

## Reconciliation – Lesson Two

### Reconcile

1. to make (oneself or another) no longer opposed;
2. to become friendly with (someone) after estrangement or to re-establish friendly relations between (two or more people)
3. to settle (a quarrel or difference)
4. to make (two apparently conflicting things) compatible or consistent with each other
5. to reconsecrate (a desecrated church, etc)

### The Order

Genesis 1:24-30

<sup>24</sup>And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. <sup>25</sup>And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. **And let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

<sup>27</sup>So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; **male and female he created them.**

<sup>28</sup>**And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." <sup>29</sup>And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

It is very clear in the preceding scriptures that it was God's full intention that mankind, which consisted of male and female, would have dominion (full control) over the earth (verses 26 & 28). Everything was created to multiply and fill the earth perpetually and man's only job was to manage it all.

## The Instructions

Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17

<sup>8</sup>And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. <sup>9</sup>And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. <sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "**You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup>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.**"

## The Fall

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?" <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "you will not die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate.

## The Results

*For the Serpent*

Genesis 3:14-15

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

*For the Woman (and all women)*

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

*For the Man (and all men and the earth)*

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it', cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Clearly we can see that God was angry. The punishment was severe. Each one of them was demoted to a lower position. The serpent was made to crawl on his belly, which implies that beforehand, he did not crawl on his belly. The woman was not only to experience pangs during childbirth, but she was demoted to a place of submission ("he (the husband) shall rule over you"), when clearly before in Genesis 1 both of them had dominion over all other creation. God evicted them from the paradise he created for them. The world they had known was no longer theirs. So they found out that the serpent had lied and that what God told them from the beginning was true, "for in the day that you eat of it (the forbidden fruit) you shall surely die." They were estranged from God, separated from Him and no longer enjoyed the fellowship they once had with Him. Adam had not known what death was or the real wage of sin, but was soon to discover the reality of it. But God, with infinite love, already had a plan of reconciliation through Jesus Christ.