

## B. The Sinful Nature

The volitional decision to eat the forbidden fruit resulted in a psychosomatic alteration of our original parents' DNA. It is not perspicuous to me precisely how this event occurred medically, but it is obvious from Genesis 5:3 which documents the end result.

**Genesis 5:3** - When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.

The creation of the sinful nature in the cell structure of the body resulted in complete separation from God and entry into a status called total depravity.

**Romans 5:12** - Just as through one man [Adam] original sin entered into the world, so resultant spiritual death came to all men because all sinned when Adam sinned.

Some theologians assert that the people and events described in Genesis are Hebrew myths and fables designed to teach ethical principles. If this is true, then the divine policy established in Romans 5:12 sends people to the Lake of Fire because of an alleged association with a mythological character.

Paul continues to make the association in:

**Romans 5:18** - As through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men ...

The result is that man is born into this life physically alive but spiritually dead, a status called "total depravity."

The soul imputed is condemned to eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire. The only way this status of condemnation can be altered is through faith alone in Christ alone.

**Ephesians 2:5** - But God, even when we were spiritually dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

**Ephesians 2:6** - and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus [doctrine of current positional truth].

Every child is born with a sinful nature to which is imputed Adam's original sin. When the child reaches accountability his volitional acts of personal sin confirm the validity of his condemnation at physical birth.

The sinful nature is passed down in procreation and is carried by the 23 chromosomes of the male sperm.

**Psalms 51:5** - Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity [imputation of Adam's original sin at physical birth], and in sin my mother conceived me [sin nature is passed down at conception].

The downside to all of this, beyond the obvious, is that children come into this life fully equipped with an apparatus which has a weakness toward personal sin, a strength toward human good and evil, a lust pattern, and a trend toward either lasciviousness or asceticism.

Children are unbelievers until the age of accountability which occurs sometime after about age seven. Because they are controlled by their sinful natures from the very beginning of life, they are by nature self-centered. This leads to the development of the three arrogant skills:

1. Self-justification
2. Self-deception
3. Self-absorption

All three were demonstrated by our original parents in the Garden of Eden. The account of the Fall in Genesis 3 includes their involvement in the three arrogant skills. If we can understand how temptation, volition, and the sinful nature functioned during the Fall, then we may better understand how to analyze our children's modus operandi.

### C. The Three Arrogant Skills in Genesis 3

First, we must remember that in the Garden, Adam and Ishah were perfect people in a perfect environment with perfect provisions. Among their perfect provisions was a perfect marriage.

God's point of contact with Adam and Ishah was His love and through it He insured that the two would enjoy perfect happiness together. This was the first phase of the Appeal Trial of Satan.

When Satan fell, he and his demons were sentenced to eternal damnation in the Lake of Fire (Matthew 25:41), but their sentence will not be carried out until after the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ, yet future (Revelation 20:10). What lies between these two events is the entirety of human history.

What is the conclusion which may be drawn from this? First of all, Satan appealed his sentence claiming grounds for reversal on the following complaint: How can a just and loving God send His own creatures to damnation?

The implication was that the original verdict condemns the created beings of a perfect God which is incongruous and thus unfair. The Trinity convened the Divine Summit Conference and decided to grant the Appeal Trial. In order to resolve the issue, the decision was made to create an inferior race—humanity—but to allow it one common characteristic with the angels—volition. That volition was tested by the Lord's proclamation of an imperative of prohibition recorded in:

**Genesis 2:17 - From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat [imperative of prohibition], for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die [punishment clause].**

We know from the account of the Fall in Genesis 3 that our original parents chose to violate the mandate.