SATAN'S STRATEGY TO DESTROY ME

Genesis 3:1-6 "1 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'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent,
"We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 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.'" 4 "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to
the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be
opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 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." (NIV)

Revelation 20:2 "He seized the dragon, that **ancient serpent**, who is **the devil,** or **Satan**, and bound him for a thousand years." (NIV)

1. DOUBT

Genesis 3:1 "… Did God really say …"

Genesis 2:16 "16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

1) She MINIMIZED God's generous provision.

Genesis 2:16 "And the LORD God commanded the man, "**You are free to eat from any tree in the garden** …"

Genesis 3:2 "… **We may eat fruit** from the trees in the garden …"

2) She ADDED to what God did not allow.

Genesis 3:3 "… and you must **not touch it** …".

3) She WEAKENED the penalty for disobedience.

Genesis 2:16 "… you will **certainly** die."

Genesis 3:3 "… or you will die." (NIV) or **"lest you die"** (NKJV)

Big lie: To view God's standards as UNREASONABLE restrictions—Did He really?

2. DECEPTION.

Genesis 3:4 "You will **not** certainly die …"

Big lie: People will not REAP what they SOW—You will certainly not die!

3. DESIRE

Genesis 3:5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." (NIV)

Big lie: Encourages DISSATISFACTION with our God-appointed role—you can become like God.

THE OUTCOME

1. SHAME—loss of innocence

Genesis 3:7 "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." (NIV)

2. FEAR

Genesis 3:8 "[8] 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. [9] But the LORD God called to

the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." (NIV)

3. BLAME

Genesis 3:11-13 "11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" 12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." 13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (NIV)

4. PAIN & SUFFERING

Genesis 3:16a "To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children …" (NIV)

Genesis 3:17-19 "17 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." (NIV)

5. CONFLICT in relationships.

Genesis 3:16b " … Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." (NIV)

Genesis 3:20 "Adam **named** his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living."

6. DEATH (spiritual and physical)

Genesis 3:22 "And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."

7. SEPARATION from God

Genesis 3:23-24 "[23] So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. [24] After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life." (NIV)

THE HOPE

1. The Lord will continue to PURSUE us.

Genesis 3:9 "So the Lord God called out to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

2. The Lord is more POWERFUL than the devil.

Genesis 3:14 "So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "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." (NIV)

3. The Lord has a PLAN.

Genesis 3:15 "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." (NIV)

4. The Lord has PROVIDED a way to cover sin.

Genesis 3:21 "The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

- See satan's plan for what it is and RUN!

- See God's plan for what it is and REJOICE!

James 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (NIV)