

MAN  
(Part 6 of 7)

Adam possessed powers of understanding and reason, which enabled him to communicate. God also endowed him with the ability to use language. These qualities that Adam possessed gave him the ability to name the animals, communicate with Eve, and with God.

Before the fall Adam's moral nature is clear, he was without sin. He had a freewill and a mind capable of weighing choices. He could have refused to disobey God's command, but because his will was flexible (the ability to choose good or evil) to either side, he chose to disobey. John Calvin said, ". . . his choice of good and evil was free; and not only so, but his mind and will were possessed of consummate rectitude [moral uprightness], and all his organic parts were rightly disposed to obedience, till, destroying himself, he corrupted all his excellencies."

Adam and Eve failed the ultimate test. The way they failed was by eating the fruit of one of the trees in the Garden.

The tree is known as, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. In setting this test, God showed that He wanted man to voluntarily choose to obey Him and serve Him.

In a wise manner, Satan used a creature Eve was acquainted with. He appeared not himself, because this would have been something that would alert Eve to the unusual and put her on guard. Why Eve talked with the serpent one cannot be sure.

Satan addressed Eve, probably because the woman had not personally received the prohibition from God, as Adam had. His plan worked; Eve ate and gave to Adam, and Adam's disobedience resulted in the fall.

SCRIPTURE  
KING JAMES VERSION  
Genesis 2:16-25; 3:1-7

By: Jerry W. Arnold  
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