

## Christian Doctrine Mankind (Part 6) What Went Wrong?

### ***Mankind Falls into Sin***

At the time of their creation, Adam and Eve experienced a perfect world. They were in fellowship with their Creator, they lived in the Garden of Eden with all their needs met, and they each had responsibilities that they enjoyed doing (Gen. 2:8-25). They were allowed to eat of all the fruit in the garden except for that which grew on the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:16-17). By not eating of this tree, Adam and Eve could show their desire to obey God. However, faced with temptation, Adam and Eve ate of the tree and sinned against their Creator (Gen. 3:1-6). The perfect world was no longer perfect.

### ***Consequences of the Fall***

Mankind's fall into sin had drastic effects. Not only did Adam and Eve feel guilty and tried to pass the blame (Gen. 3:12-13), they also faced several consequences:

- Their fellowship with God was broken; they died spiritually (Gen. 3:8, 23-24).
- They began to die physically (Gen. 2:17; 3:19).
- Their nature was corrupted and became sinful (Rom. 5:12; Jer. 17:9).
- Eve (women) would experience great pain in childbearing (Gen. 3:16).
- Adam (men) would experience hard labor as he worked the ground among thorns and thistles (Gen. 3:17-19).
- The animal world and nature itself was also affected (Gen. 3:14; 17-18; Is. 11:6-9; Rom. 8:21-22).

### ***Mankind's Only Hope***

Not only is every person born into a world corrupted by sin, but every person is also born with a heart corrupted by sin. Each of us is guilty before God and in need of forgiveness offered through the shed blood of Christ. Placing one's faith in Christ enables a person to have a relationship with his/her Creator and look forward to an eternity in a paradise free from sin (Rom. 5:15-21).

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