

CRUSH EVIL

*"I am called to **CRUSH EVIL**."*

Genesis

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man *in our image, to be like us*. And let them *have dominion over . . . the earth*."

dominion : *radah* - "to rule, to dominate, to **SUBDUE**"

^{2:15} The LORD **God placed Adam** in the Garden of Eden **to work it** and **to keep it**.

^{2:16} But the LORD **God commanded him**,
"You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden -
¹⁷ except the *tree of the knowledge of good and evil*.
If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."

^{3:1} The serpent was the shrewdest (*most subtle*) of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from **any** of the trees in the garden?"

^{3:2} "Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied. ³ "It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'"

⁴ "**You won't die!**" the serpent replied to the woman.

⁵ "God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."

Q : How many Lies did the Serpent tell Eve?

**Truth : Temptation is an INVITATION
to believe a LIE.**

Crush Evil by KNOWING the Truth.

John 8:32 - "Know the truth and the truth will set you free."

Truth : Your CHOICES take you PLACES.

3:6 The woman was convinced. **She saw** that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and **she wanted** the wisdom it would give her. So **she took** some of the fruit and ate it. Then **she gave** some to her husband, *who was with her*, and he ate it, too.

3:7 At that moment their **eyes were opened**, and they suddenly **felt shame** at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to **cover themselves**.

Crush Evil by WALKING WITH Truth.

3:8 When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the *LORD God walking* about in the garden. So **they hid from the LORD God** among the trees.

3:9 Then the **LORD God called to the man**,
"*Where are you?*" ¹⁰ Adam replied,
"I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid.
I was afraid because I was naked."

¹¹ "*Who told you that you were naked?*" the LORD God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?"

¹² The Adam replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

3:13 Then the **LORD God asked the woman**,
"What have you done?" She replied,
"The serpent deceived me - that's why I ate it."

Crush Evil by SPEAKING the Truth.

3:14 Then the **LORD God said to the serpent**,
“Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live. ¹⁵ And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. **“He (*Jesus*) will strike (*crush*) your head, & you will strike his heel.”**

3:16 Then **the LORD God said to the woman**,
“I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception. And your desire will be for your husband (*craving - both for and against*), but he will rule over you.”

3:17 Then **the LORD God said to the man**,
“Since you listened to (*obeyed*) your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. ¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. ¹⁹ By the sweat (*sorrow*) of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.”

3:20 Then the man - Adam - named his wife **Eve**,
because she would be the **“mother of all living.”**

Truth : “One of our biggest temptations is to be SILENT when our VOICE is needed.” - Pastor Matt Chandler

Q : Where is your voice needed?

3:21 And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife, and He covered them.

Crush Evil by RECEIVING the Truth.

Romans 15:16-17 “Adam’s sin led to *condemnation*, but God’s free gift leads to our *being made right* with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. ¹⁷ For the Sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for ***all who receive it will live in triumph*** over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

Truth : It’s time to come out of the
BUSHES with no DEFENSES.

Questions and Actions.

Q : Which one of **sin's 3 consequences** do you wrestle with the most and why? (*Fear - Shame - Blame*)

Q : What truth is God telling you that you need to **believe**? How would that truth change your life?

Q : Have you chosen to **receive** God's covering for your sin, or are you still **hiding** in the bushes?

☐ I have **received** God's covering through Jesus.

☐ I am **still hiding** in the bushes.

(will you consider praying the prayer below)

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Prayer : "Dear God. I've tried a thousand different ways to find peace for my soul, and I'm still in the bushes. My fear, shame, and blame has kept me from coming to you. Thank you for loving me and calling me out of the bushes in spite of the way I've wronged you and others.

Today - **I'm calling on the name of Jesus** to forgive me, cover me, and bless me with a brand new life. I'm ready to receive you and walk in your truth. I will share my decision today with those around me and receive their support in my new journey. Thank you and Amen."

Notes.