

FAMOUS

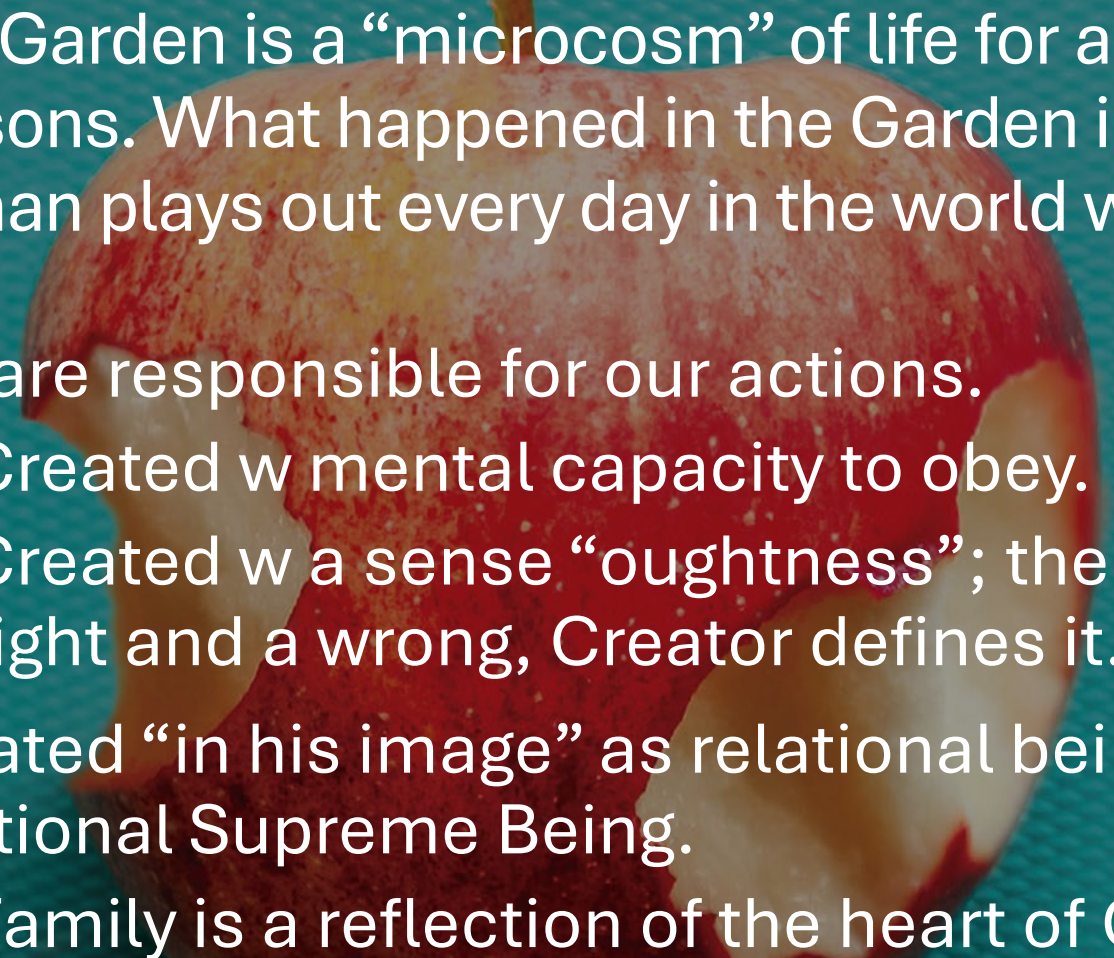
BIBLE

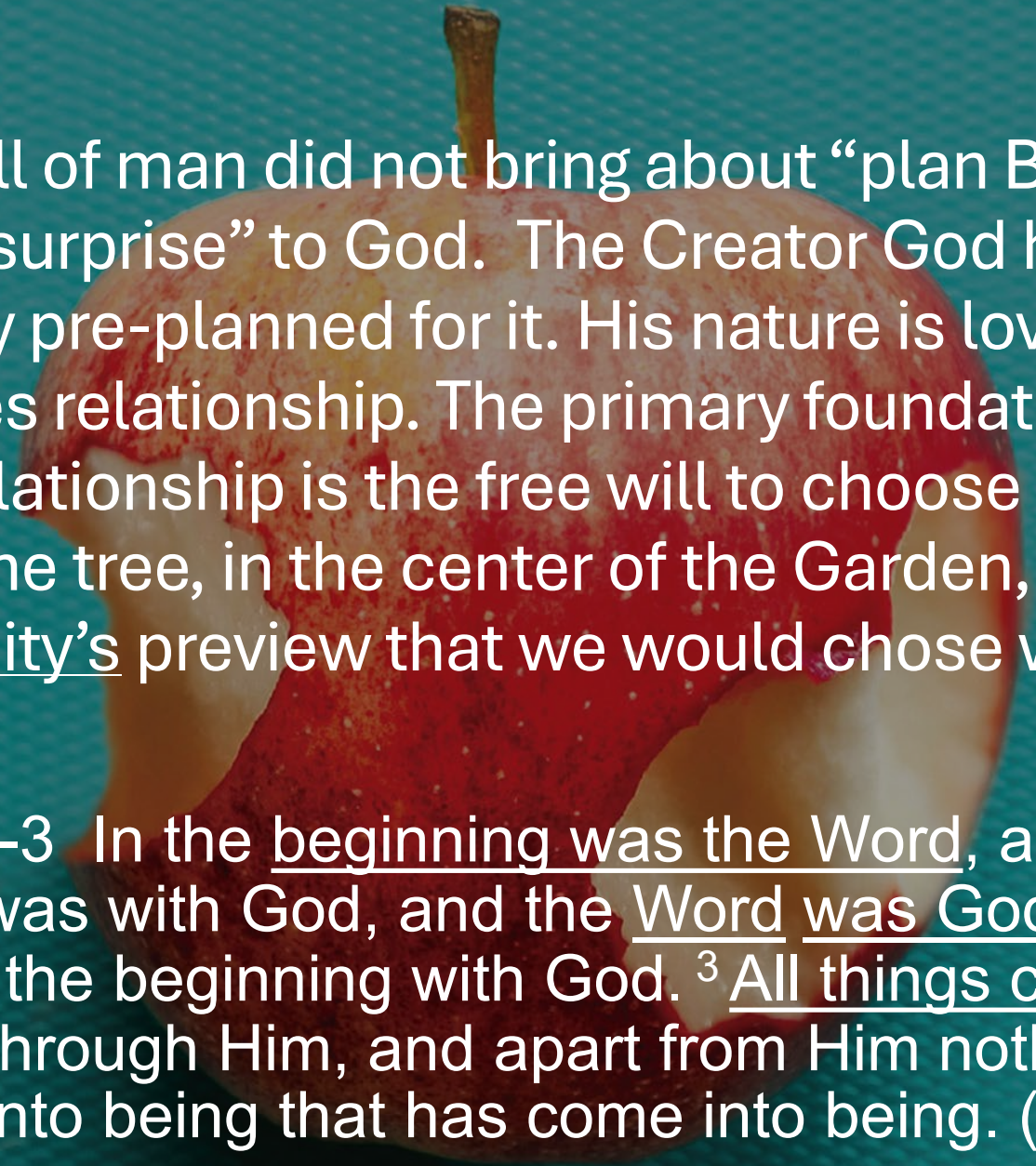
STORIES

“Did God Really Say...?”

Genesis 2:24-3:11



- 
1. The Garden is a “microcosm” of life for all created persons. What happened in the Garden in the Fall of man plays out every day in the world we live in.
 - A. We are responsible for our actions.
 - Created w mental capacity to obey.
 - Created w a sense “oughtness”; there is a right and a wrong, Creator defines it.
 - B. Created “in his image” as relational beings, by a relational Supreme Being.
 - Family is a reflection of the heart of God

