



GRANT AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

Truth Behind the Lies We Believe

The Lie about God

Genesis 3:1-7 & Romans 8:31-39

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?’”

² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ 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.’”

⁴ “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.. **(Genesis 3:1-7)**

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be ^[a] against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ^[b] ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.. **(Romans 8:31-39)**

SERMON SUMMARY

This new sermon series delves into the truth behind the lies we believe. This series is rooted in John 8:31-32. This week, we are going to look at a lie about God.

The Lie: God is holding out on me (Genesis 3:1-7)

When something doesn't go your way or you feel like you're missing that one thing which would make your life complete, you may be tempted to believe that God is holding out on you. For a lie to exist, there must be a deceiver, the enemy.

1)The enemy's only power over you is lies.

Satan cannot keep you from God, control your actions, or make you sin. He caused Adam and Eve to doubt God's goodness. He lies and causes us to doubt too. Eden was a good and perfect place, so the decision of God to withhold the Tree of Knowledge was good. When God withholds something we desire, it is good.

2)The lie is rooted in doubting God's goodness.

Satan's strategy was to make Eve doubt God's intentions (his goodness). When Satan gets you to doubt the character of God, he begins to win. Doubting God's goodness is the root of sin. We choose to rebel against God because we believe that what God said is off limits is actually good, and that God is holding out.

The Truth: God is for you. (Romans 8:31-39)

1)The cross proves he is for you (v 32)

If God sacrificed his Son for us, what will he not do for us? The greatness of God's love is seen in this sacrifice. That same love will be shown in your life.

2)He is not pointing his finger in condemnation; he is showing his hands in forgiveness (v 33-34)

Jesus intercedes for us. When we stand before the throne of God as a child of God, we are no longer condemned. There will be a day when you will stand before God, you will be guilty, but no longer condemned because of Jesus.

3)His goodness is demonstrated in trouble (v 35)

Nothing can separate us from the love of God. Not even tribulation or death. Paul is sure of this, his own experience validates the goodness of God. You will face trials and distress, and in these moments, God will prove himself to be good.

The character of God dismantles the lie of the enemy.

DISCUSSION

Reminders for small group leaders:

- We want everyone to interact with God's Word. Please have Bibles available for students who don't have one. We have a limited amount of Bibles available at church, so remind your people to bring theirs if they have one. **Be sure to open up your Bibles together during small group!**
 - Set aside a time to pray for each other during every POD. Try not to rush through this time as it's good to have people pray for each other.
 - Regularly recap how your POD is doing with your co-leaders. Are you meeting your goals? How can you help your people grow in relationship with God and with each other? Is there anyone in your POD who needs encouragement, prayer, or a meeting with one of you this week?
 - The teaching happened on Sunday at church. **The purpose of small groups is to ask two questions:** 1) What is God saying to me in His Word?, 2) What is He asking me to do in response?
 - Your role is to help everyone answer these two questions so that God can do His work of transforming hearts and lives.
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RECAP with your co-leader/REFLECT by yourself

- What stood out to you/encouraged you/challenged you, etc from the message?
- What is the learning point and/or action point you want the people in your small group to leave with?
- How would you summarize the sermon in one or two sentences?

QUESTIONS

Choose (if any) questions that would be good for your group to discuss, or make up your own!

Getting to know you

What is a lie you believed as a child? (Santa Clause, Easter Bunny, Uncle Hank was a CIA agent...)

This series is a series about lies. What lies do people in our culture believe about God?

Do you think most people believe God is good? Why or why not?

When was a moment where you felt like if you had "that one thing", your life would be complete?

Into the Bible/Application

Read John 8:31-32.

How does the truth set you free?

What truth in particular has set you free?

Bryan said, "Doubting God's goodness is the root of sin" - how is that true in our lives?

Read Romans 8:31-39.

Point out all the ways in this passage that God is for us.

What circumstances in your life have caused you to doubt God's goodness?

Read John 8:44.

Satan is the master manipulator and liar. How can you defend yourself against Satan's lies?

How have you seen the goodness of God amidst trials?

When God withholds something from you, it is for your benefit.

How has this been true in your life?

PRAY

- Pray that God will strengthen you against the attacks of Satan in our lives
- Thank God for his constant love and goodness, even amongst the hardship
- Pray that we will constantly reminded that God is for us, not against us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

College Fall Retreat 2019 is around the corner! October 18-20 at Camp Tapawingo. Sign up now at osuepic.com.

Epic large group meets on Thursday, at MU13.

All church Pastor Don's retirement party is on October 13th, 6pm at The Fairgrounds auditorium.