

**Lessons from Torah – 04**  
**The Saddest 3 Words in the Bible**  
**Genesis 3:6 – “. . . and he ate”**

1. Last week Eve showed that we are tempted in the area of our need (Genesis 3:1-6, 1 John 2:16):
  - a. The needs of our bodies – “good for food”
  - b. The needs of our soul – “beautiful to look at”
  - c. The needs of our spirit - “desired to be wise”
  - d. To the extent that we love anything more than we love God we will be tempted to meet those needs outside of God’s will
  - e. The temptation of Jesus failed because his love for his Father protected him
2. This week, we learn from Adam
  - a. “The Fall” was the result of Adam’s sin, not Eve’s
  - b. “Their eyes were opened, and they knew they were naked”, not after Eve ate, but after Adam ate
  - c. Paul calls Jesus the “last Adam” (1 Corinthians 15:45 – In what way is his life and mission a “reset” of Adam?
3. Romans 5:14 – Adam was a “type”, or example, “of the one who was to come” (Jesus)
  - a. Only a person free from sin could undo the effects of sin, for Eve or for us
  - b. Once Eve sinned, Adam was the only sinless person in the world – after Adam sinned, Jesus would be the only sinless person in the world
  - c. It was in that moment when Eve offered Adam the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, that Adam’s response would be the fate of humanity
    - i. Would he join with Eve in sin and plunge all creation into decay and death?
      - ii. Would he condemn her for her sin and lose her to the curse but save himself?
      - iii. Would he be the “pattern” of Jesus by encouraging repentance and, if necessary, offering to receive the curse in her place?
4. We face Adam’s choice as we decide how to respond to sin – the sins of others and our own temptation to sin
  - a. Will we join in sin, as Adam did? We do this as we:
    - i. Commit the same sins, as Adam did
    - ii. Condone sin by our silence
    - iii. Deny the reality of Judgment and the consequences of sin
  - b. Will we condemn the sin in others, though we ourselves commit the same, or other, sins? We do this when we:
    - i. Condemn others
    - ii. Refuse to forgive
    - iii. Return evil for evil
  - c. Will we seek reconciliation by bearing witness to the truth about sin while extending grace and forgiveness for Jesus’ sake? (See Proverbs 10:12, 17:9; 2 Corinthians 5:11-21; Colossians 3:13; James 2:13, 5:20; 1 Peter 4:8)
5. As a result of Adam’s choice, we by nature sin in our relationships, with devastating effects
6. The presence of the Holy Spirit in those who believe in Jesus enables us to offer reconciliation through the example and sacrifice of Jesus, and so reject the tragic choice of Adam
7. Only Jesus can bear the sins of another –
  - a. we cannot bear each other’s sins
  - b. we **are** called to bear **with** each other, bring all sin before Jesus and not return sin for sin