

# THE FALL OF THE HUMAN RACE

## Golden Text

“Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned” (Romans 5: 12).

## Useful Practice

Adam's sin brought us death, but the death of Jesus Christ guarantees us eternal life and full communion with God.

## Scripture Reading

### Romans 5: 12 – 19

**12** - Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned

**13** - To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law.

**14**- Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

**15** - But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

**16** - Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.

**17** - For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one

man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

**18** - Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people.

**19** - For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

### **General Objective**

To understand that Adam's sin brought death, but the death of Jesus brought life.

### **Specific Objectives**

- I. To explain** that Eden was the place created by God to be the habitat of man;
- II. To know** how the temptation of Adam and Eve occurred;
- III. To understand** God's judgment on sin.

### **Introduction**

For some time, Adam and Eve lived in the most complete happiness. That harmony, however, was about to be broken by a sinister character, enemy of all the good. Nevertheless, if the Devil assumed that the divine work was ruined forever, he was wrong, because God, in his infinite love, had already prepared the Plan of Salvation to rescue us from sin, from the creation of the world. Adam's Fall would be reversed by Jesus Christ through His death on the cross.

### **I. PARADISE IN EDEN**

After having planted a garden in Eden, there the Lord put the man he had created (Gen 2:8). From there, it would be up to Adam to rule over the world as the representative of God on earth. He had the task to work the land and take care of the garden.

- 1. To work the land.** Adam should work the land (Gen. 2:15). He would

not only work it, but he should create inventions, useful things, sciences and arts out of it. Notice that Eden was located in a region abundant in gold (Genesis 2.11,12). As he created Adam, God endowed him with many skills.

**2. To take care of Eden.** We must not confuse Adam's innocence with intellectual disability. Holy in body and soul, our father was wise and perfectly capable of discerning between good and evil. As a matter of fact, he was more intelligent than us. Therefore, God instructed him to take care of Eden, because he would have to face a very shrewd and cunning enemy.

## II - THE TEMPTATION IN PARADISE

Eden was a perfect place. From there, mankind could multiply and spread all over the planet, increasing, in a work of love, the garden that God had planted. Unfortunately, our parents fell into the Devil's temptation.

**1. The active agent of the temptation.** In order to lead the human race into sin, Satan uses a cunning and clever animal, the serpent (Genesis 3:1). And, through it, he speaks to Eve, causing her to go astray from faith. We should not have a dialogue with our enemy, regardless of the means he uses to convince us, because we will sin against God.

**2. The passive agent of temptation.** Adam was the guardian of Eden. However, he did not know how to protect his wife, who ended up being deceived by the devil. Being misled, Eve sinned, "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 "(Gen 3:6). Adam and Eve gave in to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life (1 John 3:16). Adam and Eve sinned voluntarily and consciously. Biblically speaking, they are responsible for bringing sin into the world (Romans 5:12).

## III - GOD'S JUDGMENT

Satan deceived, lied and promised what he himself did not have. God's judgment, therefore, would soon come upon the serpent, the woman and the man.

**1. Upon the serpent.** Due to its nature, the serpent is a perfect type of Satan: clever, shrewd and opportunistic (Eph 6:11). Now it would be forced to eat dust (Genesis 3:14). Even in the Millennium, when the nature of the animals is restored, it will not be redeemed from its degradation (Isaiah 65:25). Then God decrees the enmity between the serpent and the woman, as well as the promise of redemption: "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel" (Gen. 3:15). Despite the Fall, Eve would assist God. See her statements when she gave birth to Cain and Seth (Genesis 4:1,25). Centuries later, Mary would exalt Israel's Eternal One for choosing her as the mother of the Savior of the world (Luke 1:46-56).

**2. Upon the woman.** In order to punish Eve's disobedience, the Lord makes her motherhood stressful and very painful. Moreover, he subjects the woman to the rule of man: "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you" (Gen. 3:16; Eph 5:22,23). Despite the fall, there are many Eve's daughters who are praised for their unusual virtue and cooperation in the Kingdom of God (Prov 31:10-30; 2 John 1-13). Sarah, Deborah, Esther, Mary and Priscilla are just a few of these beautiful examples.

**3. Upon the man.** God denounces Adam as being responsible for the Fall of mankind. As the Apostle Paul writes, sin entered the world not through a woman, nor through the devil, but through a man (Romans 5:12). Therefore, the divine judgment falls more sharply upon our first father. And because of him, the Earth became damned. Because of his disobedience to God, the days of Adam and his descendants would be more dangerous. His sustenance would come with harder work, and he would have to face hardships, and the end of his own existence: "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return" (Gen. 3:19). Adam saw, with great difficulty, the price of disobeying God and His Word.

## CONCLUSION

God was not taken by surprise on Adam's Fall, because the Lamb, in His foreknowledge, had already been slain from the creation of the world (Rev. 13:8). Our first parents really sinned, but God promised to redeem all mankind by the blood of Christ, because Jesus died for all (John 1:29).

In the genealogy of Jesus, recorded by Luke, Adam is called the son of God (Luke 3:38). Wonderful grace! So, despite the apparent victory of sin, the Lord Jesus, the second Adam, came to rescue us from the hands of Satan: "For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive" (1 Cor 15:22). Only Jesus Christ can rescue us from sin.

