

In The Beginning...

**Paradise Lost:
Dialogue & Descent**

Genesis 3:1-7

- **The Fall** – from the pinnacle of innocence and intimacy to the pit of guilt and estrangement.
- **Paradise Lost** - the woman listens to the serpent, the man listens to the woman, but no one listens to God.

Bringing the Text to Light

Dialogue with the Devil – vs. 1-5

- True history - as actual and as factual as Jesus on the cross. See [Rom 5:12-21](#); [I Cor 15:21,22](#).
- The shrewd serpent – Satan's mouthpiece. ([Vs. 1a](#))

Bringing the Text to Light

Dialogue with the Devil – vs. 1-5

- Serpent – **Vs. 1b**
 - Cunningly insinuates: we can and should evaluate and judge God and His ways...
 - Misquotes and misrepresents God's words...
- Eve – **Vs. 2-3**
 - Minimizes both God's provision and His warnings
 - Exaggerates God' strictness – adding to His Word
- Serpent – **Vs. 4-5**
 - Bold, shocking lie that contradicts and slanders God
 - As cruelly enticing and totally enslaving as giving crack cocaine to a grade schooler...

Bringing the Text to Light

Dialogue with the Devil – vs. 1-5

Descent into the Pit – vs. 6-7

- Verse 6b

She took and ate... she gave to him and he ate.
Eve followed the serpent, Adam followed Eve,
and no one followed God.

- Verse 6a

She came to the conclusion that she wanted and needed something other than God Himself and what God in His goodness and wisdom had chosen to provide for her.

This is the very essence of our sin.

Bringing the Text to Light

Applying the Text to Life

- We must be careful to pay minute attention to the actual words of the Word of God.
- We must, at all costs, hold firm to a deep and absolute conviction of the goodness of God and the rightness of His ways.

God is not Lucy with the football...