

LESSON 1 - THE FIRST TRAVELERS

Genesis 1 - 3

THEME: *To introduce the main idea of this series of lessons.*
To show that Christ alone gives a covering for sin.

Today we begin a journey. Let us pretend we are travelers traveling the long, long road which we call *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE*. It is the road which begins in the Garden of Eden where the life of mankind began on this earth. It ends with the Kingdom of God on this earth.

Those who journey need a road map or guidebook. God has given us His Word, the Bible, for that very purpose. Psalms 119:105, Psalms 48:14. We need God's Guidebook and we will use it all along the way. We will meet many other travelers as we move along *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE*. We will find many travelers who are going their own way, but all will travel side by side until judgment comes. The Bible tells us: "There is a way which seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death." Proverbs 14:12. All who travel this highway must choose which way they will go.

Those who travel must also know the rules of the road. We will find that God's travel laws have been different at some times and places from what they were at other times and places. In the age in which we live now, the laws are very different from what they were in the days of Adam and Eve, the first people. Obedience to the travel laws on *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE* means the difference between life and death.

The time in which we live today is represented on the chart as GRACE AIRPORT. You will learn why it is called GRACE AIRPORT as we travel along.

We will roll back the time about 6000 years to begin our journey in the beautiful Garden of Eden. Here we see Adam and Eve. If we look in our Guidebook, the Bible, we can read the story of what happened to the first travelers on *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE*.

To Adam and Eve were given special travel laws. We read about them in Genesis 2:16-17. Especially they were told not to eat of one particular tree in the Garden called *The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and evil*. All was perfect until the day the Tempter, the enemy of God and man, came into the garden. He questioned God's Word, he lied, and Eve believed him instead of God. Eve looked, took, ate of the fruit of the forbidden tree, and gave some to

Adam who ate also. Immediately their eyes opened to see sin, whereas before they were innocent. They now saw themselves guilty and naked before God and they greatly feared. They had chosen the way of death. "The wages of sin is death." Romans 6:23.

Death means *separation from God*, not only in this life but for all eternity. Adam and Eve tried to cover their sin and nakedness by the work of their hands: they sewed fig leaves together to make a covering.

Then, as they were trying to hide from God among the trees, God came seeking them. He came because He loved them and because He must pronounce judgment upon their sin. God put a curse upon the serpent, the woman, the man, and upon the earth. What were these curses? Genesis 3:14-19 tells us which judgment God gave to each one. God did all this *for Adam's sake*.

Along with the curses the God of grace, love and mercy also gave the promise of a great Conqueror who would one day come to conquer sin and death and bruise the serpent's head. Genesis 3:15. In 1 Corinthians 15:45 this Conqueror is called *the last Adam*. He is the Lord Jesus Christ, who by His death on the Cross of Calvary, conquered sin and death and thus defeated the devil.

God killed an animal in the garden, its blood was shed, the innocent animal died, and its skins were given to Adam and Eve to cover their shame and nakedness. Only God could provide such a covering, a covering for their sin, and it is a type or shadow of the Lord Jesus Christ, who not only covered the sin of man but put it out of the way by His death on the Cross.

The story of the First Travelers is the story of the first sinners. The first Adam sinned and all who have been born from Adam into this world have been born sinners and have committed sin. They have all followed the leader. Romans 5:12-14. "The wages of sin is death." Therefore all are going to die, all those who live in this Day of Grace as well as all those of former times. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." The works of Adam and Eve were not acceptable to God and neither are the works of man today. Just as the animal skins provided a physical covering for Adam and Eve, so Christ provides the necessary covering of righteousness to all who receive Him as Saviour.

Which choice have you made? Are you on the way which *seems right* and is the way of death? Or have you received the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour from sin and you are on the way of eternal life?

MEMORY VERSE: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23

LESSON 1 - WORK SHEET

1. Where does *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE* start on this earth? Genesis 2:8

2. Where does *THE HIGHWAY OF LIFE* end on this earth? Revelation 21:1 _____
3. Write Proverbs 14:12: _____

4. What were the travel laws in the Garden of Eden? Genesis 2:15-17
 - a) _____
 - b) _____
 - c) _____
5. What punishment did God pronounce upon the serpent? Genesis 3:14-15

6. Upon Eve? Genesis 3:16 _____

7. Upon Adam? Genesis 3:17-19 _____

8. Write the first Bible prophecy about the Lord Jesus Christ: Genesis 3:15

9. We are like Adam and Eve in three ways. Look up the Scripture verses and fill in the spaces.
 - a) Romans 3:23 - We all have _____
 - b) Romans 5:12 - We all are going to _____
 - c) Romans 6:23 - We can all have _____
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
10. Write from memory Romans 6:23. _____
