

Creation & Fall

INTRODUCTION

The doctrines of grace are introduced in the opening scenes of the Bible. In telling of the events from the creation of all things to the fall of man, these chapters display God's sovereign power and mercy. In this lesson, we will begin to trace the doctrines of grace through the Old Testament, beginning with the first book of Moses, as Dr. Lawson unfolds the revelation of the doctrines of grace in Genesis 1–3.

LEARNING GOALS

When you have finished this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain where the doctrines of grace can be found in the opening chapters of Genesis
- Identify which of the doctrines of grace are primarily stressed in Genesis 1–3

KEY IDEAS

- The doctrines of grace are taught progressively throughout Scripture and can therefore be found in seed form in the biblical account of creation and fall.
- There are two doctrines of grace particularly stressed in the opening chapters of Genesis.
- The first three chapters of Genesis are the seedbed of all doctrine, to such an extent that what one believes about Genesis 1–3 will determine how one interprets the entire Bible.

REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Before the Video

What Do You Think?

Take a moment to answer the following questions. They will prepare you for the lecture.

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- Where might the doctrines of grace first appear in the Bible? Be specific.
 - Does the Christian doctrine of creation in any way relate to the Christian doctrine of salvation? Why or why not?

Scripture Reading

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." . . . But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

—Genesis 2:15–17; 3:4–5

- What did God warn Adam would happen if he should eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil? How did the serpent contradict this?

During the Video

Answer the following questions while you watch the video. They will guide you through the lecture.

In the Beginning

0:00–11:23

- Why does the long line of godly men found throughout the Bible begin with Moses?
- What does the creation of the world provide a picture of in the Christian life?

In the Garden

11:23–23:49

- Since Adam continues to live after eating from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, how is it that God's warning to Adam was brought to pass?
- What was the result of Adam's sin?

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- Why did God ask Adam and Eve “Where are you?” in the garden?
 - Where is the idea of atonement first found in the garden?

After the Video

Answer the following questions after you have finished the lecture. They will help you identify and summarize the major points.

- What must we keep in mind about the way God reveals Himself in Scripture as we study the Bible? What example or illustration did Dr. Lawson use to demonstrate this concept?
- Imagine you have an opportunity to share your faith with someone. How could you use the creation of the world to talk about the way God saves sinners?
- What did Adam and Eve do after they sinned against God? Why is this significant?

PRAYER

Commit what you have learned from God’s Word in this lesson to prayer.

- Praise God for His sovereign power in creating you and all things.
- Confess your daily resemblance in sin to your first parents, Adam and Eve.
- Thank God for His patience and His promise of salvation extended in the garden.
- Ask God to help you see your sin in the same way that He sees your sin.