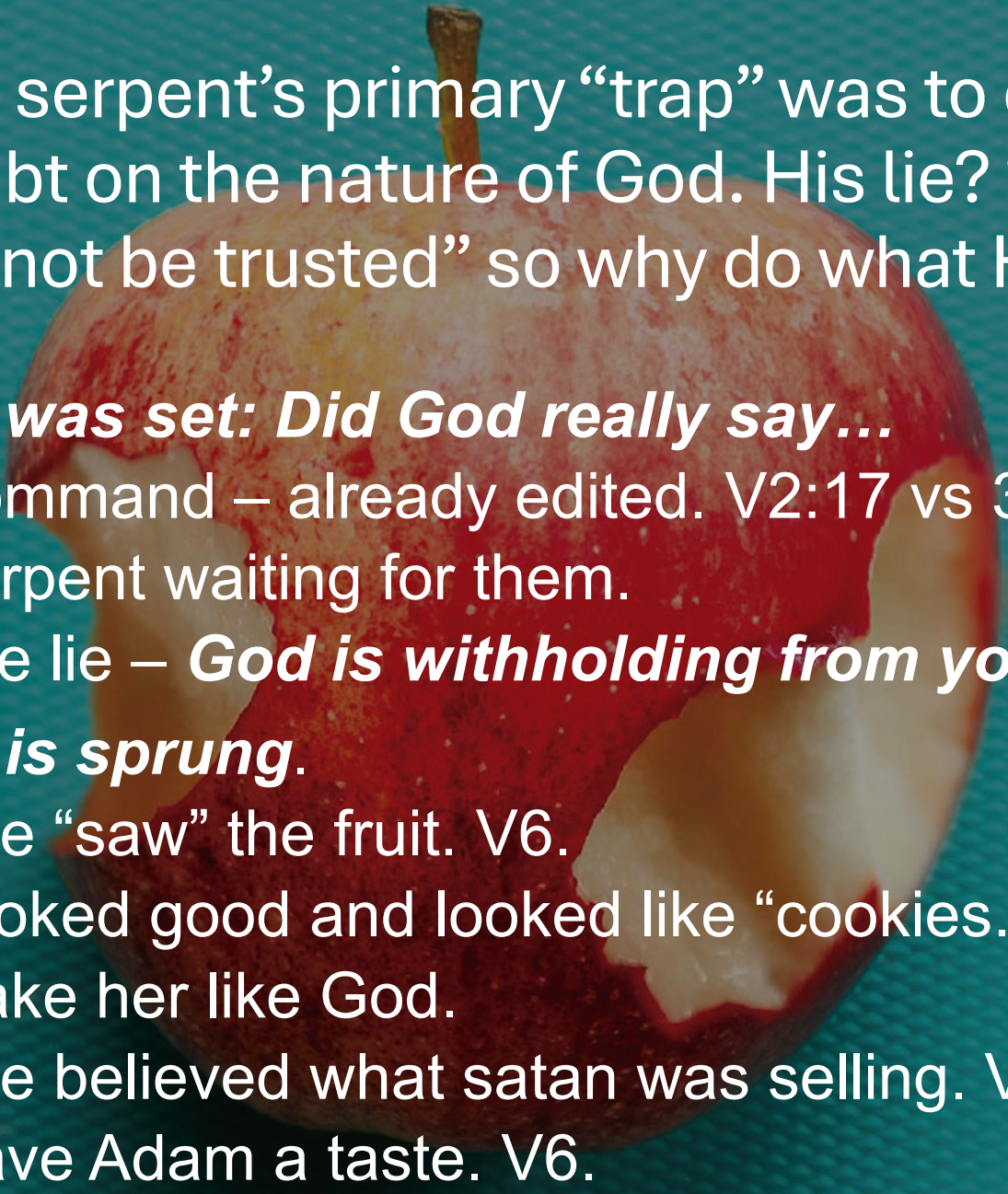


The Fall of man did not bring about “plan B.” It was not a “surprise” to God. The Creator God had already pre-planned for it. His nature is love. Love requires relationship. The primary foundation of a love relationship is the free will to choose who I will love. The tree, in the center of the Garden, is humanity’s preview that we would chose wrongly.

Jn. 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God.³ All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. (NAU)



The love of God is revealed by the extent to which God would go to absorb the cost of humanity's choosing wrongly. John 1:29, 1 Peter 1: 16-20

