

THE BIGGEST GRUDGE

THE GRUDGE FREEDOM IN FORGIVENESS

GOD

GENESIS 2:7 NLT Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.

GENESIS 2:15-18 NLT The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ⁽¹⁶⁾ But the LORD God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— ⁽¹⁷⁾ except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die." ⁽¹⁸⁾ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."

MANKIND

GENESIS 3:5-6 NLT God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil." ⁽⁶⁾ The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.

EPHESIANS 2:1-3 NLT Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ⁽²⁾ You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ⁽³⁾ All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.

GENESIS 6:5 NLT The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil.

GOSPEL

ROMANS 3:22-26 NLT We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. ⁽²³⁾ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. ⁽²⁴⁾ Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. ⁽²⁵⁾ For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, ⁽²⁶⁾ for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

EPHESIANS 4:32 NLT Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

PSALMS 103:2-4 NLT Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things he does for me. ⁽³⁾ He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. ⁽⁴⁾ He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies.

THINK & DISCUSS:

1. How do you react: What if God held a grudge against us?
2. Discuss mankind's offences to God and each other?
3. What kind of impact did the Gospel have on your life?

MY STEP: Accept GOD'S forgiveness!