair trial and sentence with Jesus as the final judge if lower judges could not decide the case.

As the rules increase to remain righteous and the carnal people seem to have more freedom to do what they want more people will break a rule and be forced to join the carnal group. If the young children are not convinced that the righteous life is better, they will fail to follow the rules and be lost from the group. The righteous may not be the majority at anytime after the two groups become equal in number. Those following God has not been a majority at anytime in history that we know about. The righteous would be allowed to visit the carnal and even live among them perhaps, but their carnal ways would be very tempting to follow and become one of them. Being separated from family would be a big draw to visit or live among the carnal.

If the righteous group became very small, which we believe would probably happen. Although they would always be having children who would be righteous at birth and some would stay with the righteous life style. If the number became small or not God might translate the last few like He did Enoch, possible just before the flood, so He could remove the Garden and the tree of life from the earth. Some scholars believe that both were removed at the time of the flood.

The point is that society would eventually look pretty much like it does today even if Adam hadn't sinned by choosing to eat the forbidden fruit.

The real question is how does all of this relate to naturism? It is our firm belief that even with a divided population between the righteous and those who now have a need for a Savior, the view of the naked body would not have needed to have been an issue, it most likely would have been...but it didn't have to. We believe that even today the naked body would not be a problem if the proper teaching or experience were to take place. Our proof of this is that there are societies of people alive today on the planet who live naked 100% of the time and are not lust driven sex maniacs all day every day. Quite the opposite in fact...they live their lives, they hunt, fish, grow crops, build houses, raise families, etc. just like you or I do. They simply do it without the restriction of clothing.

You see, the view that the naked body is somehow shameful and lustful is a relatively new concept. We can easily see in Scripture the commonplace of nakedness. Now, the overall idea of Satan's desire to cover the image of Christ in our bodies is not new, but his lie that the body is shameful or sinful hadn't really caught on until the last couple of hundred years and then only in western civilizations. The problem today is in the teaching and the experience. If we were to begin training our youth that the body is not shameful, that nakedness is God's preferred way of living, that a body is just a body then it would not take long to reverse the trend. If we were to begin to live unashamed of our naked bodies as was God's plan from the beginning it would not take long for people to understand and accept that the commonplace of nakedness does not lead to increased lust, but decreased oversexualization in society. The more common nakedness is, the less pull the naked body has on society...the less control it has over them.

The truth of the matter is that even with a divided society of the righteous and sinners as our hypothetical illustrates, the body could remain naked without societal problems if the teaching and experience were proper. It would be no different than today if the teaching and experience were proper. Today we have the saved and the unsaved, just like they would have had the righteous and those in need of a savior. Naturist retreats and nude beaches around the world successfully integrate both the saved and the unsaved in naked bliss. This alone is proof positive that the entire world could live this way with the proper teaching and experience.

What can you do about it? You can teach your children and grandchildren properly, you can provide for your family a proper experience where the body is not shameful, where it is not lustful, where every body no matter the size and shape and color, is viewed as beautiful.

You can reverse the trend if even only in small way, you can reverse the trend for your circle of influence. My father used to ask me all the time how to eat an elephant and my answer was always the same...one bite at a time. That's how we reverse the Satanic trend of viewing God's image in man as shameful and dirty...we reverse it one person at a time.