

Genesis 3



Genesis 3

**WOW THAT POLITICAL MEME YOU POSTED ON
FACEBOOK REALLY CHANGED MY VIEWS, THANKS!**

SAID NO ONE EVER

Genesis 3

All that has been made was **very good** ...



Said no one ever

Remember Genesis 1...

*God saw **all** that he had made, and it was **very good**.
And there was evening, and there was morning—the
sixth day.*

Genesis 1:31

What has changed?

Philosophical options

1. Our problems are exaggerated



UNREALISTIC

Philosophical options

2. The world was just a random accident



DEPRESSING

Philosophical options

3. Competing forces of good and evil made the world



SCARY

Philosophical options

4. God has lost interest



SAD

Philosophical options

5. Something happened, but God has a plan

This is the Christian answer to the question

Why is the world so messed up?

1. God's perfect world

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Genesis 1:31

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Genesis 2:15

Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Genesis 2:25

1. God's perfect world

Three perfect relationships for humans:

1. With God

2. With each other

3. With the world

2. Something happened

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

2. Something happened

(1) The identity of the serpent

*The great dragon was hurled down—**that ancient serpent** called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.*

Revelation 12:9

*He seized the dragon, **that ancient serpent**, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.*

Revelation 20:2

*You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for **there is no truth in him**. When he lies, he speaks his native language, **for he is a liar and the father of lies**.*

John 8:44

Something happened

(2) The nature of the serpent

Genesis 3:1:

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. (NIV)

*Now the serpent was more crafty than **any other beast** of the field that the Lord God had made. (ESV)*

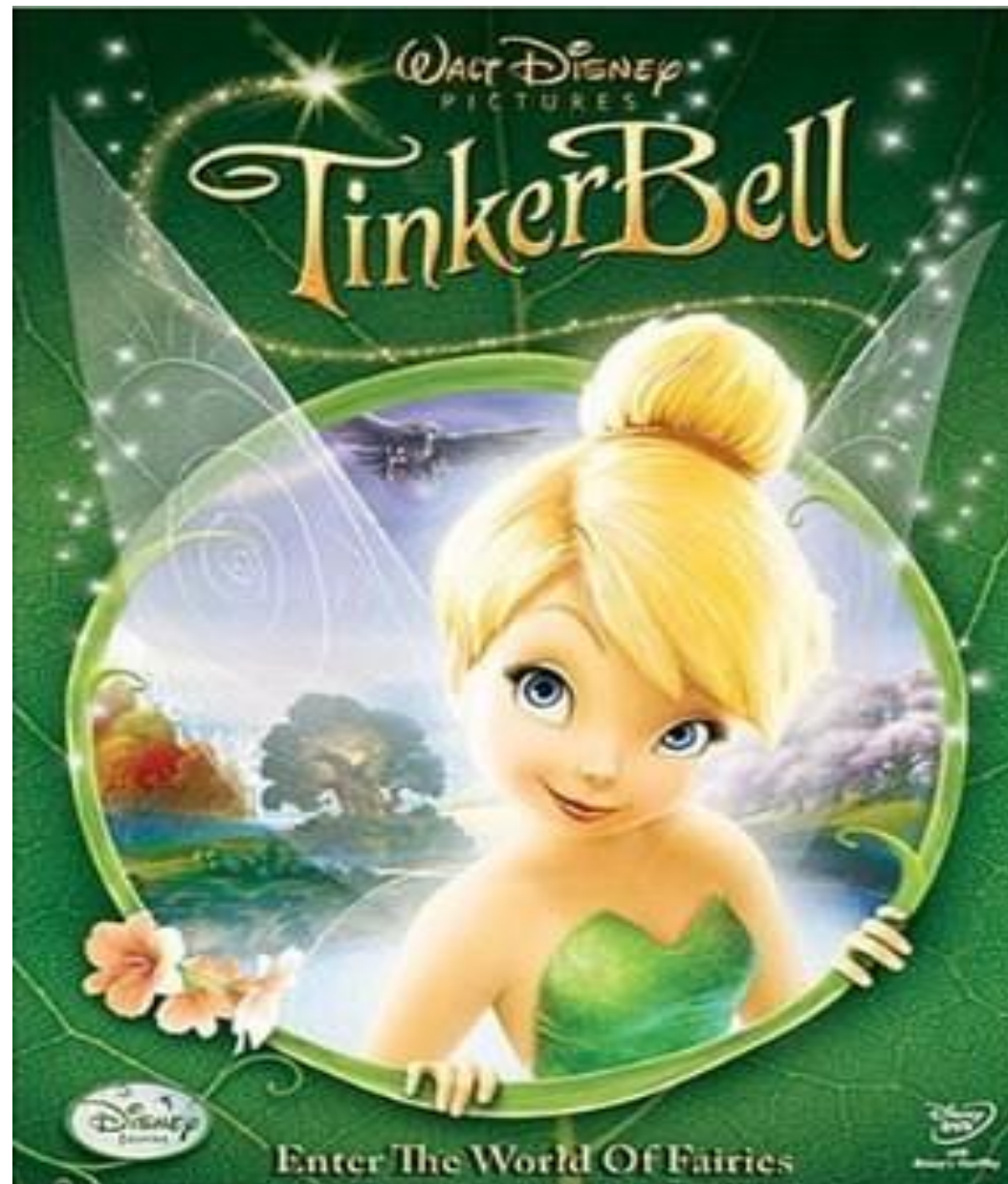
2. Something happened

(3) The temptation of the serpent

*“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be **like God**, knowing good and evil.”*

Genesis 3:5

2. Something happened



3. Consequences

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Genesis 3:8-13

3. Consequences

(1) Serpent

*Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.*

Genesis 3:14

3. Consequences

(2) Woman

*I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;
with painful labour you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you.*

Genesis 3:16

3. Consequences

(3) Man

*Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat food from it
all the days of your life.*

*It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.*

*By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food.*

Genesis 3:17-19

3. Consequences

Three broken relationships for humans:

1. With God

Expelled from God's presence

2. With each other

Relationship between man and woman damaged

3. With the world

The ground is cursed to humans

Two big issues about judgement

(1) Is God's judgement harsh or fair?



Two big issues about judgement

(2) How specifically can we connect sin and suffering?



Two big issues about judgement

(2) How specifically can we connect sin and suffering?

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.”

John 9:1-3

*But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For **he** makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.*

Matthew 5:44-45

4. Hope

Hope in Genesis 3...

*And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel.*

Genesis 3:15

4. Hope

Hope in Jesus...

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

*Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in **paradise.**”*

Luke 23:39-43

4. Hope

Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:24-26

And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 20:10

Philosophical options

A hopeful understanding of the world



How can we respond?

1. Be aware of our own sinful tendency

Our tendency to seek to be Like God

2. Look to Jesus as our final hope

3. Work on our broken relationships

With God

With each other

With the world