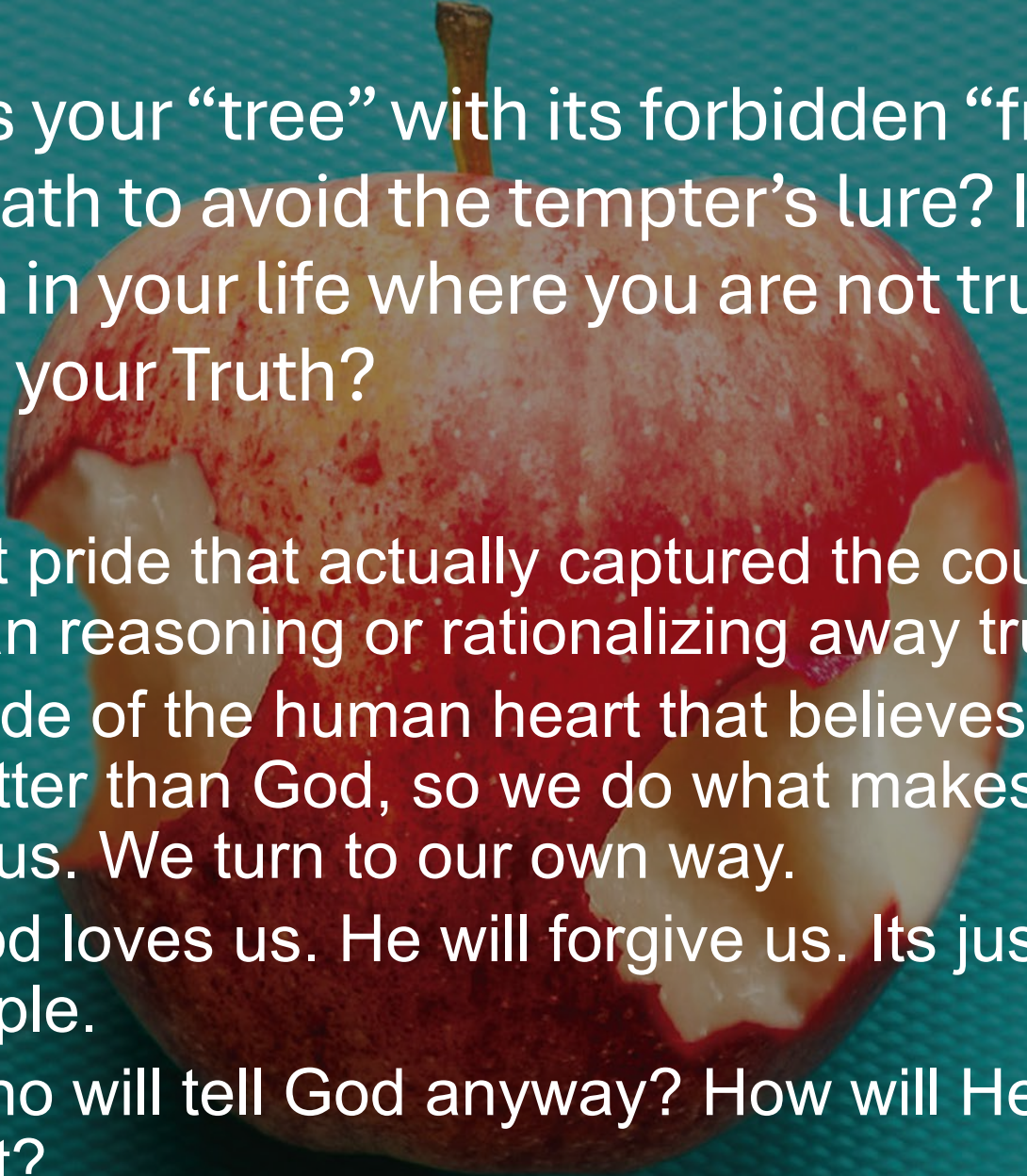
- 
2. The serpent's primary "trap" was to cast doubt on the nature of God. His lie? "God cannot be trusted" so why do what He says!

The trap was set: Did God really say...

1. Command – already edited. V2:17 vs 3:1.
2. Serpent waiting for them.
3. The lie – ***God is withholding from you.***

The trap is sprung.

1. She "saw" the fruit. V6.
2. Looked good and looked like "cookies."
3. Make her like God.
4. She believed what satan was selling. V6.
5. Gave Adam a taste. V6.



What is your “tree” with its forbidden “fruit”? Are you a path to avoid the tempter’s lure? Is there an area in your life where you are not trusting God as your Truth?

- A. Was it pride that actually captured the couple. Human reasoning or rationalizing away truth?
1. Pride of the human heart that believes we know better than God, so we do what makes sense to us. We turn to our own way.
 2. God loves us. He will forgive us. Its just an apple.
 3. Who will tell God anyway? How will He find out?



Can believers be “captured” by the serpent just as Adam and Eve were?

- The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, ²⁵ with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses *and escape* from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will. (2 Tim. 2:24-26 NAU)



3. How did God reveal His nature by His actions after the Fall?

- A. He clothed them. V7 – fig leaves for robes. V21.
- B. He gave us the Holy Spirit to walk alongside.
- C. He gave us the teaching presence of the Church, and called and gifted believers to teach and preach the Word of God.
- D. He gave us fellow believers to hold us accountable and check up on us.

A red apple with a bite taken out of it, set against a teal background. The apple is the central focus, with its stem pointing upwards. The bite is taken from the right side, revealing the white flesh and a small seed. The background is a solid teal color with a subtle, repeating pattern of small, light-colored dots.

Next Steps.

- A. Is there an area in your life where you have begun to doubt the nature of God? That His word is true? Can you identify the serpent in your thinking? Why not use the words of Jesus in his encounter with the serpent:
- “Get behind me Satan. You are a hindrance to me...” Matt 16:23
 - “Begone Satan...” Matt 4;10
- B. Will you freely decide today to go the way of God rather than the way of man?