

The Three Eternal Destinies #133A Second Eternal Life, Part 5

Gen 3:16-19 as well as Gen 9:1-7 is the only way the nations have of overcoming the temptations of the evil one. Rev 21:7 — We can see it for both the nations and for the redeemed. The context is Rev 21:3-4 — who are the men of the nations that Yahweh's temple is in the midst of? *His Temple* is the redeemed of YHWH. The nations overcome Satan by their works and deeds, as Rom 2:6-10 speaks about fifty percent who do and fifty percent who don't, much as the redeemed of YHWH, pertaining to the next age in Mt 25:2. The people of the nations overcame in this way (Gen 3:16-19; Isa 24:5-6), of which few are left after six thousand years of the history of fallen civilizations (Rev 16:8-9).

Those who do overcome from the nations, their names are found written in the Book of Life. But those who do not keep, but instead break the everlasting covenant, their names are erased, since all men's names are recorded in the Book of the Second Life after the fall.

There is a second *eternal* life given to those who overcome the sins in Rev 21:8 or Rom 1:28-31 that judge a man worthy of the second death. Man retains or forfeits his opportunity to have eternal life after the first death by the way he regards his conscience (Rom 2:14-16).

How do you regard your conscience? Do you know that you have one? Did you know that the reason you know what is right and wrong is because you have this invaluable knowledge built right into your heart, and if you obey it you will inherit all these things?

The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

Gen 3:1 — Did God say?

Gen 3:2-3 — The emphatic truth.

Gen 3:4 — The lie.

Gen 3:5 — The temptation, deception: Satan said, "knowing good and evil."

Gen 2:16-17 — God told the man, and man told the woman, which is evident because she knew it (Gen 3:2-3).

When did Adam and Eve come to the knowledge of good and evil? Jms 4:17 — Did they come to know before or after they ate?

But now, instead of eternal life coming to them by eating of the tree of life, they would be granted eternal life only after their "hard service" as Job 14:14 says. Gen 3:16-19,22; verse 22 — fully aware and cognitive of the deception of Satan and of eternal death (Rom 1:18-32).

Job 14:10 — go to death and deep, depths of the earth.

Job 14:12-13 — until the last resurrection in the new heavens and the new earth (Rev 20:11; Isa 26:19).

Job 14:13-14 — The hope of a second life (eternal life).

Gen 3:16-19 is "hard service" (Mt 5:17-21; Isa 59:17) until all is accomplished — heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall not.

Heb 1:11-12 —*changed*— heaven and earth qualitatively new.

When did Adam and Eve know the difference between good and evil, before or after the fall? Did God give them a command and the knowledge of His will, or life and death before the fall or after? Did Adam and Eve have the knowledge of the consequences of eating from the trees in the garden? Was this the knowledge of good and evil? Do men today still have this knowledge (Rom 1:18-32)?

Gen 2:15-17 — verses 16-17 was a command. Would God give a man a command without any hope of him obeying it? It was a command with a consequence (Gen 2:8-9):

- a. The tree of life — to eat one gains eternal life;
- b. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil — to eat of this tree one must work for his eternal

life (Rev 20:12).

It was not that when he ate his eyes would be opened up to know the difference between good and evil, but Gen 3:22 says *has become*, but this means full and complete understanding of life and death principles.

Gen 2:9,17 — Adam apparently knew this! Gen 3:5,22 — So what is the difference?

Gen 3:6 — Before she ate, she knew: "She saw that the tree was good for food, and the tree was to be desired to make one wise". What is that tree today?

Gen 3:7 — What did they know after they ate? How did they know that? Verse 11 — Here lies the secret *Who told you?* Something happened to them after they ate. Their conscience was born within them, beginning the life-long process of now living by the fruit of the hard labor of keeping their conscience, the knowledge of good and evil. From now on their conscience would condemn nakedness; guilt and shame would now result from going against this intuitive knowledge — covering themselves is good, uncovering themselves is evil (Rom 2:15-16; Rev 20:12,14,15).

Eternal life would now be earned by doing what one's conscience says. This is the everlasting covenant, an age-lasting covenant from the time Eve was deceived until Messiah returns, lasting for an age — six thousand years since the fall. The next age is one thousand years and then is the eternal age (Rev 22:11; 21:8; 19:23; 14:10-11; Mt 25:41,46). Eternal life or eternal death, a second life or a second death is the consequence of obeying or of not obeying what or who tells you that you are naked.

Before the fall Man knew (Jms 4:17), for Gen 2:9 was the command of God and included the consequence for disobedience. So man knew before the fall, or had the knowledge of what was right. Now after the fall, he knew what the consequence of disobedience was — evil. They now know both good and evil and can now live in the boundaries of the conscience, as Rom 2:14 says.

Rev 3:22 — Now they know the full dimension of what God knew all the time *and* told them before, if only they had listened. But they had not come to full understanding and knowledge of good and evil, as they now were fully aware of both aspects of the second covenant, deep within themselves (1 Sam 24:5-6; Rom 1:20,21,32).

Now man fully knows and appreciates life and death, good and evil (Rev 22:1), and redeemed man will be the light of the world (Gen 3:14-19), but apart from Isa 49:6 there will be no light, no life-giving spirit communicated to the dead. There will be no Jn 5:24-25, but only Jn 5:28-29, and not Rev 22:5. So, we see that God's plan is now being accomplished on earth.