Some Things Never Change

Lesson for Sunday, May 22, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

* How would you summarize Genesis 1-3?
* Genesis 1:
  + God created everything with the power of His Word.
  + God created humans in His image. Of all the creation, human beings are special.
  + Everything God created was very good – it was perfect.
* Genesis 2:
  + There was one thing missing: Adam needed help. God had given Adam a two-part mission & he couldn’t do it alone. So, God created Eve.
  + At the end of chapter 2, we see the creation of the institution of marriage.
* Then Genesis 3…it all goes wrong!
  + Satan appears and tempts Adam & Eve to disobey the one command that God had given. What happened? They failed. And everything changed.
* Have you ever thought – Why did they do it? They had one job! Or, I would have done better! The point of this lesson is to show you that most likely, you would have failed, too. Adam & Eve fell. We fall. Some things never change.

BIBLE STUDY:

1. How Adam & Eve were tempted (Genesis 3:6)
   1. There are three parts to this verse that describe what was happening. Satan’s temptation attacked three part of the person:
      1. “The tree was good for food…”
      2. “It was pleasant to the eyes…”
      3. “To be desired to make one wise…”
   2. What do we know about man? Man is a trinity with a soul, a spirit, and a body.
      1. Our body is the physical part of us. It includes our senses and makes us aware of the world around us.
      2. Our soul is our emotions, our mind, our will, and our personality. Our soul makes us conscious of ourselves.
      3. Our spirit is the part of us that relates to God. Our soul makes us God-conscious.
   3. When Satan tempted Adam and Eve, his attack was directed at each part of what made them human.
      1. The body: “The tree was good for food…”
      2. The soul: “It was pleasant to the eyes…”
      3. The spirit: “To be desired to make one wise…” He appealed to their desire to be wise like God.
   4. It is interesting isn’t it? Satan’s temptation looks pretty simple: “Try this fruit!” But it is actually much more complicated than it looks.
      1. Satan’s temptation is an attack on the entire person. Every part of what makes man different from the rest of creation was being tested.
      2. It’s one reason why we fail. If Satan just appealed to our bodies, but we could still think clearly about what was happening, temptation would be easy to resist.
   5. Some things never change.
2. How Jesus was tempted (Luke 4:1-12)
   1. Immediately after Jesus was baptized, He went into the wilderness to prepare for His public ministry. While He was there, He fasted and prayed for 40 days. At the end of that time, Satan came to tempt Jesus with three specific temptations.
      1. Verse 3: Turn this stone to bread.
      2. Verses 6-7: Worship me and I will give you all the power and glory the world has to offer.
      3. Verses 9-11: Throw Yourself off this high place and make the angels come and miraculously save you!
   2. Another temptation by Satan, but notice his approach?
      1. The body: “Turn this stone to bread.” Satan attacked a physical desire that Jesus had.
      2. The soul: “Worship me and I will give you…” Satan tempted Jesus’s eyes. He showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and the power that He could have.
      3. The spirit: “Throw Yourself off the Temple…” Can you imagine how it would feel to be rescued by the angels? Can you imagine how the people would’ve responded to something like that?
   3. Genesis 3: Satan tempted Eve in in her body, soul and spirit.
   4. Luke 4: Satan tempted Jesus in His body, soul and spirit. Some things never change.
3. How we are tempted (1 John 2:15-16)
   1. John points our three parts of lust:
      1. Lust of the flesh: This is the lust of the body.
      2. Lust of the eyes: This is the lust of the soul.
      3. Pride of life: This is lust of the spirit.
   2. What does this look like in your life? Let’s think of a sin that no one in here ever struggles with: Anger! When a person is tempted to get angry, what is happening?
      1. Our spirit: We want to be right. Our pride tells us, “You are the smartest person in this room! Make your point! Win the argument!”
      2. Our soul: We don’t want to be embarrassed. We don’t want to admit that we might be wrong. We want to look good in front of the world.
      3. Our bodies: When we are tempted to be angry, our heart starts to beat faster, our blood pressure begins to go up, we begin to get warm, and everything inside of us wants to explode to make our point!
   3. Some things never change. There are no new problems. Just new people facing the same old problems.
4. APPLICATION: The key to a blessed life is loving the Word more than the World.
   1. 1 John 2 – John compares love for the world with love for God.
      1. In the world we find the lust of the flesh and eyes and the pride of life.
      2. Those temptations are not found in God.
      3. We have to love God more than we love the world.
   2. Genesis 3:1-3
      1. Vs. 1: Satan’s opening statement, “Did God really say?”
      2. Vs. 2-3: Eve’s problem was that she didn’t know God’s Word. She both added to it and took away from it!
   3. Luke 4:4, 8, 12 – In each temptation, Jesus quoted Scripture.
   4. Question: Which do you love more: The world or the Word? Every sin that we struggle with is a result of loving the world more than we love the Word.
   5. How would I know if you love the Word of God?

CONCLUSION: The title of this lesson is “Some things never change.” That is true for many things. But it is not true for all things.

* 2 Corinthians 5 says that when a person falls in love with Jesus Christ, and trusts Him as their personal Lord and Savior – everything changes. The old things pass away…ALL things become new.
* Has Jesus changed your life? He wants to! He died on the cross so you could be saved and so that you could have victory over the temptations of this world.